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Fall 2008

### SB29-08/09: Classified Staff Wages

Svein Newman

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1 The Associated Students of The University of Montana  
2 Resolution Regarding Classified Staff Wages  
3 December 3, 2008  
4 SB 08/09 Bill Number 29  
5 Authored by Svein Newman  
6  
7  
8

9 Whereas, classified staff are an integral part of campus life.  
10 They cook, clean, and keep buildings, services, and departments  
11 running. Without their hard work, the university would cease to  
12 function;

13  
14 Whereas, entry wage for a full-time UM janitor is \$8.25 per hour  
15 (approximately \$17,000 per year), with minor longevity increases  
16 every five years;

17  
18 Whereas, this is significantly less than a living wage;

19  
20 Whereas, the discrepancy between these two figures places an  
21 undue burden upon university staff, often forcing individuals to  
22 work multiple jobs, sell plasma, and shop at the Food Bank;

23  
24 Whereas, this is unacceptable at an institution whose mission  
25 statement emphasizes "community building", humanity, and ethics;

26  
27 Whereas, the discrepancy also makes staff hiring and retention  
28 difficult;

29  
30 Whereas, this problem is not confined to Missoula, but exists  
31 throughout the Montana University System. MSU-Bozeman janitors,  
32 for instance, start at an hourly wage of \$8.87;

33  
34 Therefore, Let it Be Resolved that ASUM supports the Montana  
35 Public Employees Association in their call for higher university  
36 staff wages.

37 Therefore, Let it Be Further Resolved that a copy of this  
38 resolution be sent to the Board of Regents.

39  
40 Therefore, Let it Be Further Resolved that this resolution be  
41 forwarded to the Montana Associated Students with the hope that  
42 it will take action of the issue.  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47

Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2008

Passed by Senate: \_\_\_\_\_, 2008