Montana Kaimin, December 10, 1981

Associated Students of the University of Montana

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English department disputes 'critical' salary allocations

By Pam Newbern
Kaimin Reporter

UM departments to increase faculty salaries or to create new positions. The UM department of English is now protesting this distinction, calling it "unprejudiced and grossly inequitable."

"The money, totaling $29,400, was allocated by the Montana Legislature last spring to the UM administration to raise faculty salaries in "critical" schools and departments of the university. Of that money, $31,000 was used for fringe benefits, and the rest to raise faculty salaries or to create new positions.

A critical department was defined as one in which there was a large salary difference between what professors were getting and what they could earn at other universities or in private jobs. Departments also were defined as "critical" if they were having trouble hiring new professors or keeping the ones they had at the salaries they could offer.

Academic Vice President Don Halbo, in consultation with the Council of Deans, chose 10 departments that he felt were especially critical areas. The English department is protestating because it claims that several departments were not in need of the allocations and that the money should have been allocated differently.

The 10 departments that were considered to be most in need of money were: computer science, which received $38,925; psychology, $32,000; arts and humanities, $46,720; law, $20,000; chemistry, $15,500; economics, $9,800; mathematics, $14,000; Russian, $5,000; and physical therapy, $3,500.

In a letter to UM President Neil Buckley, the English department said many people in the areas of law, business, geology and economics are paid less at UM than they would be in private jobs, and that they know this when they come here to teach. The department also felt that many people in these fields receive extra money by acting as consultants to private firms while teaching at UM, and that the allocations weren't needed by these departments. The English department also contended that departments such as law, business, geology and economics had not had serious problems retaining faculty members and that many faculty members had been at UM for 25 to 30 years. It felt that the extra money to these departments to retain faculty members was "abundant."

Keith Oester, chairman of the chemistry department, agrees that the department had not lost any faculty members recently because they could get better pay elsewhere, but did not feel that the allocations were abused.

"I think the allocations were fair," Oester said. "Many of our faculty members have received job offers from other universities at salaries enormously above those paid by UM. The money allocated was quite large, but I don't accept the idea that the faculty was overpaid."

CB overturned an interpretation made by CB last week in which it was said that all CB members had to be in "good academic standing." CB interpreted "good academic standing" as a 2.00 grade point average. CB overturned the 2.00 GPA interpretation and said that "good academic standing" could be interpreted as being student at the UM.

In other business, CB:
- approved the nomination of Richard Habbe to the Academic Vice President, $20,000; chemistry, $13,500; economics, $9,800; mathematics, $14,000; and physical therapy, $3,500.
- gave $2,000 to the ASUM Student Government to purchase a water line for the dances. The money was spent by the ASUM CRB member Jim Brennan.
- passed a resolution saying that any interpretation of the ASUM Constitution that is made by the ASUM CRB must be approved by the CB.
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Renting strangled by funding decision

Last week the English department sent a letter to President Neil Bucklew over distribution of a "critical area" additions money to several departments and schools at the University of Montana. The allocations were disputed when Academic Vice-President Donald Habbe was acting president this summer.

The English faculty abhor the wholesale manner in which the money — $245,000 — was distributed. The faculty seems to feel that the legislative intent of House Bill 500, which authorized money for critical area adjustments, was to offer more money to individual faculty or recruits who were being tempted with higher salaries either from other institutions or private industry.

However the English faculty did not go far enough. The schools and departments that received the increases — computer science, geology, chemistry, economics, mathematics, business management, accounting, law, clinical pharmacy and physical therapy — received them validly. Salaries for these departments and schools are embarrassingly low. Inequities are obvious when one compares the average paid salary nationwide and those paid at UM in these 10 areas.

They vary as much as $5,325 below the average for law professors, according to a survey conducted by Oklahoma State University last year. Further such figures are miniscule compared to the enticements offered by private firms.

The raises taken as a single issue were justified. A university that insists it can compete with other schools, with business management, but, because present Habbe lost track of the army. Now most department recruiters or retaining faculty due to external market figures — are miniscule compared to the enticements offered by private firms.

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to our years at SAC that isn't that there's a whole different side our years there. We bring up the ever set foot in the office during hours of unpaid work voluntarily. study. If our attempt was to rip off jumped to the conclusion that we paid only $25 per week for this against rape, petition drives as well as organizing rallies the average of 50 hours per week as quarter 1980, we put in an unpaid hours at SAC. During fallbalance that "criminal image" the infamous Long-Distance backs, but to remind the public perhaps they would care to show of support is breathtaking and makes part of Missoula shine in her situation. She is, by herfulness not unusual for someone^ B L A C K  A N G U S

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NO COVER

Montana Kaimin • Thursday, December 10, 1981—3
Missoula has ‘oasis for the cycle tourist’

By Sam Richards

Missoula has gained a reputation over the past several years as being home to a large number of bicycles—and their owners. Sam Braxton and his family have been at least partially responsible for Missoula’s emergence as “the bike town.” Sam and his wife Shirl started Braxton’s Bike Shop in 1970 and have seen their business become a nationally known source for custom-built bicycle frames. What makes the situation unusual is that Sam builds all his frames and does repair work between runs as a full-time brakeman for the Burlington Northern railroad. Shirl, whom Sam says is the shop’s “PR person,” says Sam is a workaholic who drives himself to do whatever he wants to do. “If he has something on his mind,” Shirl says, “he doesn’t get hungry or tired—he has control over his body and emotions. I just hope his body hangs in there.”

Shirl also described Sam as a perfectionist. She grew up in North Carolina and attended the University of Virginia. While there, she married the Braxtons. The Braxtons were busy to work more on his frames. Both sons work with him in the shop. Bart also has a hereditary form of the disease. Dr. Tom Baumgartner, a local chemist at the University of Washington. While he was interested in studying arthritis, chemistry at the University of Washington. He lives now.

Missoula the following year, and Sam hired on with the Northern Pacific in 1974. The Braxton’s and their two sons, who also work in the shop, are an athletic family and started riding bikes in the early 1960s. It became a “family sport,” according to Sam, and because there was only one bike shop in town at the time—a combination bicycle-lawn mower dealership—the family found it necessary to do their own repairs.

In 1969, Sam got a job assembling and repairing bicycles for his friend Stan Cohen, who owned Montana Sports, later to become Sundance Ski Shop. Cohen sold bikes, and Sam serviced them. Shirl says that Sam lost his job there because he would spend too much time working on one bike, and that Cohen couldn’t afford him. After Cohen let him go, people started dropping by Sam’s house to get their bicycles repaired.

The Braxtons were in business, but didn’t realise it at the time. With the help of Shirl and his father, who were in business, Sam operated a bicycle repair business out of his home at 2100 South Ave. West between calls from the railroad. Interested in engineering, Sam liked to build bicycle frames and did so as a hobby during the first few years of the business, but didn’t try selling any because there was no profit in it then.

The Braxtons were busy during the first few years of the business, enhancing their shop/house. While Sam and Shirl were finishing work on the last addition to the house in Sept. 1973, frames from the flammable flooring glue they were working with touched off an explosion and subsequent fire which destroyed the house. Three weeks after the explosion, the Braxtons bought the house adjacent to their old one, where they live now.

Sam’s railroad job and Shirl’s job as a piano teacher carried a bicycle’s weight this period. Sam slowly rebuilt the old house into a larger shop area. He started building bike frames in 1974 after going through a two-week frame-building course in California and estimates that he has built about 275 frames since then.

Shirl has handled the finances for Sam since he went into business. When they opened their new store last April, Shirl quit teaching piano to work every day behind the cash register. In addition to the custom-built frames, the Braxtons will import Sekai bikes and various bike accessories, including hiking clothing.

Sam specializes in touring frames, which differ from racing frames mainly in the rigidity of the front fork, which must be light. He stressed that the geometry of the frame is the most important consideration when building a frame. A touring bike, according to Sam, should have a 40-43 inch wheelbase, should have from 430 to 460mm between the rear axle and bottom bracket (pedal sprocket), and have between 550 and 542mm between the bottom bracket and front axle. Sam says most “standard” touring frames have measurements which are too short.

With every bike order, he has the customer describe what problems he had with his old bike and builds his frames to correct those problems. Most problems people have with off-the-rack bikes involve comfort. 

BART BRAXTON files the rough edges from a frame and gets it ready for sandblasting, prior to painting. Custom-built frames carry the Braxton trademark and cost approximately $500. Bart and Dalton Braxton started helping Sam in 1970 when they were in high school. Bart plans to carry on with the business as long as there is a demand for custom-built bicycles.

Dr. Tom Baumgartner, a local man who owns a Braxton, says comfort is the main reason he bought a custom frame. “I’ve got an old Peugeot I ride when it rains,” Baumgartner says “and my back feels terrible after I ride it.” Dennis Sparrow, owner of New Era bicycle shop, also builds his own frames, and says that Braxton does an “adequate job,” but probably not as good as he thinks. Any manufactured product will have some flaws, Sparrow says. He adds that while Braxton’s $895 price tag for a custom frame is “real reasonable for what it is,” he has seen frames on the market that are just as good, or better, for less money.

Braxton said he doesn’t care what Sparrow or anyone else says. “I’ve got my orders, and I’ll work on my frames,” he says. Sam says he’ll be retiring from the railroad soon and will be able to do whatever he wants to do. It’s my hobby until I retire,” he said, “and when I retire, I’ll have a full-time job.”
UM Staff Senate endorses MontPIRG

The Staff Senate gave its support yesterday to the establishment of the Montana Public Interest Research Group at the University of Montana. The five-member Executive Committee of the senate met Dec. 4 and drafted a letter to the Board of Regents recommending support of the group. Yesterday's meeting gave senate approval to the committee's action.

In part, the letter stated: "We believe that MontPIRG will greatly improve the educational skills of students as they research issues and learn to work within the social, legal and political areas. This kind of structured involvement can only help revitalize the true meaning of citizenship."

According to committee First Vice President Jane Felstet, the senate supported the establishment of the group but did not discuss the refundable fee system that would be used to finance the group.

"We support the idea of the group," she said, and added that the committee felt the funding system was "the business of MontPIRG."

The Montana Public Employee Association also endorsed MontPIRG. Kris Roby, association president, said MPEA members sent letters to the Board of Regents urging approval of the establishment of the group. She said the association "is very much" in favor of the group and "felt that MontPIRG had a place in educational institutions."

Bozeman's faculty includes few women

BOZEMAN (AP) — Montana State University officials say women are a minority group on the faculty, but they are continuing their recruitment efforts. MSU President William Tietz and department heads at the university say that problems in attracting women for faculty positions include the impression that the university is a highly technical school, competition with private businesses, a lack of qualified applicants and a lack of openings in the chemistry department, for instance, not one of the 16 teachers is a woman.

Department Chairman Edwin Abbott said one woman recently was offered a job in the department, but decided she preferred the urban environment of Boston.

One of the 24 teachers of electrical engineering and computer science is a woman.

"In searches in electrical engineering in the last two years, we have had no responses from female Ph.D. electrical engineers," said department Chairman Don Pierre.

In the School of Nursing, however, the ratio is one man to 53 women.

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ARMY ROTC. LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO LEAD.
English

Cont. from p. 1

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Thomas Power, chairman of the economics department, said he did not understand the department's position.

"The allocations are not a slap at how important English is to the university," Power said. "The fact is, though, that high-quality English professors get paid less than economics or computer science teachers. The gap between university salaries and those paid in private industries, an economics professor was paid $5,355 less than he would be if he worked in a private job. An English professor was paid $2,965 less in a private job. Habbe told him not to feel that to solar scientists around the world.

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Don't...

Cont. from p. 1

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When asked about a good place for beginning ski tourists to practice their techniques, Corn recommended the Lolo Pass area. He advised beginning ski tourists to camp about a mile from their car on the first outing.

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Text buyback is losing proposition for bookstore

By Brian Rygg
Managing Editor

Even though many students think the Associated Students' Store book buyback is a "rip-off," the bookstore loses money on the operation, according to Bryan Thornton, the store's general manager.

In fact, the bookstore lost $41,000 last year. Thornton said, adding that much of that loss was due to the buyback and to textbook sales in general.

During the buyback students can get cash for their used textbooks. A book that is on the store's list of books ordered for the following quarter earns 60 percent of its current price. Other textbooks earn less — often just a couple dollars.

"The buyback this quarter begins Monday and continues through finals week until 4 p.m. Dec. 18," Thornton said. "Used textbooks, particularly, are "very expensive to sell," he said.

The price of new textbooks includes a 25-percent profit margin to pay for shipping, labor and overhead, Thornton said. Adding that many large bookstores buy books back at 50 percent of the retail price and resell them at 75 percent to retain that 25-percent margin.

The books that the University of Montana bookstore buys for 60 percent are sold for 75 percent. The 15-percent margin is not enough to cover the cost of reselling the books, Thornton said.

A representative of the Nebraska Book Co., a used book company, does the actual buying of the books during the buyback, Thornton said. The representative pays all for the books during the buyback. Ting, 35, is being held in the Men's Central Jail in Los Angeles. Bail has been set at $100,000. He was arrested Sept. 22 in the Angeles National Forest near Pasadena while fixing his car. A deputy who stopped to help Ting found that the license plates on his car were registered for another vehicle.

Ting is accused of pulling a gun on the deputy when the deputy asked for his vehicle registration. He was arrested and charged with attempted homicide and assault with a deadly weapon.

Ting was a graduate student in microbiology at UM and served as president of the International Students' Union last year.

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Bumper stickers will announce drunk drivers

CENTER, Wash. (AP) — A judge says some people convicted of drunken driving should be forced to announce themselves by affixing bumper stickers to their cars.

King County District Judge Phil Schwarz has had bumper stickers printed proclaiming: "This car owned by CONVICTED DRUNK DRIVER" and says he will order their use. The Ancient City of Tiberius Union and the director of the county public defender's office don't think what Schwarz plans is legal.

Schwarz, who owns an insurance agency and serves as the lone judge on Vashon Island one day a week, is a lawyer. He says he will pay for the bumper stickers.

He says he will order convicted drunk drivers to keep the bumper stickers on their cars for a year if they refuse to attend the alcoholism programs that are part of their sentences.

The judge, who says conventional sentences are not enough in drunken driving cases, said he had the bumper stickers made to try to force offenders "to take the cure." He said he also hoped the stickers would warn other motorists.

Schwarz said he usually sentences first offenders in drunken driving cases to 30 days in jail with 29 days suspended, a $500 fine with at least half suspended and participation in an alcoholism program.

Kathleen Taylor, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Washington state, said Tuesday the planned punishment was like a "scarlet letter," a reference to the Nathaniel Hawthorne novel of that name in which an adulteress must wear a red letter A.

"My first impulse is that it seems like an invasion of privacy to have such a label," Taylor said, adding that the bumper stickers might also be considered cruel and unusual punishment and, therefore, unconstitutional.

Bob Boruchowitz, director of the Seattle-King County Public Defender's Office, said a court challenge might be based on privacy and property rights.

"I think it's demeaning, and it doesn't help address the causes of alcoholism," he said of the stickers.

UM directories are here

The University of Montana 1981-82 phone directories are being distributed to dorms and departments this week, according to Bill Brown, UM publications editor.

Directories also will be distributed exclusively to off-campus students this week starting Monday. To receive a directory, off-campus students should go to the information desk in the University Center and show their student ID cards.

The 4,000 directories, which have a color picture of Main Hall on the cover and a campus map inside, were produced by Hart Enterprises Inc. in San Diego, Calif., and were paid for with yellow pages advertising.

World News

THE WORLD

• The Soviet KGB secret police told Liza Aleyeva, Andrei Sakharov's daughter-in-law, that the Nobel laureate had ended his 17-day hunger strike in exile and that she would be allowed to go to the United States to see her husband.

The two were married by proxy in Butte earlier this week. The Sakharovs began exile and that she would be allowed to go to the United States to see her husband. The two were married by proxy in Butte earlier this week. The Sakharovs began exile and that she would be allowed to go to the United States to see her husband.

• Lebanese Moslem militants that seized a Li- byan jetliner and forced it to fly 7,500 miles to four countries agreed yesterday to give up and free their 35 hostages, Lebanon state radio reported. The terms of this agreement were not immediately known. The hijack lasted 50 hours before the hijackers who seized control of the plane on a New York flight from Switzerland to Libya surrendered to Libyan peacekeeping troops.

• Four Latin Americans and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan entered the race for with yellow pages adver­tising.

• Volunteers using air tanks and masks crawled through a mine shaft yester­day and removed the bodies of 13 coal miners killed by an explosion at Tennessee Consolidated Coal Co.'s No. 21 mine near Whitwell, Tenn.

MONTANA

• Sen. John Melcher said yesterday that there is no substance to a conservative political group's allegation that he and other senators tried to keep critical adver­tisements about him off local television and radio stations. The Montana Democrat was commenting on a charge made by the National Conservative Political Action Committee that "liberal senators" were making it hard for the group to get its ads broadcast. The group did not mention Melcher by name. Melcher said he advised two Montana television stations that the ads were inaccurate. The group plans to sue the senators named in the ads and the television stations that did not run the ads.

• The Anaconda Copper Co. smokestack in Great Falls soon will be dwarfed by a new stack that is 50 feet taller. The new stack will be built on the Resource 85 power plant site eight miles east of Great Falls, Montana Power Co. said yesterday.

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