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Montana Kaimin, April 3, 1986

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Education amendment

Senator wants governor held accountable

By Kevin Twidwell

State Sen. Mike Halligan says the only way to reverse the declining quality of education in Montana's universities and colleges is to make the governor directly responsible for the Montana Higher Education System's budget.

Halligan, D-Missoula, plans to introduce a constitutional amendment at the 1987 Legislature that would do that.

He said yesterday that by making the governor, rather than the Board of Regents, responsible for the system's budget, the state's six units of higher education would stand a better chance of getting more funding.

He said because the governor would be an "advocate" of the system, he would push the Legislature harder for more funding.

The increased funding would lead to better education, he said.

However, Jeff Morrison, chairman of the Board of Regents, said the governor wouldn't be able to devote enough time to adequately represent the system at the Legislature.

"The governor has 12 to 16 other state agencies to take care of, and I don't see how he could be a more effective spokesman for the university system," he said.

Gov. Ted Schwinden could not be reached for comment.

Halligan said the plan is needed because under the present system, legislators look at higher education as a "$150 million appendix" to the budget. That is the first to be cut and the last to be funded because "no one person is accountable for the university system."

Under the present system, the regents present a proposed budget to the governor, who makes recommendations to the Legislature. But "he has no negotiation power" in devising the budget, Halligan said.

"Once the highest elected official in the state is responsible for the budget, he can't help but to enhance the quality of the university system," he said.

"If you can approach the governor and say, 'higher education is going downhill and you are responsible,' you're damn right he would lobby for it."

With the higher education responsibilities shifted to the executive branch, the regents would have an important but diminished role in the system's operation, he said. An article in the Missoulian incorrectly stated the board would be abolished if the amendment is passed.

Halligan said the board would act as "a buffer between the governor and bureaucrats and politicians to ensure the academic freedom of the system."

However, Morrison said Halligan's proposal would make the regents more of an "advisory board," reducing its effectiveness.

He said all 50 states have autonomous boards to deal with higher education and added that he sees no reason to change the present system.

"We're all frustrated with the funding and it's pretty hard not to point fingers — even in the Legislature," he said.

Halligan said he will present the amendment because he wants "to protect academic freedom but attach the university system to the governor."

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Proposed budget cuts elicit varied responses

Plan could cost UM students $43,000

By Adina Lindgren

More than $43,000 of the cuts required by former President Neil Bucklew's budget contingency plan would probably come out of students' pockets, the University of Montana controller said Wednesday.

Controller Kay Cotton said yesterday that the plan calls for his office to reduce its accounting services to ASUM and Auxiliary Services. That would eliminate a $43,500 cost break the Controller's Office gives ASUM and Auxiliary Services for filling out accounting and budget adjustment forms, he said.

Bucklew drafted the two-part plan after the Board of Regents directed the six Montana campuses to make plans to deal with a possible 5-percent cut in their budgets.

Though the state would save money by eliminating the cost break, Cotton said students would probably pick up the cost through increased housing and activity fees.

The higher accounting cost would also make less money available to ASUM programs, he said.

The contingency plan also calls for the elimination of a teaching position in the Radio-Television department.

Joe Durso, department chairman, said the position is currently filled by two visiting lecturers who teach more than 100 students in seven sections.

"We would have to cut back on the number of courses that we teach or the frequency of the courses" if the position is cut, Durso said.

The department may also be affected by the recommendation to eliminate funding for KUFM radio for two years.

"If they cut KUFM in a way that cuts people, that will also affect us because some KUFM people also teach radio-television classes," Durso said.

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Program heads frustrated, optimistic

By Eric Troyer

University of Montana program directors have reacted with frustration and optimism at being included in former UM President Neil Bucklew's contingency plan.

In stage two of the plan, the communication sciences and disorders program, the physical therapy program and the social work program are slated to be cut, and special instrument training in the music department would be reduced.

Janet Hulme, director of the physical therapy department, said her program should not be included in the plan because the university will not save money by eliminating it.

"We're basically trying to get the answer of why, because we don't save them any money," she said. "It doesn't make any sense."

Acting UM President Donald Habbe said the contingency plan states that elimination of the physical therapy department "is not feasible unless the state funding system is changed."

Because the current funding system is based on an enrollment formula, dropping the physical therapy program would not save the university any money, Hulme said.

Accreditation for the program will be considered this fall and Hulme said she is concerned that being included in the contingency plan will threaten the program's chances of being accredited.

Hulme also said that keeping and attracting faculty members who could make more in the "real world" will be difficult and students might go to other schools if they cannot afford it.

Currently there are about 165 declared majors in the physical therapy program.

Barbara Fair, chairperson of the...
Buckley makes leap from frying pan into fire

Former University of Montana President Neil Buckley is gone. Some say he abandoned UM when UM needed him and hired him back for the deteriorating morale and a university sinking financially. But the truth is, Buckley will face equally vexing problems as president of West Virginia University as will the next president of UM. Notably, both universities face tough decisions, but they will also have to live with criticisms of the decisions they make.

Both universities face declining enrollment and reductions in state funding, which create problems few people would take the responsibility to solve. UM already lost $500,000 from a 2 percent budget cut ordered by Gov. Claude Finley and could lose an additional $27 million from possible cuts in the next fiscal year. Additional cuts could mean elimination of many UM programs and personnel and a redefinition of UM’s educational goals.

WVU also has to absorb cutbacks, at least $750,000, and will lose more money because of the new Gramm-Rudman budget balancing law. UM's contingency plan calls for the elimination of the earthquake laboratory, low-enrollment graduate programs, the communication sciences and disorders, physical therapy and social work programs, a radio-televisiion department teaching position and 40 teaching assistanships.

WVU's Cooperative Extension Services program will lose $1.2 million and 25 percent of its faculty and other programs, including the agriculture experiment station, student aid and sponsored research projects. WVU faculty also complain of inadequate pay and many are leaving for better paying jobs.

Buckley will have his hands full at WVU and it is doubtful he will win any popularity contests. He will be forced to phase-out certain programs and eliminate various administrative positions while fulfilling the Board of Regents demand for stabilization at the school.

To some Buckley will be a threat, to others, a savior.

But one thing is certain. WVU is lucky to have someone like Buckley who is willing to jump out of the frying pan and into the fire.

Ideally, UM's Presidential Search Committee will find someone with as much self-confidence, willingness and ability to revitalize UM.

Father Conroy

Winter Quarter is history and we can now look forward to (or dread) various rites of Spring. Among the more pleasant aspects of Spring is the presence around campus of numerous females clad only in the latest swimwear.

Of course, Spring has its reprehensible qualities. In most parts of the country it signals the onset of mosquito season, however, at UM the warm weather represents the official opening of the protest season and the presence on the Oval of a far more irritating brand of pests. It is indeed noble to march for a cause, but you can bet that you won't see many of our fine fury friends protesting apartheid, the Contras or whatever may be in vogue if the weather happens to be a bit nippy. Resident Leftists may be fanatical, but they aren't fanatics -- they will wait for warm weather before saving the world.

Unfortunately for these misguided souls being a conscious is not the same as having one. The subject of any protest at the University of Montana is more a product of current fashion than any deeply-held beliefs or values. It's kind of like the grand girl who makes a statement by not shaving her legs, but becomes more than willing to do so if she begins dating a man who prefers his women observe the common standards of hygiene set down by our culture.

Last year anti-apartheid protests were where one would find the stylish Leftist. This Spring I'll bet that the well-dressed fellow traveler will join the legions of useful and useless idiots to denounce "American aggression" in Central America. I would also wager that campus protests will be more numerous than in past Spring quarters for several reasons.

The primary reason is that the Left is losing the battle for America's soul (Thank God!) and they will become more shrill, radical and repugnant the closer they edge toward extinction in the political and intellectual realm of American life.

A second reason more protests are likely is due to the Gramm-Rudman law which reduces student aid. No doubt many of UM's "professional students" have reached the end of the line on Uncle Sam's gravy train and desire to get in one last protest for of times sake. You know the type -- they've been graduate students since Nixon was president and spend most of their time denouncing a private sector in which they have yet to earn a solitary dime.

The final reason I foresee more protests on campus is the renewed presence on campus of the UM Democrats as well as the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA). For efficiency's sake these two groups should merge, but then again that would make too much sense and after all, they are only Leftists.

In discussing the UM Democrats one is tempted to resort to Walter Mondale jokes, but suffice to say that UM Democrats will be seen at any protest that has the prerequisite anti-American overtones.

The Democratic Socialists of America are an interesting lot. It has been said that anyone under 30 who isn't a socialist doesn't have a heart and anyone over 30 who is a socialist doesn't have a brain.

One could argue the validity of the former proposition, but Fred Rice is iron clad proof of the latter. And yet one has to admire the faithfulness of anyone who can still believe in a political system that has yet to produce any lasting success. But Francois Mitterand can tell you more about that than I. For my own part I tend to shy away from any political system that tends to increase a government's control. After all, Hitler and Lenin were socialists and Hitler could even be dubbed a "Democratic Socialist" for the power that he attained power through a quasi-democratic process.

But I digress. My point is that the DSA, as part of the "kook Left", will help to increase the number of protests on campus.

As a student of history I have a certain nostalgia for the past. I was glad to see the mini-skirt make a comeback, but the campas protest is one 60's relic I could live without.

Bradley S. Burt is a senior in history.
communication sciences and disorders department, is optimistic that her program will not be eliminated. "There’s no doubt that we are a high-cost program," she said, but added that the program provides an important service to the state.

Bain said she will lobby the administration to eliminate her department from the contingency plan. Currently there are about 65 declared majors in the department.

John Spores, chairman of the social work department, said he is disappointed his department was included in the contingency plan and doesn’t like "to be singled out like that."

Spores said the social work department should not be cut because it is a quality program and because UM would lose money.

Spores, who has worked with the national Council of Social Work Education, said that for a number of years, the UM program has been pointed to as a model of undergraduate social work education." Spores also said the program is the main source of professional social workers for Montana and the plan’s suggestion of using the WICHE program is "really ludicrous."

Only Eastern Washington University has a similar program and tuition cost. Spores said, but that program accepts only seven or eight graduate students a year from Montana.

Spores said he doubts the university would save $12,000 by eliminating the social work program, because he believes most social work majors would go to school elsewhere rather than choose a new major.

Currently there are about 150 declared majors in the social work program.

Donald Simmons, chairman of the music department, said he is "disappointed that the music department came up in the contingency plan."

However, Simmons said he is optimistic that "the plan will never take effect" as it is currently written, adding that he expects the music department to offer basically the same curriculum in 10 years.

According to the plan, the music department "is the highest subsidized program in the University." Simmons said he didn’t realize any programs would be included in the plan on a cost-effective basis.

"Music departments are never cost-effective," he said. The music department is an important part of UM, Simmons said, because it offers the university visibility and brings, "a good deal of esteem" to the university.

"I think we would come out pretty much on top of the heap" as far as quality of the programs is concerned, he said.

There are about 130 declared music majors at UM. Under the contingency plan, eight faculty positions would be cut — about one-third of the music staff.

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Montana Kaimin • Thursday, April 3, 1986—3
Budgeting, constitution are Tuss’ first priorities

Paul Tuss has a new set of goals this quarter along with a new set of responsibilities.

The new ASUM president said his first priorities include another look at the ASUM budget, preparing for the Montana Legislature’s special session in June as well as the 1987 session and ironing out problems with the proposed constitution.

Tuss, a junior in political science, said he doesn’t agree with the proposed ASUM budget. Though there is no need to rebudget, he said, there are some problems that need to be addressed.

Tuss said some groups that didn’t get funded or were funded inadequately may get money after all. Combining two ASUM positions will free up an extra $30,000 for reallocation. Tuss said about $4,000 were found when some ASUM accounts were combined.

The budgets of some groups, such as the Student Action Center, the Montana Kaimin, the Wilderness Studies and Information Center, and the Women’s Resource Center, will be reconsidered, giving priority to those groups that didn’t get funded, he said.

Another of Tuss’ priorities will be to prepare for the upcoming special session of the Legislature. "I think the UM administration and ASUM are going to have to get together on this and present some united front to the legislators in Helena," he said. It is important to prepare a lobbying effort now because of the severity of the possible budget cuts that would affect the university.

Another issue that will get immediate attention is the proposed ASUM constitution, Tuss said. "There are a lot of problems with the constitution but those problems can be ironed out. I think, through the (Constitutional) Review Board and Central Board," he said.

The first part of the constitution Tuss said he would like to redesign is the Publications Board. Tuss said he disagreed with the way former ASUM president Bill Mercer, wanted the Pub Board operated.

"I really don’t agree that the publications board has to be as stringently composed as Bill would like," Tuss said. "I would like to see the appointed members on Pub board and I would like to see the entire idea of news concentration stricken from the Pub Board."

Tuss said he also wanted budgeting handled differently than it was in the Mercer administration.

Tuss said he would like to see a more holistic approach to budgeting. "It’s a long, drawn out process now, but we’re dealing with almost a half a million dollars."

Tuss said he also wanted to see an improved relationship with the Kaimin and was also looking forward to working with the 12 member FAIR party, and the rest of Central Board. FAIR is a party that ran on a rebudgeting ticket.

Making ASUM more visible and available to students is another aim Tuss has for the new administration. They were complaints last quarter that ASUM officers weren’t available enough and that the budgeting process wasn’t open enough, Tuss said. The officers will have set office hours so they can be more accessible to the students and forums will be set up, he said.

"I think through ASUM-sponsored forums on certain issues, I think students can become more aware of their student government," Tuss said.

The forums would be held to discuss issues such as the possibility of contracting a private food service or discussing the married student housing residents’ concerns over having a bar in their neighborhood. The forums would give students a chance to air their concerns on certain issues or at least become aware of any problems concerning different issues, he said.

Tuss said he would also like to see a column in the Kaimin that would list committee appointments so that students that are interested could get involved.

The ASUM vice president, Mary McLeod, will be in charge of revamping the committee system and getting more people involved, said Tuss.

Tuss, an Anaconda native, has been involved in student government since high school. He interned at the Montana legislature last year as a senate assistant, where he was in physical control of the senate bills. His future plans include law school or graduate school and a possible career in politics.
Paul Timm a senior in finance, takes a hefty swing during an intramural softball game yesterday. For Timm's team, the Beer Goggles, the season began with a win.

Track teams shine in California

Paced by the women's 4x100 relay team, winners at two of three meets, the University of Montana men's and women's track teams turned in sparkling performances in California during spring break.

The meet were tune-ups to Saturday's UM Invitational, beginning at noon at Donblasser Field.

Everett Barham and Frank Horn stood out for the men, with Horn earning two firsts and a fourth on the trip and Barham a first and a fifth.

The men competed in invitational at Cal-Poly Pomona, Cal-State Hayward and Stanford while the women traveled to UC Berkeley, Hayward and Stanford.

No team scores were kept. The victorious women's relay team, composed of Jennifer Hanlin, Sara Robitaille, Kris Schmitt and Paula Good, won at Berkeley and Hayward, setting a new track record at the latter meet.

Horn, who ran a personal best 3:48.89 in the 1,500 at Stanford, won the steeple-chase at Hayward and the 1500 at Pomona.

His effort at Stanford was good for fourth place. Barham won the 400 hurdles at Hayward and finished fifth at Stanford.

Intramural sports swing into action

Volleyball, tennis, a track meet and of course softball with the familiar orange balls are a sampling of the intramural programs offered this spring by University of Montana campus recreation.

According to Adrienne Corti of campus recreation, play in men's, women's and co-rec softball began April 1.

Sixteen other events will be held throughout the quarter. The men's softball program tops the list for most teams with 85, followed by co-rec (76) and women's (17).

More than 2,000 students are participating in the program.

Mixed doubles volleyball play will begin April 8, as will men's and women's one-on-one basketball. Rosters are due Friday.

Other spring activities include:

- Mixed doubles tennis, rosters due April 9, play April 12.
- Run to the "M," April 12, enter by April 11.
- Co-rec soccer, play April 19, enter by April 17.
- Golf tourney, play April 27, enter by April 23.
- Men's-women's soccer, play April 28, enter by April 24.
- Singles tennis, play May 3, enter May 1.
- Track meet, play May 7, enter up to 5 p.m.
- Mixed doubles raquetball, play May 12, enter May 7.
- Fast pitch softball tourney, play May 19, enter May 8.
- Bocce (lawn bowling), play May 11, enter by May 9.
- Doubles tennis tourney, play May 31, enter by May 29.

A $10 entry fee is required for all team/league play, payable at McGill Hall, room 109.

Winners of individual and team events will be awarded a campus recreation T-shirt.

For more information, call 243-2802.

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Montana Kaimin • Thursday, April 3, 1986—5
'Budgeting alternative' may save ASUM $35,000

By Kevin McRae

ASUM President Paul Tuss introduced a "budgeting alternative" at the Central Board meeting last night, he says could save ASUM $35,000.

He said ASUM may save some of the $29,000 it pays to the UM administration for accounting services if the Board of Regents decides to reduce this administrative assessment fee. He did not say how much the fee might be reduced.

The regents are scheduled to discuss the issue at its meeting in May, and Tuss asked CB members to go to the meeting in Helena to lobby for the reduction.

Tuss said the fee, the largest paid by any college in Montana.

An additional $10,000 may be saved, he said, by combining the ASUM secretary and accountant positions into one "office manager."

Tuss also appointed an ad hoc committee to examine and recommend changes in the ASUM budgeting process.

In other action, Tuss said CB should work quickly to form a lobbying effort to go to Helena when the Legislature meets for a special session in June.

Tuss said the ASUM executive officers believe the state's budget may be reduced and the University of Montana should be represented if changes are made in money allocations.

He said that Carrol Krause, commissioner of higher education, told him at the last special session that some very serious cuts in the university system may be made.

Committee approves annexation proposal

By Adina Lindgren

The Missoula County Plat, Annexation and Zoning Committee approved a proposal yesterday to annex the University of Montana married student housing property.

The City Council will vote on the proposal Monday.

The annexation will let family housing residents vote on city issues and increase Missoula's population by 800 to 1,200 people according to UM Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Glen Williams.

Annexation will also increase government funding and gas tax money from state and federal governments. It will not generate more property tax money.

ASUM is currently accepting applications for the following paid positions for the academic year 1986-87.

Programming Director
Pop Concerts Coordinator
Performing Arts Coordinator
Films Coordinator
Lecture Coordinator

Applications for Programming Director are due by 5:00 p.m. on April 11.
Applications for Coordinator positions are due by 5:00 p.m. on April 18.
Applications are available in ASUM, UC 105 or ASUM Programming, UC 104.

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All Students Invited!

Montana Kaimin • Thursday, April 3, 1986—7
Students

Continued from page 1

Ken Fielding, director of the Telecommunications Center, where KUFM is located, said he would not respond to the suggestion to cut KUFM funding "until it becomes a reality."

The contingency plan also suggests discontinuing low-enrollment graduate programs or making them temporarily inactive.

"There has been no discussion of what constitutes low," Raymond Murray, Graduate School dean, said. "The president did not define low," he added.

Acting UM President Donald Halbe said the Commissioner of Higher Education's Office would decide what constitutes low enrollment.

However, he said, fewer than 10 or fewer than five students per program is "typically" considered low enrollment.

Graduate programs with fewer than 10 students enrolled include sociology, with nine students; physics, with two; philosophy, with one; pharmacy, with four; music, with nine; interdisciplinary studies, with six; and foreign languages and literature with five.

The contingency plan also calls for the elimination of UM's earthquake laboratory, which includes two permanent seismographs used to monitor earthquakes.

Although the lab only employs three students and benefits students only when it is used for demonstrations, its seismographs are the only ones in Western Montana.

Steven Sherif, earthquake laboratory director, said closing the lab would limit the Bureau of Mines and Geology's ability to accurately locate earthquakes west of the Continental Divide. UM's labs

Amendments

Continued from page 1

...collaborate with the bureau, located in Butte.

Stage one of the contingency plan also calls for the elimination of the Master's of Business Administration program in Billings.

Robert Connole, acting dean of the business school, was not available for comment.

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