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Documents from the January 16, 1991 meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

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ASUM SENATE AGENDA
Mt. Sentinel Rooms
January 16, 1991
6:00 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes
4. President's Report
 - a. Report on ASUM Elections - Tracie Bernardini
 - b. Presentation of MAS Report
 - c. Presentation of Focus Statement
5. Vice President's Report
 - a. Committee Appointments
 - b. Miscellaneous Announcements
6. Business Manager's Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Public Comment Period
9. Old Business
 - a. Coherent Legislation Resolution - Crocker/Vessar
 - b. Martin Luther King Day Resolution - Crocker/Nelson
 - c. Tear Down the Walls Resolution - Tinsley/Thompson
 - d. Funding Resolution - SLA Committee
10. New Business
11. Comments
12. Adjournment

ASUM SENATE TALLY SHEET

DATE

January 16, 1991

SENATE MEMBERSROLL
CALL

Dan Astle
 John Crocker
 Tim Dahlberg
 Amy Jo Fisher
 Eric Hummel
 Chris Johnson
 Kelli McMaster
 Scott Nelson
 Linn M. Parish
 [REDACTED]
 Pat Price
 Geannine Rapp
 Polly Rhodes
 Amy Clark Stevens
 Tyler Thompson
 Annie Thorgrimson
 Ed Tinsley
 Marc Vessar
 Steve Young
 Ed Zink
 Ex-officio

✓							
6:45							
✓							
✓							
✓							
✓							
✓							
✓							
✓							
X excused							
✓							
✓							
✓							
✓							
✓							
6:15							
✓							

ASUM OFFICERS

Chris Warden
 President
 Alice Hinshaw
 Vice-President
 PAULA PELLETIER
 Business Manager

✓							
✓							
X excused							

FACULTY ADVISOR

Pat Edgar

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ASUM SENATE MINUTES
Mt. Sentinel Rooms
January 16, 1991
6:00 p.m.

Chairman Hinshaw called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Members present were Astle, Crocker (6:45), Dahlberg, Fisher, Hummel, McMaster, Nelson, Parish, Price, Rhodes, Stevens, Thorgrimson, Tinsley, Vessar, Young (6:15) and Zink. Unexcused were Johnson and Thompson. Excused were Pelletier and Rapp.

Vessar - Thorgrimson moved to approve the minutes of the January 9, 1991, meeting as written.

President's Report

- a. Elections Report moved to Committee Reports.
- b. MAS Report will be given next week.
- c. Warden passed out and discussed an ASUM Vision Plan with miscellaneous attachments (Exhibit A).

Vice President's Report

- a. Hinshaw offered the following committee appointments:

Fiscal Investigation Committee

Budget and Finance Committee - Titchbourne, Rosenthal and Thomas.

Senate Members - Tinsley, Crocker and Rhodes.

Zink - Vessar moved to approve. Motion carried.

Elections Committee - Sen. Rapp. Zink - Hummel moved to approve. Motion carried.

Elections Committee Alternate - Sen. Thorgrimson. Warden - Hummel moved to approve. Motion carried.

Review of Student Conduct Code Committee - Pete Aklestad. Price - Hummel moved to approve. Motion carried.

Hinshaw asked for volunteers to serve on SLA Director Selection Committee which meets tomorrow (Thurs.). Senator Astle and City Council Rep. Erickson said they would serve.

Business Manager's Report - None

Committee Reports

- a. Paula Rosenthal reported that the Budget and Finance Committee has conducted routine business in Business Manager Pelletier's absence. The Committee has determined a meeting time and discussed computer purchasing policy.
- b. Tracie Bernardini gave a report on the election process and will appear before the Senate next week for input.
- c. Ed Zink announced that the Bylaws will be ready for a vote at next week's meeting.
- d. Eric Hummel requested Reorganization Committee members to meet with him after the meeting.
- e. Randi Erickson reported on the City Council meeting and expressed her appreciation for ASUM groups who came to the meeting to support the Martin Luther King Resolution.

Public Comment Period

Tracie Bernardini commented on the rally yesterday (Tuesday) and felt it was excellent. However, she felt the coverage of it was not that complimentary. She suggested a resolution that would show support for Montana (and other) troops in the Gulf that after passage would be sent to them.

SLA Assistant Director John Mudd apologized for a quote which implied that he supported lump sum funding. He suggested a moment of silence at the end of the Senate meeting this evening.

Jay Barnell concurred with Tracie's idea for a resolution supporting Montana troops in the Gulf.

Old Business

- a. Vessar - Hummel tabled the Coherent Legislation Resolution.

Hummel - Zink moved to vote on the seconded motion from the Executives to appoint Julie Kuntz to the vacant Senate position. Motion carried.
- b. Fisher - Hummel moved to table the Martin Luther King Day Resolution. Motion failed. Price - Warden moved to vote on the Resolution (Exhibit B). Motion carried.
- c. Tinsley withdrew his Tear Down the Walls Resolution.
- d. Hummel tabled the Funding Resolution until next week.

ASUM Senate Minutes
January 16, 1991
page three

New Business

- a. Zink - Hummel proposed a resolution to draft a letter showing support for troops in Saudi Arabia.
- b. Hummel - Price proposed a resolution to authorize a Senate primary when there are over 40 candidates.

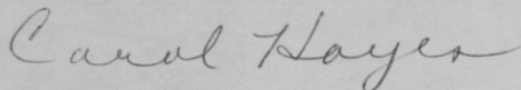
Hinshaw called for a vote to suspend the rules in order to reintroduce the Funding Resolution (Exhibit C). Motion carried.
Young - Price moved to vote. Motion carried.

Comments

The Senate observed a moment of silence in place of their comment period.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:50.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Hayes
ASUM Office Manager

ASUM VISION PLAN

Winter Quarter • 1991

As ASUM enters this Winter Quarter, it is very apparent that a strong vision is needed to help our elected leaders focus on the issues at hand. Leadership and cooperation between all of our elected leaders is very important if not absolutely necessary. I want to help provide that leadership and vision. I would like to take this opportunity to share with each of you my vision for the next quarter and to ask for your assistance on these very important goals.

This handout is divided into two sections. The first section outlines what issues that I feel ASUM as a whole needs to focus upon. The second section outlines what I personally plan to focus on this quarter.

Section One: ASUM Organizational Goals

As most of you know, ASUM has many required tasks this quarter as outlined by our Constitution, Bylaws or passed resolutions. I strongly believe that each and every one of us needs to spend a great deal of time and energys focusing on these areas. These duties are part of our basic obligation to the students and must receive our full attention and priority. Personal agendas may need to take a back burner if we are all to do our required duties to the best of our ability.

The following is a short list of the areas that ASUM must focus on this quarter.

Budgeting - This will have to be our primary focus. In order to help make the process as productive as possible, we each need to make a concerted effort to reach out to all ASUM groups and organizations with a helping hand. The Board on Budget and Finance and Paula will need and request this support.

Action Plan: To be unveiled by our new Business Manager.

Elections - Although our election plans are very well laid out, we each have a responsibility that this process reflects priniciples and values that are expected of a fair and honest elections process. ASUM officials seeking re-election need to be leaders and role models in this area. Officials not seeking reelection

will be needed to provide experienced assistance in helping the elections committee administer the process.

Action Plan: To be presented by ASUM Elections Chair Tracie Bernardini.

Reorganization - As stipulated in the Reorganization package passed by the previous Senate, this quarter we are responsible for reviewing the changes in office procedures and positions this quarter. Although most work will be conducted by the Reorganization Committee, we each need to personally assess the progress of these changes. Suggestion for additional changes may need to be reviewed, implemented and assessed.

Action Plan: To be determined and presented by Committee Chair Eric Hummel.

Fiscal Investigation Committee - ASUM needs to aggressively and quickly address this issue. The entire Senate will have to focus on these matters, as directed by the special investigation committee. We need to determine what changes in policy are needed and what internal controls may need to be instituted or changed. This area is fairly broad and will be more clearly determined by the committee. It undoubtedly will be an area of great discussion and work.

Action Plan: To be determined and presented by FIC Chair and Committee.

Legislative Session - Helping with the legislative session will be another of our required responsibilities. Assistance provided to SLA by our elected leaders will be a huge determining factor in whether or not our voice will be heard in Helena. Focusing on administrative matters, such as reviewing bills and proposed legislation, will be pertinent if ASUM is to make strong, solid decision on legislative matters. Acting as liaisons to our student population will also be of great importance.

Action Plan: To be determined by SLA Director and Committee.

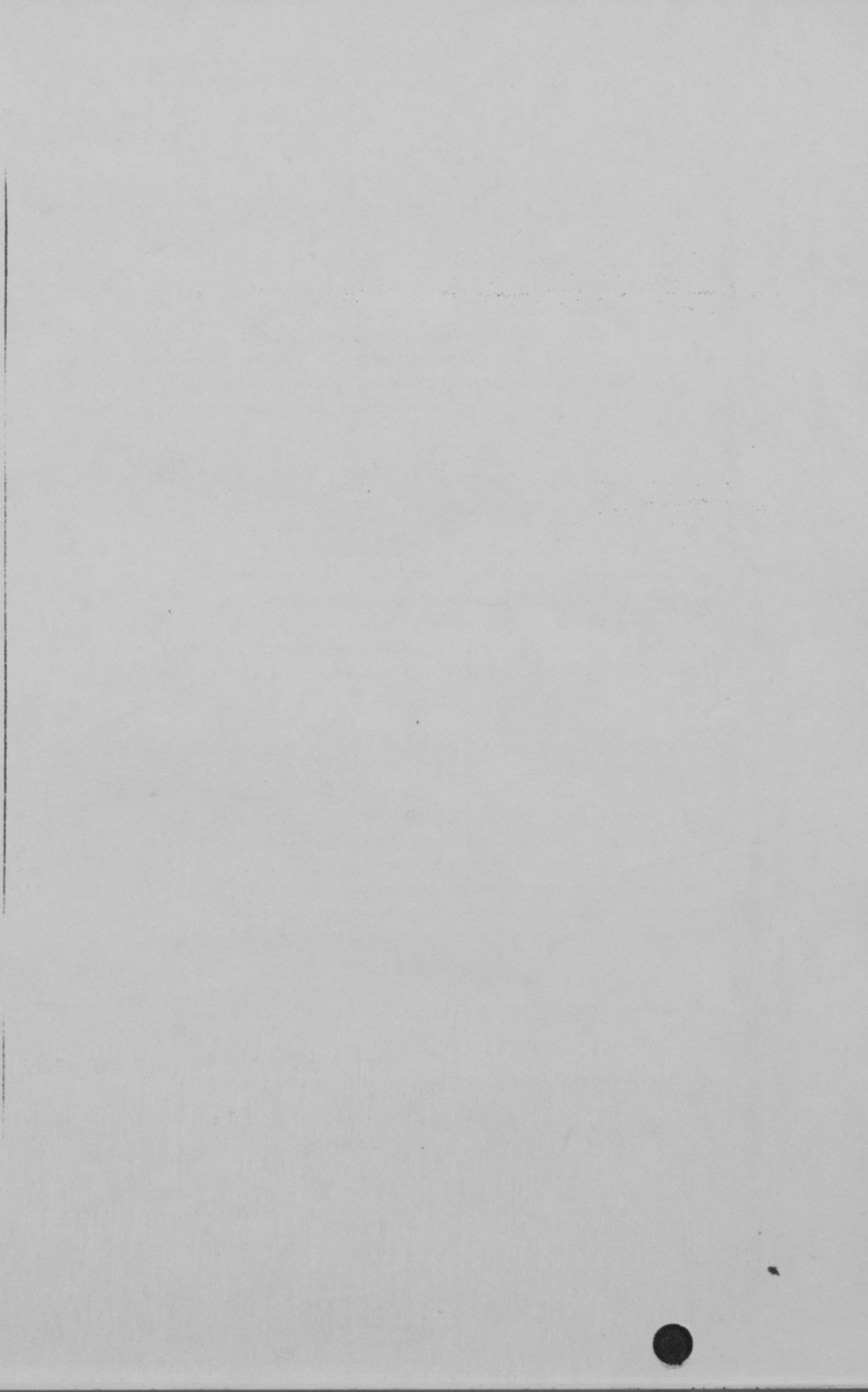
Exhibit A

Section Two: Presidential Goals

I plan on focusing a majority of my time on the following projects:

- 1). Personnel Matters- The ASUM Office currently needs better management in the area of personnel matters. A number of specific issues have cropped up, such as issues concerning job descriptions, workloads and employee appeals. This will be in conjunction with the Reorganization review.
- 2). Working as a Campus Voice for Student Legislative Issue- This is a personal interest. I plan on helping SLA, to my utmost, in communicating to students the status of higher education and state issues during the legislative session.
- 3). Planning the Executive Budget Recommendation- I plan on spending a great deal of time on this issue, investigating and planning so that our recommendation can adequately address the problems and challenges that ASUM and ASUM Groups will face during the next year. I will also be trying to make Budgeting an easier process for the individuals going through the process.
- 4). Laying Ground-Work for Next Administration- I want to help leave behind a system that will benefit the new ASUM Executive Board.
- 5). Working as a Liason to the Senate- As you might have noticed, my time will be filled with a number of pre-designated items. I wanted to act in a capacity where I can assist in updating you all on matters that face the students from my perspective. I will attempt to keep you all updated on issue that I am monitoring.

I want to encourage Senators that are interested in focusing on other matters to join me in what I think is a new focus of ASUM. I would like the Executive Board, the ASUM Senate and all ASUM Committee to work in doing one simple things this quarter- improving campus life here at UM. This is something that I feel ASUM sometimes neglects and is something that I have neglected this year. At times, ASUM gets immersed in such large issues that we tend to ignore the little things on campus. These little things are often the things that students would like us to address the most, such as parking fines, registration problems, dorm life, classroom overcrowding. These are also issues that we can sometimes easily fix. I will provide further explanation next week.



Lawmaker lobbies to stall U-system semester switch

By JOHN MacDONALD
Associated Press

HELENA — Rep. Ray Peck, D-Havre, said Saturday he has asked the head of the state university system to delay for one year a plan to convert Montana universities and colleges to a semester system.

Commissioner of Higher Education John Hutchinson said he would pass Peck's request on to the Board of Regents at a special meeting Monday. But he added that the regents are "solid" in their decision to convert from quarters to semesters, and probably won't honor Peck's request.

"My prediction is that the regents will not reconsider the semester conversion,"

Hutchinson said Saturday. "We have gone a long way down the road on this issue. A great deal of work has been done on the campuses already

... to prepare for the semester change."

Peck said that if the regents don't act on his request, he may draft a House resolution to put pressure on the Board of Regents.

"I don't think the regents would refuse if they heard the sentiments of the entire Legislature," Peck said.

Hutchinson disagreed, saying the regents would not be swayed by any resolution from the Legislature, since it has no control over university management decisions.

The Board of Regents voted several years ago to switch from a four-quarter school year to a two-semester year at Montana's public universities and colleges. Montana State University and Eastern Montana College are scheduled to convert to semesters this fall,

(See **SEMESTER**, Page B-3)

Semester

(continued)

while the University of Montana plans to convert in 1992. Montana Tech, Western Montana College and Northern Montana College already operate on a semester basis.

Peck said he met with Hutchinson last week after talking with faculty members who felt the regents did not take enough public

testimony before deciding to convert to semesters.

"They were asking me, 'Can't you do something about this?' " Peck said. "I told them I'd try to get the conversion postponed until more hearings could be held. I'm not saying (the regents) should reverse their decision, I'm saying they should just postpone it for one year."

Hutchinson said no more hearings are needed.

"It's my judgment that the faculties on the campuses had

ample opportunity to comment on the semester conversion," he said.

Regent Bill Mathers of Miles City agreed. Although he wasn't on the board when it made the decision, Mathers said he has gone through stacks of old notes from hearings held at all the schools affected by the change.

"Everyone had a chance to comment," he said. "I think it would be a terrible mistake to back away from the board's decision. We're too far into the transition already."



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPRESENTATIVE RAY PECK

HOUSE DISTRICT 15

HOME ADDRESS:

729 FOURTH AVENUE
HAVRE, MONTANA 59501

December 17, 1990

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
LEGISLATIVE FINANCE

Mr. William L. Mathers, Chairman
Board of Regents
1105 South Merriam
Miles City, Montana 59301

Dear Chairman Mathers:

My timing on this issue is terrible, and I apologize for that. However, I have had to spend some time and meet with some of the knowledgeable people in the University System prior to arriving at a preliminary conclusion on this matter.

After completing this preliminary review of the question of whether or not the University System should convert to the semester system, I have grave concern about the financial implications of this change. There are many other concerns in my mind about this change, but they are in the management realm, and I try to keep myself out of your business. There is just no doubt in my mind that there are major implications in terms of potential capital outlay and personnel costs if the System is converted to the semester basis.

My discussions with persons in the University System indicate that they feel that this question did not receive a complete hearing when the decision was made. These people in the System do not say that as a criticism of the Board. There were apparently many reasons why the faculty did not participate actively in this issue when it was under consideration.

All of this is too complex to deal with in a letter. I am writing to request that the scheduled conversion at MSU and EMC be postponed from 1991 to 1992 so that full hearings can be held by the Regents to reconsider the question. I know that is a tough decision to make at this time, but I strongly feel faculty, students and the public are all entitled to a review of this question.

Not too long ago the State of Oregon recinded a plan to convert to the semester system after they re-examined the impact on students, faculty and facilities of this change. I know agricultural parents in this area are not happy with the idea.

William L. Mathers
December 17, 1990
page 2

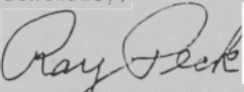
I am really puzzled by the fact this decision was ever made in view of the opposition of the presidents of the schools involved in the conversion. I am told that WMC was even considering converting to the quarter system at the time this decision was made and opposed the change.

Faculty from the University of Montana have reported to me that their Faculty Senate recently voted 25 to 1 to work to overturn the conversion to the semester schedule. The president of the student body at the U of M has spoke in support of the Faculty Senate's position.

I want to make clear that my concern here is with the long range financial implications of converting to the semester system for the State of Montana. As a citizen, I have other concerns, but this letter is written from my legislative position and concerns only the financial considerations.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ray Peck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ray" and last name "Peck" clearly distinguishable.

Ray Peck, Chairman
Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

cc: Governor Stan Stephens
Representative Francis Bardanoue
Commissioner John Hutchinson
Regent Jim Kaze
Regent Elsie Redlin
Regent Cordell Johnson
Regent Kermit Schwanke
Regent Thomas Topel
Student Regent Brad Musgrove



COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2802

(406) 444-8570

January 2, 1991

The Honorable Ray Peck
Representative
House District 15
729 Fourth Avenue
Havre, MT 59501

Ray

Dear Representative Peck:

Thank you for your letter of December 17, 1990, regarding the change from quarters to semesters. Allow us to take a moment to address some of the concerns voiced in your letter. It must be clearly understood that conversion to the semester system was prompted by both academic and financial considerations.

Academically, four reasons can be cited in support of the conversion: (1) Students receive considerably more depth in most subject areas. (2) Quarters are often too short in academic fields that involve field studies, clinical practica, exchanges, internships, etc. (3) Over 90% of the colleges and universities in the U.S. are now on the semester calendar which means most text books and lab manuals are geared for semesters. (4) Transfers are more easily accommodated by students and institutions.

You mentioned that this conversion may be costly. Actually, part of the reason for the conversion is the anticipated long-term savings from fewer registrations, fewer financial aid transactions at the campuses, and significant utility savings derived from the long mid-winter semester break.

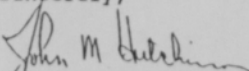
You graciously requested reconsideration of this whole conversion matter. In our judgment that is unrealistic. The Regents have been through all of this once, public hearings were held, the process is well underway on all campuses. We

Representative Ray Peck
January 2, 1991
Page 2

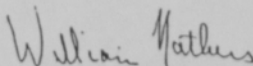
are sorry that more faculty did not participate in the hearings but we do not consider their absence several years ago as a compelling argument to reconsider.

The Regents intend to move forward with the semester conversion. Thanks for your interest.

Sincerely,



John M. Hutchinson
Commissioner of Higher Education



William Mathers
Chairman Board of Regents

Montana Associated Students

Legislative Action Directory

Montana Student Lobbyist Office

Montana Associated Students	Kirk Lacy	442-9786
University of Montana	Pat McCleary Todd Diesen	442-5590
Montana State University	John Dolan Monika McKamey	442-8854
Montana College Coalition	Heide Leighty	442-9975

Montana Associated Students Campus Directory

Eastern Montana College

ASEMC Office
1500 N. 30th Street
Billings, MT 59101

Kirk Lacy - Pres. 657-1698
Greg Adkins - V. P. 657-2365
Bob Hurd - Leg. Affairs
Todd Mitchell - Public Relations

Montana State University

ASMSU Office
Bozeman, MT 59717

Mariah Malby - Pres. 994-2933
Rick Archuletta - V.P.
Rob Green - Leg. Affairs

University of Montana

ASUM Office
Missoula, MT 59812

Chris Warden - Pres. 243-2451
John Mudd - Leg. Affairs

Montana Tech

ASMT Office
Butte, MT 59701

Sarah Wideman-Pres. 496-4454
Juli Bork - V.P.

Northern Montana College

ASNMC Office
Havre, MT 59501

Heather Rouse - Pres. 265-3714
Shery Hayes - V.P.
Sandy Rheinlander - Leg. Affairs

Western Montana College

ASWMC Office
Dillon, MT 59725

Eric Gustafson - Pres. 683-7211
Ray Jursnich - V.P.

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the fact of the fundamental equality of all human beings is one of the foundational principles of our society and (especially) our academic life; and

WHEREAS racial and cultural diversity is generally recognized to be a social good; and

WHEREAS the extending of civil rights to every member of our country, regardless of race, creed, gender, or color is recognized to be both a political and a moral imperative; and

WHEREAS Dr. Martin Luther King has increasingly come to symbolically represent the achievement of the above through non-violent means..

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the ASUM Senate, acting on behalf of the U of M student body, asserts its full support for the bill in the Montana State Legislature that will recognize Martin Luther King Day as a State holiday.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution, and the position it indicates, will be conveyed to the State legislature through the agency of SLA Office and ASUM lobbyists.

Submitted as new business 1/9/91, by
John R. Crocker
Ed Tinsley
Paula Pelletier

WHEREAS, the maintenance of a quality education at The University of Montana and the Montana University System requires our institutions to aggressively pursue a competitive level of funding in comparison to our peer institutions;

WHEREAS, The University of Montana and other units of the Montana University System currently trail peer institutions in all areas of funding,

WHEREAS, the Governor's Commission For The 90's and Beyond has estimated that it will take \$45,000,000 to bring Montana to equity with our peers,

WHEREAS, the Montana Board of Regents has requested the 1991 Montana Legislature for a \$9,000,000 increase every year for a period of five years,

WHEREAS, Governor Stan Stephens' executive budget gives the Montana University System an \$4,000,000 increase a year for a period of two years,

REALIZING, that the Governor's budget barely keeps pace with inflation,

Let it be resolved that...

... The Associated Students of The University of Montana strongly support the Montana Board of Regents budget request to the 1991 Montana Legislature. And strongly recommend that the 1991 Montana Legislature fund the Board of Regents' entire request of \$45,000,00 over a course of five years.

...And that ASUM will actively lobby the 1991 Montana Legislature for this increase in funding.

Authored by the SLA Committee

Carried by: Senator Hummel

Seconded Motion From The SLA Committee