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SB22-15/16: Support of UM Productions

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The Associated Students of the University of Montana  
Resolution in Support of UM Productions  
October, 28th, 2015  
SB 22-15/16  
Authored by: Taylor McDermott, ASUM Senator  
Sponsored by: Cody Meixner, President of ASUM

Whereas, University of Montana Productions (UMP) is an agency of The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM);

Whereas, UMP’s mission is to bring quality entertainment to the University of Montana (UM) and the Missoula community focusing on diversity with a dedication to the arts;

Whereas, as a student-run, student-funded organization, UMP strives to provide students with learning opportunities and professional development in preparation for future success;

Whereas, UMP is one of the largest student employers on UM’s campus, and the largest within ASUM, providing career opportunities for thousands of UM students over the last four decades;

Whereas, UMP has a history of over 40 years of exceptional productions in the community and on UM’s campus;

Whereas, ASUM funds are student funds;

Whereas, the purchase, installation, and maintenance of the $60,000 grid by UMP with ASUM-loaned funds was done in full faith that their ownership would be respected;

Whereas, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning procedures for Adams Center Events Produced by UM Productions was vetted and signed by all relevant parties in 2008, including Robert A. Duringer, then Vice President of Administration and Finance; Dr. Teresa Branch, Vice President for Student Affairs; Mary Muse, then Adams Center Director; Charissa Oman, then Director of UM Productions; and Trevor Hunter, then ASUM President;

Whereas, this standing MOU highlights UMP’s Right of First Offer over the Adams Center concerning for-profit events, further specifying that if the purpose of the event with regard to profit is unclear, UMP and the Adams Center shall jointly confer on the matter and resolve the question to the parties’ mutual satisfaction;

Whereas, this standing MOU also highlights that the use of UMP’s equipment to produce the event shall be honored, in the amount of UMP’s established rental fee, by the Adams Center;

Whereas, Brad Murphy, current Executive Director of the Adams Center, refuses to honor the rental fees charged by UMP for the use of UMP’s Arena Grid, as well as other costs including shore power;
Whereas, any violation of an agreement with UMP is a violation of an agreement with ASUM, and the entire UM student body;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM is in full support of our agency, UM Productions;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that ASUM demands the Adams Center be held accountable for violations to the standing MOU agreed upon in 2008, including but not limited to the full payment of debts to UMP as outlined by their rental prices;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that, only after the settlement of current violations of the MOU and outstanding debts, ASUM supports the rewriting and renegotiation of this MOU with respect and consideration to the original MOU and the events that have transpired since;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that the renegotiation be done by those currently filling the positions mentioned in the original negotiation, and include Marlene Hendrickson, Advisor to UM Productions;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, this resolution be sent to Brad Murphy, Executive Director of the Adams Center; Marlene Hendrickson, Advisor to UM Productions and ASUM Accountant; Jaycie Johns, Director of UM Productions; Michael Reid, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Beckie Christiaens, Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance; Lucy France, UM Legal Counsel; Claudia Denker-Eccles, UM Associate Legal Counsel.

Passed by Committee: ________________________________ , 2015

Passed by ASUM Senate: ____________________________ , 2015

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Kaitlin Hopingardner
Chair of Relations and Affairs

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Betsy Story
Chair of the Senate