Fall 2009

SB11-09/10: Academic and Strategic Plan

Ashleen Williams
Miranda Carson

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana

Resolution Regarding Academic and Strategic Plan

October 21, 2009

Senate Bill SB11-09/10

Authored by: Senator Ashleen Williams and Senator Miranda Carson

Sponsored by: President Matthew Fennell

Whereas the Office of the Provost established the Academic Strategic Planning Committee in 2007;

Whereas the committee was charged with the task of creating an Academic Strategic Plan (ASP) to serve as a decision-making guide over the next five years with focus on resources and energy on key issues;

Whereas the principles outlined for an effective ASP include: “the focus of the plan must be on enhancing the effectiveness of [the] core mission;” “the planning process needs to be stepwise and deliberate, it needs to be open and collaborative, and it needs to be informed by knowledge of external forces and expectations;” and finally “planning needs to be done in the context of the resource base [realistically, but ambitiously expected];

Whereas in the Fall of 2009 a draft plan was published by the committee;

Whereas the Academic Strategic Planning Committee requested an endorsement from the Associated Students of University of Montana (ASUM) in the fall of 2009;

Whereas the ASUM recognizes the effort and time commitment put forth by members of committee;

Whereas the language throughout the ASP is vague and unsubstantial, specifically initiatives one, “Cultivate Learning and Discovery in Undergraduate Education” and five, “Embrace Diversity and Global Engagement”;

Whereas the ASP initiatives that propose the creation of new programs would require resources;

Whereas The University of Montana projects a $3.6 million dollar loss in the next biennium;

Therefore Let It Be Resolved that the ASUM withholds its endorsement until further discussion has taken place with the ASP Committee;

Let It Be Further Resolved that the ASUM executives address the Board of Regents with concerns regarding the ASP if it is presented in November, 2009.
Let It Be Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to all interested parties, including the Academic Strategic Planning committee, the Office of the Provost, and the Academic Standards and Review Committee.

Passed by Committee: ______________________________, 2009

Passed by Senate: ______________________________, 2009

Andrew Dusek, Relations and Affairs Chair
Emily May, Chair of the Senate