



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

EXHIBIT 3

DATE 1.21.05

HB

2500 BROADWAY ♦ PO BOX 203101 ♦ HELENA, MONTANA 59620-3101 ♦ (406)444-6570 ♦ FAX (406)444-1469

TO: Members of the Joint Education Appropriations Subcommittee

FROM: Roger Barber *Roger Barber*
Deputy Commissioner for Academic & Student Affairs

RE: The Attached Information on a Quality Montana University System

DATE: January 21, 2005

In September 2003, the Montana Board of Regents authorized the creation of a committee to develop a definition of a quality Montana University System. The committee was also asked to identify benchmarks or measures that would permit the University System to evaluate its success in meeting the expectations of that definition.

The membership of the committee was approved in January 2004, and the group began its discussions shortly thereafter. The members of the committee are set out in the materials that accompany this memo.

The Quality Committee presented its final work product to the Montana Board of Regents, at the September 2004 meeting. The Board unanimously accepted the committee's definitions and measures, and that final definition is also attached to this memo. Many of the benchmarks are also used in the Accountability Report, which is being presented to the Joint Subcommittee today.

The Montana University System intends to prepare a system-wide, annual report, using the benchmarks accepted by the Board of Regents. Each campus of the Montana University System will also be encouraged to prepare an institution-specific report, based on the suggested benchmarks, with the caution that some benchmarks have more relevance to particular campuses and could be misinterpreted if inappropriate comparisons are made.

Hopefully, the accompanying materials are self-explanatory.

September 23-24, 2004

ITEM 124-101-R0904

Approval of a Definition of a Quality Montana University System, and Measures That Will Monitor the System's Success in Meeting Those Expectations.

THAT:

The Montana Board of Regents of Higher Education approves the following definition of a quality Montana University System, along with the benchmarks that will be used to monitor the System's progress in meeting that definition:

"BECAUSE the Montana Board of Regents is charged, constitutionally, with the governance and control of the Montana University System; and

"BECAUSE the Board of Regents has identified the primary mission of the Montana University System is to serve students through the delivery of high quality programs and services; and

"BECAUSE the cornerstone of the Montana University System is the quality of its programs and services; and

"BECAUSE Montana students, parents, taxpayers, policymakers and partners are interested in the level of quality they can expect from the Montana University System; and

"BECAUSE the Board of Regents recognizes the close relationship between a well-educated citizenry and a high quality of life,

"The Montana Board of Regents adopts the following definition as a statement of quality for the Montana University System:

"A Quality Montana University System

- prepares its students for successful lives as productive and engaged citizens;
- values excellent teaching, innovative scholarship and high standards of academic achievement;
- uses its fiscal resources in a responsible manner;
- is accessible and affordable;
- contributes to the diversity, economic development and unique lifestyle of Montana.

"The Montana University System will monitor its success in meeting these expectations by using the following measures:

- 1) --number of graduates
--percentage of graduates employed or continuing their education
--employer satisfaction with graduates
--average GPA and ACT score of entering students
- 2) --student scholarship, using numbers of students who participate in research and activities similar to the ones listed under faculty scholarship

Quality Committee Members

Carla Amerson, president, Associated Students of Montana State University-Billings

Greg Barkus, senator, Montana Senate District 39

George Dennison, president, The University of Montana-Missoula

Carol Donaldson, general counsel and corporate secretary, First Interstate BancSystem, Inc.

David Dooley, provost & vice president for academic affairs, Montana State University-
Bozeman

Andrea Easter-Pilcher, associate professor of biology, The University of Montana-Western

James Gallea, honor student in biology, The University of Montana-Missoula

Kris Goss, deputy communications director and education policy advisor, Office of the
Governor

Christopher Harris, representative, House District 30

Stefani Gray Hicswa, ranch manager, Muddy Creek Ranch

Chuck Jensen, vice chancellor for finance & administration/student affairs, Montana State
University-Northern

Pamela Joehler, senior fiscal analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division

Warren Jones, associate professor of environmental engineering, Montana State University-
Bozeman

C.J. Law, dean of instructional services, Dawson Community College

Richard Owen, executive vice president, Montana Grain Growers

Susan Patton, vice chancellor for academic affairs & research, Montana Tech of The
University of Montana

Vernon Pedersen, associate dean for academic & student affairs, Montana State University
College of Technology in Great Falls

Kate Shaley, associate professor and chair of Native American studies, The University of
Montana-Missoula

Steve Snezek, chief advisor to the Lieutenant Governor

Tim Urbaniak, instructor of drafting, Montana State University College of Technology in
Billings

Cris Valdez, assistant dean for student affairs, The University of Montana College of
Technology in Helena

Linda Wham, institutional research analyst, Montana State University-Billings

Bud Williams, deputy superintendent, Office of Public Instruction

Exhibit Number: 3

The following exhibit is a booklet that exceeds the 5-page limit therefore it cannot be scanned. The booklets' cover has been scanned to help you when requesting information. The exhibit is on file at the Montana Historical Society and can be viewed there.

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 1/21/2005
HB _____

Office of Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

January 21, 2005

**Materials presented to the
Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education**

*Please note MUS stands for Montana University System

- ◆ Letter from Deputy Commissioner Roger Barber on a "Quality MUS"
- ◆◆ Strategic Plan: Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives of MUS
- ◆◆◆ Shared Leadership for a Stronger Montana Economy: Recommendations of the Shared Leadership Steering Committees, 2005: January 19th & 24th
- ◆◆◆◆ Indian Education for All: Letter from Deputy Commissioner Roger Barber on MSU-Billings and informational pieces about the teacher program for Subcommittee's review.
- ◆◆◆◆◆ 2007 Biennium Budget

STRATEGIC PLAN
Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives of the
Montana University System

Mission: The Mission of the Montana University System is to serve students through the delivery of high quality, accessible postsecondary educational opportunities, while actively participating in the preservation and advancement of Montana's economy and society.

Vision: We will prepare students for success by creating an environment of ideas and excellence that nurtures intellectual, social, economic, and cultural development. We will hold academic quality to be the prime attribute of our institutions, allocating human, physical, and financial resources appropriate to our educational mission. We will encourage scientific development and technology transfer, interactive information systems, economic development and lifelong learning. We will protect academic freedom, practice collegiality, encourage diversity, foster economic prosperity, and be accountable, responsive, and accessible to the people of Montana.

Goals: The following five goals and subordinate objectives will guide the Montana University System in moving toward realization of its vision for the future of higher education in Montana.

A. To provide a stimulating, responsive, and effective environment for student learning, student living, and academic achievement.

1. To assure adequate campus policies to protect academic freedom and promote the free exchange of ideas while requiring pre- and post-tenure evaluation of faculty performance and systematic program review that reflect the Regents' priority on student learning.
2. To offer academic programs and services focused around approved campus missions and consistent with available resources.
3. To foster an environment that attracts and retains high quality faculty and staff.
4. To improve rates of student retention and degree completion across the Montana University System.
5. To develop, maintain at/near state-of-the-art condition Montana University System facilities, technology and infrastructure and to coordinate the use of capacities and resources across all MUS institutions.
6. To ensure student readiness for higher education and validate student competencies for graduation.

B. To make a high quality, affordable higher education experience available to all qualified citizens who wish to further their education and training.

1. To identify or seek creative funding alternatives that will expand public and private resources.
2. To make sure that every academically qualified individual has an opportunity to receive the benefits of higher education without financial or social barriers.