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Ashleen Williams

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1 **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**
2 **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

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4
5 Whereas, The University of Montana’s Arabic Language program has seen interest and
6 enrollment consistently rise in twelve years of instruction;

7
8 Whereas, the Arabic Language program saw substantial growth warranting the first year level to
9 be incorporated into two sections;

10
11 Whereas, The University of Montana’s Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee
12 (ASCRC) approved a proposal for a Central and Southwest Asian Studies major involving two
13 years of language study in a critical language;

14
15 Whereas, Arabic is one of the United States Department of State’s designated critical languages;

16
17 Whereas, in the spring of 2009, a majority of the 150 letters sent from students to members of
18 ASCRC to support the Central and Southwest Asia Studies Major included a request for an
19 Arabic minor;

20
21 Whereas, in the spring of 2009, over 400 student signatures were gathered in support of the
22 creation for an Arabic minor;

23
24 Whereas, numerous students have benefited through scholarships as a result of their studies
25 including scholarships from the Mansfield Center and the US Department of State’s Critical
26 Language Scholarship;

27
28 Whereas, an Arabic Language Studies minor fulfills The University of Montana’s mission
29 statement and encourages diversity;

30
31 Whereas, in the last four years, three prior Senates have passed resolutions in support of the
32 creation of this academic minor;

33
34 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that the Associated Students of The University of Montana
35 (ASUM) encourage the formation of an Arabic Language Studies Minor at The University of
36 Montana;

37
38 Let it Be Further Resolved, that the ASUM encourages the College of Arts and Sciences, the
39 Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee, The Office of the Provost and The
40 President of The University of Montana, and the Montana State Board of Regents to investigate
41 and support the formation of an Arabic Language Studies minor;

42

43 Let It Be Further Resolved that copies of this resolution be distributed to all necessary parties.

44

45

46

Passed by Committee: _____, 2010

Passed by Senate: _____, 2010

47 Travis Suzuki, Relations and Affairs Chair

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Amanda Stovall, Chair of the Senate