SB82-12/13: University of Montana Funding Shortfall

Ryan Hazen
Eamon Ormseth

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/asum_resolutions

Recommended Citation
https://scholarworks.umt.edu/asum_resolutions/125
The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding University of Montana Funding Shortfall
April 24, 2013
SB82-12/13
Authored by: Ryan Hazen, ASUM Senator; Eamon Ormseth, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: Brandon Simpson, ASUM Senator; Cody Gordon, ASUM Senator;
Jan Roddy, ASUM Senator; Shelby Dolezal, ASUM Senator
Whereas, The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) has a duty to represent students;
Whereas, ASUM has a duty to articulate these interests to the Administration of The University of Montana (UM Admin), which has a concurrent duty to take feedback from students, faculty, and staff.
Whereas, The University of Montana (UM) faces a funding shortfall of $8 million dollars, primarily due to a decline in enrollment for the 2013-2014 academic year, resulting in widespread cuts to the classes being offered.
Whereas, the Mission Statement of UM reads: The University of Montana--Missoula pursues academic excellence as demonstrated by the quality of curriculum and instruction, student performance, and faculty professional accomplishment. The University accomplishes this mission, in part, by providing unique educational experiences through the integration of the liberal arts, graduate study, and professional training with international and interdisciplinary emphases. The University also educates competent and humane professionals and informed, ethical, and engaged citizens of local and global communities; and provides basic and applied research, technology transfer, cultural outreach, and service benefiting the local community, region, state, nation and the world.
Whereas, a substantial number of students have expressed concerns about class cuts in regard to said budget cuts;
Whereas, a substantial amount of faculty have recently brought forward a list of grievances that they have with the UM Admin, including the cuts in classes;
Whereas, the welfare of students at UM is directly related to the welfare of its faculty;
Whereas, the UM 2020 report stresses the necessity of preparing students for “The Global Century;”
Whereas, cuts to language classes, integral for student success in “The Global Century” were not implemented in a way consistent with the mission of the University and student demand for these classes;
Whereas, implementing budget cuts without taking into account factors like student
demand on a class-by-class basis and the University’s mission reduces future student
enrollment, faculty morale, and exacerbates already existing problems;

Whereas, the zeroing out classes now and listing some classes as taught by “Staff, Staff”
reduces the ability of professors to brand their classes and, concurrently, recruit for them;

Whereas, the effects of the funding shortfall were not made widely known to faculty and
students until well into the registration process for next year, harming said parties ability
to effectively plan for the future;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM implores UM Admin to implement the cuts in
a manner holistic and reflective of the actual mission of the University;

Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that ASUM desires a constructive public forum
and committee structure involving faculty, students, staff and UM Admin concerning the
implementation of the $8 million decrease in funding;

Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to President
Engstrom; Provost Brown; Jeff Renz, Chair of Faculty Senate; David Shively, Chair of
Faculty Union; and Teresa Branch, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that 2012-2013 ASUM Senate urges the 2013-
2014 ASUM executives appoint two (2) to five (5) new student members to the
University Budget Committee in addition to the current positions to be active upon
appointment.

Passed by Committee: _____________________________, 2013

Passed by ASUM Senate: __________________________, 2013

__________________________________________________________

Damara Simpson,                                                   Bryn Hagfors,
Relations and Affairs Chair                                      Chair of the Senate