Fall 2010

SB01-10/11: Arabic Minor

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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