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## SB31-20/21: Resolution Creating Section 27.0 of Fiscal Policy

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

2                                   **Resolution Creating Section 27.0 of Fiscal Policy**

3                                   **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

4                                   **SB 31 – 20/21**

5   **Authored by: Ethan Hanley, ASUM Business Manager; Maggie Bornstein, ASUM Senator;**  
6                                   **Jonathan Karlen, ASUM Senator;**

7   **Sponsored by: Noah Durnell, ASUM Senator; Christian Pfeifer, ASUM Senator; Jack**  
8                                   **Rinck, ASUM Senator; Vincent C. Tarallo Jr., ASUM Senator;**

9  
10   Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) is bound by its Fiscal  
11   Policy;

12  
13   Whereas, ASUM Fiscal Policy delineates all fiscal matters of the ASUM office and student  
14   groups;

15  
16   Whereas, During the summer of 2020, a working group met to completely revise the ASUM  
17   Fiscal Policy;

18  
19   Whereas, ASUM is having difficulties with in how it oversees and funds Co-Curricular member  
20   organizations;

21  
22   Whereas, Co-Curricular member organizations are different from other member organization as  
23   they are associated with an academic and/or administrative unit on campus;

24  
25   Whereas, The Statement of Scope states that ASUM funds cannot be used for direct academic  
26   support<sup>1</sup>;

27  
28   Whereas, That portion of the Statement of Scope is the only governance laid out for funding  
29   groups that are directly associated with an academic and/or administrative unit;

30  
31   Whereas, Co-Curricular member organizations have created a gray area with this statement as  
32   their funds are at times tied with academic departments but not in direct violation of the  
33   Statement of Scope;

34  
35   Whereas, Article V, Section 4 of the ASUM bylaws states:

36                   *D. A Student group that requires enrollment within an academic course for membership*  
37                   *is ineligible for recognition by the Board on Member organizations.;*

38  
39   Whereas, This portion of the bylaws governs member organizations for recognition and does not  
40   lay out rules for funding;

41  

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<sup>1</sup> Section 2.0 of ASUM Fiscal Policy

42 Whereas, In prior years, funding Co-Curricular member organizations has been difficult due to  
43 their close relationship with departments at the University of Montana;  
44

45 Whereas, Aspects of Co-Curricular member organizations that could be viewed as subsidizing  
46 academics include but are not limited to: trips that a class takes, events put on by the department,  
47 and fundraising;  
48

49 Whereas, During the final budgeting session for Fiscal Year 2021, the ASUM Senate has had  
50 difficulty navigating these aspects of Co-Curricular member organizations;  
51

52 Whereas, This leads to a decrease or elimination of funding for student groups that were viewed  
53 or had aspects of being a Co-Curricular member organization;  
54

55 Whereas, This process resulted in inconsistent funding and was not effective at creating an equal  
56 standard;  
57

58 Whereas, ASUM values member organizations that are student lead, organized, and funded and  
59 wants to ensure that funds are supporting student lead initiatives;  
60

61 Whereas, Creating a Co-Curricular section governing these organizations will be beneficial in  
62 creating a fair and equitable process for funding all member organizations;  
63

64 Whereas, This new section of Fiscal Policy will dictate that ASUM funds cannot be used for  
65 academic purposes and lists specific examples such as: receiving credit for a class, extra-  
66 curricular requirements for a class, and any materials, labor, or supply for an academic  
67 department;  
68

69 Whereas, This section of Fiscal Policy would provide a check to ensure student groups receive  
70 fair funding regardless of whether new information came out indicating they violate this section  
71 or any portion of the Board on Member Organizations bylaws;  
72

73 Whereas, If a member organization was found to be in violation of the Co-Curricular rules, there  
74 would be a mechanism to ensure they become compliant with ASUM policy before receiving  
75 funding allocated to them from the ASUM Senate;  
76

77 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That a new Section be added to Fiscal Policy numbered and titled  
78 Section 27.0 Co-Curricular Member Organizations;  
79

80 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That subsection 27.1 be added to Fiscal Policy to read:  
81 *27.1 For the purposes of this section, a Co-Curricular member organization shall be*  
82 *defined as: a member organization that is associated with, receives support, or supports*  
83 *an academic and/or administrative unit at the University of Montana;*  
84

85 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That subsection 27.2 be added to Fiscal Policy to read:  
86 *27.2 ASUM funds shall not be used for the purpose of funding activities assigned by a*  
87 *professor for a grade or that take place during designated class time. ASUM funds shall*  
88 *not be used for the purpose of materials, labor, supplies or any other expense that is the*  
89 *result of planning or work assigned during designated class time or in exchange for a*  
90 *grade. ASUM funds may be used for activities that result in extra credit outside of*  
91 *designated class time if the professor provides written or digital confirmation to the*  
92 *office manager that the student/student group's grade does not in any way depend on the*  
93 *ASUM funded activity.;*  
94

95 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That subsection 27.3 be added to Fiscal Policy to read:  
96 *27.3 All advisors of a Co-Curricular Member Organizations must adhere to Section*  
97 *10.3 of Fiscal Policy. A Member Organization's advisor shall not use a pro-card to fund*  
98 *student group activities in exchange for an ASUM refund without prior consultation with*  
99 *the Business Manager and approval of the Student Group President.;*  
100

101 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That subsection 27.4 be added to Fiscal Policy to read:  
102 *27.4 Co-Curricular Member Organizations may receive monetary and non-monetary*  
103 *donations from academic or administrative units If an academic or administrative unit*  
104 *wishes to donate to a Co-Curricular Member Organization, they must receive approval*  
105 *from both the student group and Business Manager. This approval must be in the form*  
106 *of a written agreement prior to the transaction that discloses the purpose of the*  
107 *donation. Monetary donations will be deposited into the ASUM Co-Curricular Member*  
108 *Organization's account.;*  
109

110 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That subsection 27.5 be added to Fiscal Policy to read:  
111 *27.5 No ASUM funds allocated to a Co-Curricular Member Organization may be*  
112 *deposited or transferred into a non-ASUM account. If this account happens to be outside*  
113 *the University, the organization must seek prior approval from the Vice President of*  
114 *Operations and Finance before doing so. If a Co-Curricular Member Organization*  
115 *wishes to make a purchase using both academic or administrative funding and ASUM*  
116 *funds, the purchase must be made by the ASUM account and confirmation of the*  
117 *commitment of additional funds must be communicated to the ASUM Office Manager or*  
118 *the funds transferred to into the Co-Curricular member organization's ASUM Account*  
119 *prior to the purchase.;*  
120

121 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That subsection 27.6 be added to Fiscal Policy to read:  
122 *27.6 If a member organization is found to have a requirement of an academic course*  
123 *after they have been recognized, that organization may not be denied funding due to this*  
124 *issue alone. The organization will not be reimbursed or allowed to use ASUM funds until*  
125 *there is no class requirement to join the organization. The Board on Member*  
126 *Organizations will approve the member organization's status to receive the*  
127 *previously allocated funds.;*  
128

129 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That the ASUM Senate thanks Abbigail Belcher, Braden  
130 Fitzgerald, Colin Milton, and the 2017-2018 Board on Budget and Finance for working on this  
131 section during their time in ASUM and creating a starting point to fixing this issue;

132

133 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be sent to: Gwen Coon, ASUM  
134 Office Manager; Marlene Hendrickson, ASUM Accountant; Bailey Durnell, Student Group  
135 Coordinator; Reed Humphrey, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost; Chris Palmer,  
136 Chair of Faculty Senate; Megan Stark, President of the UFA; Charity Atteberry, Staff Senate  
137 President.

138

139

140 Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

141

142 Passed by ASUM Senate: September 30 \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

143

144

145

146 \_\_\_\_\_  
147 Ethan Hanley,  
Chair of the Board on Budget and Finance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick James Flanagan,  
Chair of the Senate