Spring 2012

SB47-11/12: KRELF Grant Allocations

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding KRELF Grant Allocations
March 28, 2012
Senate Bill SB47-11/12
Authored by: Zach Brown, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: Stacy Boman, ASUM Sustainability Coordinator;
Clayton Springmeyer, ASUM Senator & KRELF Committee member;
Jenifer Gursky, ASUM President; Asa Hohman, ASUM Senator;
and Luke Sims, ASUM Business Manager

Whereas, as stated in its Bylaws, “the purpose of the Kless Revolving Energy Loan Fund
(KRELF) is to finance projects that promote resource conservation, waste reduction, and
environmental awareness projects at The University of Montana (UM)”;

Whereas, KRELF is funded through a $4 per semester optional student Sustainability
Fee;

Whereas, KRELF has approved $200,000 to fund energy efficiency and resource
conservation projects in the spring 2012 semester;

Whereas, the ballot referendum as approved by students made no specific mention of
grant vs. loan percentages to be allocated;

Whereas, the Climate Action Plan estimates that an energy efficient campus could save
$800,000 annually and 12,000 MTeCO2 (metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent) per
year, or 20% of UM’s total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;

Whereas, the Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) Senate
previously passed SB 33-11/12 unanimously, which resolved that “Associated Students
of The University of Montana (ASUM) calls for investment in energy efficiency and
conservation improvements to all 50 large buildings on campus as the next action in
furtherance of energy cost savings and eventual carbon neutrality”;

Whereas, the Smart Buildings Initiative is a university system-wide energy efficiency
action plan that utilizes and expands existing campus resources, including students,
faculty, and staff, in order to identify and implement energy efficiency improvements in
the operation of facilities and to capture and retain avoided costs to create a self-
sustaining energy efficiency program;

Whereas, investing in real-time energy monitoring equipment will help identify future
KRELF projects by providing students and staff with access to pre-project and post-
project energy consumption data;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that ASUM encourages the KRELF Committee to invest
its student dollars in the energy monitoring equipment needed to launch the Smart
Buildings Initiative;
Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM encourages The UM administration to repay student fee investments in energy monitoring equipment with cost savings realized through the implementation of the Smart Buildings Initiative.

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM encourages the KRELF Committee to pursue any committee bylaw change that would allow committee discretion in increasing the percentage of grant allocations available for future projects.

Passed by Committee: _________________________, 2012

Passed by ASUM Senate: _________________________, 2012

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Travis Suzuki,  Jeffrey Edmunds,
Relations and Affairs Chair  Chair of the Senate