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MEDIA RELEASE

MARYLAND LAWYER TAPPED FOR UM POSITION

MISSOULA--

An attorney whose experience includes high-level positions in educational and administrative law in Maryland is University of Montana President Neil S. Bucklew's choice to fill the position of UM legal counsel.

Bucklew will recommend to the Montana Board of Regents that Mary Elizabeth Kurz be named to the post, effective early March, at an annual salary of \$38,000.

George L. Mitchell served as legal counsel from 1975 until he became director of auxiliary services at the University in August 1981.

Bucklew said his selection was made with the support of his staff, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, and the search committee that screened 52 applicants from throughout the nation. "All of us are delighted at the prospect of having an attorney of Ms. Kurz's experiences and ability join the UM staff," he commented.

Kurz is assistant attorney general and general counsel for educational affairs in Maryland. As head of the Division of Educational Affairs in the attorney general's office, she supervises a staff of seven attorneys and several legal assistants. Her office provides general representation in all matters, including litigation, to 27 clients.

Clients include the University of Maryland, which encompasses a hospital and a professional complex with Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Law, Nursing, and Social Work and Community Planning. Kurz's division also serves eight other colleges and universities and various state educational agencies, including the State Board of Education and the State Board for Higher Education.

Maryland Lawyer Tapped--add one

Kurz joined the Maryland attorney general's staff in May 1972 and served in the Criminal Division until January 1974, when she became assistant legislative officer to the governor. Her duties in the latter position included drafting legislation for the governor's program; reviewing, drafting and monitoring legislation for all executive departments of state government; preparing and presenting testimony before various committees of the Maryland General Assembly; and preparing executive orders and veto messages.

She returned to the attorney general's office in 1975 and was assigned to represent the University of Maryland in legal matters. She assumed her present duties in September 1978.

Kurz is a 1971 honor graduate of the University of Maryland School of Law. She studied during the summer of 1965 at the Sorbonne, Paris, and received a B.A. in French, magna cum laude, from Marywood College, Scranton, Pa., in 1966.

She is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. She has served on governmental commissions and task forces.

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