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SB01-10/11: Arabic Minor

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding Arabic Minor
September 8, 2010
Senate Bill Number: SB1-10/11
Authored by: Ashleen Williams, ASUM President
Sponsored by: Amanda Stovall, ASUM Vice President

Whereas, The University of Montana’s Arabic Language program has seen interest and
enrollment consistently rise in twelve years of instruction;

Whereas, the Arabic Language program saw substantial growth warranting the first year level to
be incorporated into two sections;

Whereas, The University of Montana’s Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee
(ASCRC) approved a proposal for a Central and Southwest Asian Studies major involving two
years of language study in a critical language;

Whereas, Arabic is one of the United States Department of State’s designated critical languages;

Whereas, in the spring of 2009, a majority of the 150 letters sent from students to members of
ASCRC to support the Central and Southwest Asia Studies Major included a request for an
Arabic minor;

Whereas, in the spring of 2009, over 400 student signatures were gathered in support of the
creation for an Arabic minor;

Whereas, numerous students have benefited through scholarships as a result of their studies
including scholarships from the Mansfield Center and the US Department of State’s Critical
Language Scholarship;

Whereas, an Arabic Language Studies minor fulfills The University of Montana’s mission
statement and encourages diversity;

Whereas, in the last four years, three prior Senates have passed resolutions in support of the
creation of this academic minor;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that the Associated Students of The University of Montana
(ASUM) encourage the formation of an Arabic Language Studies Minor at The University of
Montana;

Let it Be Further Resolved, that the ASUM encourages the College of Arts and Sciences, the
Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee, The Office of the Provost and The
President of The University of Montana, and the Montana State Board of Regents to investigate
and support the formation of an Arabic Language Studies minor;
Let It Be Further Resolved that copies of this resolution be distributed to all necessary parties.

Passed by Committee: __________________________, 2010

Passed by Senate: ____________________________, 2010

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Travis Suzuki, Relations and Affairs Chair       Amanda Stovall, Chair of the Senate