

Fall 2008

SB12-08/09: Committing the Building Fee to the Native American Center

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1 **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Committing the Building Fee to the Native American Center**
 September 23, 2008
 Senate Bill 12-08/09
 Authored by: Trevor Hunter, ASUM President
 Siri Smillie, ASUM Vice President

3
4 Whereas, The University of Montana originally submitted and gained approval *from by* the state legislature for
5 the Native American Center in 1999;

6
7 Whereas, the Native American Center, as the first facility in the nation built expressly to accommodate a
8 Department of Native American Studies and other related campus programming, positions the University to
9 continue its trajectory of excellence and responsiveness in Native American education;

10
11 Whereas, the Native American Center will serve as the home for academic and support services and provide an
12 intellectual and social hub for all those interested in learning about Native American history, issues, culture,
13 and perspectives;

14
15 Whereas, the recent economic downturn, the limited availability of steel worldwide, the addition of Leadership
16 in Energy Efficient Design (LEED) Silver accreditation, and global inflation have caused construction costs to
17 rise;

18
19 Whereas, the Native American Center is to be funded through a combination of private donation (\$8,710,660)
20 and University unrestricted funds (\$1,250,000) if approved by the Board of Regents;

21
22 Whereas, the University unrestricted funding sources include: \$700,000 on bond interest, \$100,000 from the
23 building fee, \$150,000 from income on investments, and \$300,000 from the academic facilities fee;

24
25 Whereas, according to Board of Regents policy, any commitment of \$200,000 or more of the academic
26 facilities fee must be approved by the students;

27
28 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that ASUM approves the commitment of \$300,000 from the UM academic
29 facilities fee to be used in the building of the Native American Center.

30
31 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM supports the increase in the spending authority for the
32 Native American Center by the Board of Regents.

33
34 ~~Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM will be consulted in the future when the University seeks~~
35 ~~approval of a commitment of funds from the building fee or the academic facilities fee at or above \$200,000.~~

36
37 *Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM must approve any allocation exceeding \$200,000 from any*
38 *University of Montana fee account, in accordance with Montana Board of Regents policy 940.9.3. ASUM*
39 *must be notified at least one week prior to the Board of Regents considering it.*

Passed by Committee: _____, 2008
(This was an emergency measure that did not go through committee. House Rules were suspended to consider it.)

Passed by Senate: September 23, 2008

40 _____
41 Andrew Dusek, Chair
Relations and Affairs

Siri Smillie,
Chair of ASUM Senate