

**MSU Northern Academic Senate Resolution Opposing HB 525 the so-called
“Intellectual Diversity Bill**

Whereas higher education should challenge students to think critically, debate and explore ideas they are not familiar with;

Whereas a free exchange of ideas between students and faculty is the key to learning on a college campus that is a market place for idea consideration;

Whereas restrictions on what content is taught in the classroom, what subjects are open to debate and what ideas students can be exposed to would hamper education at MSU - Northern;

Whereas around the country there have been numerous politically motivated attempts to restrict the free exchange of ideas that is critical to education, often referred to as the so-called HB 525 “intellectual diversity” bill;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Academic Senate of Montana State University – Northern opposes any attempt to institute HB 525 the so-called “intellectual diversity” bill;

Be it further resolved, that the Academic Senate of MSU Northern opposes any future administrative or legislative attempts to place restrictions on what ideas and theories can be taught in our classrooms or to restrict open debate and discussion on campus;

Be it further resolved that the Academic Senate of MSU Northern calls upon the Montana legislature to maintain the Montana University System as an open marketplace of ideas where free expression is exercised and where diverse views are expressed and debate of those ideas is encouraged.

Montana State University, Northern
Academic Senate
February 13, 2007