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SB69-16/17: Resolution for Referendum Expanding FTE Graduate Student and Missoula College Student Representation on ASUM Senate

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The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Resolution for Referendum Expanding FTE Graduate Student and Missoula College
Student Representation on ASUM Senate
March 10th, 2017
SB69-16/17
Authoring by: Seth Barnes-Smith, ASUM Senator;
Sponsored by:

Whereas, the number of resident and non-resident, full-time enrolled (FTE) graduate students at UM has ranged consistently between 1,651 and 1,873 in FY 2006-2016;

Whereas, the number of FTE graduate students has represented between 13.16% and 15.89% of the overall FTE student body of UM and Missoula College in these years, and the average of this percentage is 14.06%;

Whereas, the number of FTE Missoula College (MC) students has represented between 8.05% and 13.66% of the overall FTE student body of UM and Missoula College in these years, and the average of this percentage is 11.64%;

Whereas, Article 7. Section 4, Subsection 1 of the Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) currently states:

During the ASUM General Election one seat of the Senate shall be reserved for the graduate student candidate with the largest number of votes and one seat of the Senate shall be reserved for the Missoula College candidate with the largest number of votes, should a candidate from the respective constituency run.

Whereas, one Senate seat represents only 3.8% of the ASUM Senate and 3.5% when the executive seats are included;

Whereas, 14% of the ASUM Senate would represent 3.64 seats (4.06 including the three executive seats) and 11% would represent 2.86 seats (3.19 including the three executive seats);

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that the following referendum language be placed before the University of Montana student body for vote during the 2017 ASUM General Election:

The Associated Students of the University of Montana currently reserves one (1) student senate seat for a graduate student and one (1) seat for a Missoula College student with the highest number of votes. One (1) seat represents 3.8% of the Senate. Full-time enrolled (FTE) graduate students and FTE Missoula College students represent an average of 14.06% and 11.64%, respectively, based on the MUS Fiscal Year Enrollment Report: FY06-FY16 Annualized Student FTE. Do you support a change in the number of reserved ASUM Senate seats from one (1)

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1 Statistics based on MUS Fiscal Year Enrollment Report: FY06-FY16 Annualized Student FTE
2 This number can be misleadingly low. FTE enrollment at Missoula College has not dropped below 10% of total UM and MC enrollment in the last 9 years.
graduate student seat to three (3) reserved seats and one (1) Missoula College seat to two (2) reserved seats?

Yes, I support a change in the reserved Senate seats for graduate and Missoula College candidates.

No, I do not support the additional reserved Senate seats for graduate and Missoula College candidates.

Passed by Committee: ____________________________, 2017

Passed by ASUM Senate: ____________________________, 2017

Connor Fitzpatrick,  
Chair of Relations and Affairs Committee

Elizabeth Engebretson,  
Chair of the Senate