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The Associated Students of the University of Montana

Resolution Regarding the Davidson Honors College Director of External Scholarships and Advising

March 9th, 2016
SB40-15/16

Authored by: Caleb Chestnut, ASUM Senator;
Sponsored by:

Whereas, the University of Montana (UM) is in the midst of a significant budget crisis;
Whereas, UM has chosen to lay off 27 faculty and staff members as a result of the crisis;
Whereas, the Davidson Honors College chose not to renew the contract of the Director of External Scholarships and Advising, effective June 30th;
Whereas, the services provided by this office are not only unique to the campus, but are accessible to all UM students, not just members of the Davidson Honors College;
Whereas, quality advising has become increasingly difficult for UM students to attain;
Whereas, this office has given hundreds of students the meaningful guidance that they seek in a liberal arts education;
Whereas, the office’s students have been the recipients of 15 Udall scholarships and five (5) honorable mentions, four (4) Truman scholarships, four (4) Goldwater scholarships, and numerous Fulbright and Rhodes scholars, among many other scholarships;
Whereas, the ability to receive these prestigious scholarships to study or do research, whether abroad or at home, draws students to UM;
Whereas, these scholarships may help launch a student’s career or enable them to conduct innovative research;
Whereas, these scholarships are extremely competitive;
Whereas, effective advisors are essential in the process of applying for these scholarships;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) encourages the University of Montana (UM) administration to provide funding for a Director of External Scholarships;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that ASUM requests that UM fill this position with an employee who has proven experience guiding countless students to successfully apply for the scholarships that have strengthened the college careers of UM students and supported the reputation of the school;
Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that this resolution be sent to Royce Engstrom, UM President; Perry Brown, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Mike Reid, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Teresa Branch, Vice President for Student Affairs; Brock Tessman, Dean of the Davidson Honors College; and Dala Gant, Director of Scholarships in the Financial Aid Office.

Passed by Committee: ____________________________, 2016
Passed by ASUM Senate: ____________________________, 2016

__________________________ ________________________________
Kaitlin Hopingardner Betsy Story
Chair of Relations and Affairs Chair of the Senate