



**Minutes**  
**Montana Board of Regents**  
OCHE  
January 7, 2014

The board meeting convened at 11:17am.

Roll call indicated a quorum present. Regents present: Chairman Angela McLean, Regents Paul Tuss, Jeffrey Krauss, Todd Buchanan, Fran Albrecht, Zack Rogala. *Ex officio* members present: Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian. Regent Major Robinson and *Ex officio* members Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau, and Governor Steve Bullock were excused.

Regent Jeff Krauss moved approval of the November 21-22, 2013 minutes. Regent Fran Albrecht requested an edit be made to the minutes and moved approval of the minutes as amended. Motion passed 6-0, with Regent Major Robinson being absent from the meeting.

**CONSENT**

- a. Admission Requirements Policy 301 Revision; OCHE *ITEM 162-101-R0114 | Attachment #1*
- b. Authorization to Purchase of Property; UM-Western *ITEM 162-1601-R0114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2*
- c. Execute Lease for Gallatin College; MSU *ITEM 162-2001-R0114*

**Staff Items**

- a. Professor Emeritus of Law: Burke; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1001-R0114*
- b. Professor Emeritus of Law: Eck; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1002-R0114*
- c. Professor Emeritus of Biology: Foresman; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1003-R0114*
- d. Professor Emeritus of Geography: Gritzner; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1004-R0114*
- e. Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology & Toxicology: Grund; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1005-R0114*
- f. Professor Emeritus of Psychology: Haddad; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1006-R0114*
- g. Professor Emeritus of Political Science: Lopach; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1007-R0114*
- h. Professor Emeritus of Law: Patterson; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1008-R0114*
- i. Professor Emeritus of Law: Snyder; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1009-R0114*
- j. Professor Emeritus of Political Science: Tompkins; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1010-R0114*
- k. Professor Emeritus of English: Acton; MSU-Billings *ITEM 162-2702-R0114*
- l. Employee Equity Interest Under Policy 407; UM-Missoula *ITEM 162-1011-R0114 | Attachment #1*
- m. OCHE *ITEM 162-100-R0114*

Regent Fran Albrecht moved approval of the consent agenda. Motion passed 6-0, with Regent Major Robinson absent.

Regent Rogala asked for a brief overview of Professor Emeritus status and description of how it is awarded. Deputy Commissioner for Communications & Human Resource Kevin McRae explained



that the Professor emeritus is and honorable recognition that takes place at or around the time of retirement and is granted to a faculty member who has worked for at least ten years. President Royce Engstrom added that this process starts with faculty and works its way up through the Department Dean to the Provost and so on.

Labor Agreements:

- a. MSU Teamsters Labor Agreement *ITEM 162-105-R0114 | Attachment #1*
- b. Helena College Faculty Labor Agreement *ITEM 162-106-R0114 | Attachment #1*

11:40 AM

**INFORMATION**

- a. Campus Athletic Reports *Athletic Income Details | Student Athlete Information Summary | Financial Aid Summary*

Deputy Commissioner for Fiscal Affairs Mick Robinson gave a brief update with respect to athletic academic success. He noted that summary athletic academic information is included in these reports and will be presented in greater detail in future years. Deputy Commissioner Robinson informed attendees that the UM reports a Fall-semester average student-athlete cumulative GPA of 3.03 (17<sup>th</sup> straight semester that UM student-athletes have exceeded a 3.0 GPA). MSU reported a cumulative GPA of 3.17 for their student-athletes (24<sup>th</sup> straight semester that MSU student-athletes have exceeded a 3.0 GPA). He noted the relationship between the general population and student-athletes regarding academic performance with student-athlete population generally and frequently outperforming that of the general population.

Director of Budget & Accounting Frieda Houser noted that the athletic report provides a comprehensive reporting of funds including outside entities that support athletics. The reporting format was developed by the NCAA. Separate audits of athletic funds are conducted at MSU and UM annually and they continue to receive "clean" opinions.

Athletic revenue totals \$50.2 million and expenses total \$49.6 million leaving an excess of revenues over expenses of \$.6 million. Further revenue and expense details for the MUS and individual campuses are presented in the report.

Significant discussion focused on the Direct Institutional Support revenue line item. That revenue line item is a required NCAA reporting element, but certainly results in a level of confusion. Efforts will be undertaken to provide further clarity with respect to certain reporting elements. Frieda Houser also responded to a number of other specific questions.

Chair McLean noted the importance of considering all data as a group rather than specific report components. Regent Krauss and Regent Tuss agreed that clarification is needed and noted the board's obligation to provide an explanatory narrative to support these figures.

Regent Tuss inquired about how Title IX issues were being addressed. Commissioner Christian explained that NCAA conducts reviews with regard to Title IX issues. He noted the constant challenge presented by the increasing population of females on the campuses; which is a continued challenge for Title IX as athletic opportunities for females has to resemble the percentage of females on campus. He discussed the recent approval of softball expansion to create more female opportunities.



Commissioner Christian stated that the report accurately reflects that sports are well managed in Montana and that Title IX will continue to be challenge as we try to balance athletics.

Regent Tuss inquired about strategies in place to manage this demographic shift. Commissioner Christian informed him that the MUS is actively creating more female athletic opportunities. He confirmed that this report is high profile and will encompass more reporting with regard to academic success moving forward.

Regent Buchanan noted the service element and outcome related to the economic impact that athletics provide to the overall health of campuses. President Cruzado discussed the impressive numbers reported for the athletic student population regarding academic success and the strategies used to achieve this success; noting that many of these overlap with the Complete College American initiatives.

b. Level I Memorandum

Deputy Commissioner Moisey reminded attendees that these items consist of smaller academic changes with low cost and relatively low impact to other campuses in the system. These items are reviewed by the Chief Academic Officers and approved at the Commissioner's office.

c. Level II Memorandum – *for action at March BOR meeting*

Deputy Commissioner Moisey reminded attendees that these items are present as Informational items at this meeting, but will be up for action at the upcoming March BOR meeting. He noted that these changes are more substantial in terms of cost and include major changes in academic delivery or programs that have a potential impact other campuses.

President Engstrom commented on the proposed Information Security Professional Certificate by Missoula College; noting it a prime example of the success of private partnerships in working with the university. This program request stemmed from communications related to this growing industry within Missoula.

d. Policy 401 and 404 Research Reports; MSU-Bozeman and UM-Missoula / *Strategic Plan Goal | MSU 401 Report | UM 401 Report | MSU and UM 404 Report*

Deputy Commissioner Moisey noted the strategic plan goal document which outlines the revenues and expenditures for research initiatives across campuses. He noted that the 401 reports refer to the federal initiatives that each campus is currently engaged in.

Regent Buchanan noted the impressive upkeep that campuses have been managing with regarding to the recent funding change in federal initiatives. Chair McLean echoed his sentiments. Regent Tuss discussed the importance of research as it relates to the economy's development and job growth; specifically if additional stated funding were received could it then be used to leverage additional funding from the federal government. Deputy Commissioner Moisey answered yes, that federal research grants often require some kind of state match such as the NSF-EPSCOR grant. He noted the recent articles discussing spin-off companies and stated that having this ability, in a broader sense across the state, would be very beneficial.

Regent Krauss discussed the need for a focus and support of Montana's strengths. Adopting such an



## MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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approach would allow us to provide guidance to campuses that are aimed at economic development.

e. Executive & Legislative Budget Timeline

Deputy Commissioner Robinson provided a brief overview of this process. Information to help guide the MUS through this process will be presented in March. Continued collaborative efforts with the Governor's Office will take place to develop proposals. The Board will be asked to make key budget decisions during the upcoming May meeting. Chair McLean noted this as an opportunity to weigh in on the priority topic in the future.

12:05 PM Public Comment

Senior Political Director of Cloud Peak Energy, Todd O'Hare spoke in support of continued partnership, communication and education with the University System related to coal energy.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Following public comment the board met in Executive Session for the purpose of individual privacy. The Executive Session topics included:

- Honorary Doctorates – UM-Missoula
- Honorary Doctorates – MSU-Bozeman

Approved by the Board of Regents on

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Date

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Date

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Clayton T. Christian  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
and Secretary to the Board of Regents

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Paul Tuss  
Vice Chair, Board of Regents