

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR EDUCATION

February 7, 1977  
8:00 A. M.  
Room 132  
State Capitol Building  
Subject: University Units  
Modified Programs

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carroll South.  
The following members of committee were present:

Sen. Matt Himsl  
Sen. Larry Fasbender  
Rep. Ora Halvorson  
Rep. Jack Moore  
Rep. Oscar Kvaalen

Those present for the meeting who testified were as follows:

S. L. "Sid" Groff, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology  
Ken Hickes, Eastern Montana College  
John Van de Wetering, Eastern Montana College  
Jim Edie, Montana State University  
Tom Nopper, Montana State University  
Carl W. McIntosh, Montana State University  
Duane M. Leach, Northern Montana College  
Larry Clinton, Northern Montana College  
Fred de Money, Montana Tech  
Richard C. Bowers, University of Montana  
Vernon Griffiths, Montana Tech  
Vic Burt, Montana Tech  
Warren Gardner, Northern Montana College  
Dale Towle, Western Montana College

Chairman Carroll South opened the meeting by calling for those representing university units to present the requests for modified programs, listing priorities of additional needs and new programs for Fiscal Years, 1978-1979.

Chairman South called upon Eastern Montana College to begin with their presentation. Dr. John Van de Wetering, President, spoke in behalf of EMC, listing the following priorities:

Priority #1 - Computer System	Total request	\$571,600.
Priority #2 - Library Books		200,000.
Priority #3 - Study of "on-line joint circulation system"		55,000.
Priority #4 - Building Maintenance		300,000.
Priority #5 - Personnel		100,005.
Priority #6 - Supplies and Materials		60,000.
Priority #7 - Capital Equipment		140,000.

Total Program Improvement request for Fiscal Years, 1978-1979 -

\$1,426,605.00.

Questions asked (No. 1 Priority):

Chairman South: In the area of personal services for FY 78-79, will you need additional full-time employees to run the computer?

Dr. Van de Wetering: A total of ten--five for 1978 and five additional employees for 1979. He distributed an organizational chart here to members of the committee so they could see the additional FTE and where they would be used...there are three working on this now so this would make a total of thirteen.

Sen. Kvaalen: Would any of these new FTE's be used in positions of teaching--as faculty members?

Dr. Van de Wetering: They might be used in conjunction with faculty members or in support of them but they actually would not be working as faculty members--No.

Chairman South: What kind of condition is the computer in?

Both Dr. Van de Wetering and Dr. Bowers answered: That in their opinions it was in good working condition. Dr. Bowers added that UM was not selling it because there was anything wrong with it. It is only 5 years old so it is not considered to be an old piece of equipment. UM simply needs more capacity than this one could put out. Dr. Van de Wetering said that it was less expensive for them to buy this computer since a new one would be more money. (New machine price - \$6-700,000--This one is \$130,000). Also, the old machine will be compatible with the new one that would go in at UM.

Sen. Himsl: Would all planned computers in the university system be compatible?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Yes.

Sen. Himsl: Why do all universities now need a computer? Is this a status type of thing? What will they be used for? What is it going to produce that you do not now have?

Dr. Van de Wetering: This is something that has been examined and studied over the years. There has been a committee studying this from other state agencies as well as the university system and it is their opinion that like a college or a university needs a library, each campus needs an adequate computer to perform its particular mission. I can't imagine that EMC would need a computer the size of Missoula or Bozeman's but to perform the mission we have now, the present computer we have is inadequate. It is frustrating because the "hardware" goes out of date rapidly. It is important for instructional purposes to have something far more adequate than we now have. The timing is of some importance for us and also a savings for the company to just be able to move it down the road.

The other part of your question--what will it do. We currently have an inadequate amount of equipment for just the basic elements of education--for the math, business, social sciences departments. All of these are instruction areas where the instruction leans more and more at a computer capacity and we haven't been able to do nearly what we should be able to do at an under-graduate level in order to meet instructional needs. We have additional problems in the business

office. We haven't been able to get on to SBAS without a different computer setup. Most critical, though, I think, is the instructional part of it.

Sen. Hims1: Can we pursue that a little farther? I understand that for accounting...I am familiar with what they do in the banking business. They were putting in computers in individual places and now they are getting away from that and they are putting in centralized computers instead of each one having individual setups of their own. But, to pursue this a little farther, you mentioned the field of social science...how would they use a computer?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Social Science fields do a great deal of statistical work--in the kind of surveys that sociologists do, in questionnaire work, key punch operation. Economists are constantly using computers; mathematicians use computers a great deal and there are many areas of sophistication in using the computer that, frankly, I don't understand, myself.

Chairman South: Will this computer meet your needs as far as any accounting is concerned?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Yes, we think it will and it ties in with No. 3 priority as well.

Question asked (No. 2 Priority):

Dr. Van de Wetering: We are down about 50,000 volumes in our library for a school our size and that number of books would cost about 3/4 million dollars. This request of \$200,000 we arrived at as a very modest figure that could be brought into our library without hiring additional staff to catalog. If I may also tie in No. 3 with this. We will never get the kind of library that we really need so we would like to do a study of this kind of library that would give us a "linkage" with the campus in Missoula and the campus in Bozeman so the resources of both libraries can be called up by computer. The technology is readily available--this is being done all over the country and we'd like to make a study of it so we can know how to best use our money and set it up so it will be most workable. Actually, all university systems should be tied up together so it would be an efficient system that we could all use the resources available in the state.

Chairman South: How many volumes would the \$200,000 purchase?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Calculating about \$16.00 per volume. That would include all costs, card catalog, etc., This is an estimate. There is some variation.

Sen. Hims1: Do you have the physical facilities to handle this expansion?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Yes...we have a new building. In the long run, space does become a problem and that is why the computer system will be good because it cuts down on the space needed.

Chairman South: Jack, has the Commissioner's office ever considered such a study as we are talking about in Priority No. 3?

Jack Noble: I am not familiar with any such study--it was EMC's idea and they needed it.

Chairman South: Would you contract the study out?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Yes.

Rep. Halvorson: I am interested in the circulation part of it--more than the study. Would it be the kind of thing where you could get a page all printed like Xerox has? Would this be in-state or for all states.

Dr. Van de Wetering: No, that sort of thing would be too expensive. We would have a computer call-up of the material that is available and where it may be obtained, rather than getting any printed material itself. The trick to making it work would be a quick delivery system. It needs to be able to deliver within a twenty-four hour period of time to do any good. There is a need for a study to be done because there are many variations and we do not want to make a mistake. We want a compatible system that will meet our needs within the system and also the one that is now being developed in the State of Washington. It is far more sophisticated than the library loan system, too. That system and search takes weeks. This would place a common catalog on the computer that would be readily available to all units. Right now we would just be considering an in-state system.

Sen. Fasbender: Do you know how much money is expended for personnel and how much is used for the library itself. Have you been buying books each year?

Dr. Van de Wetering: I can check. Nothing is being spent for books right now. However, we buy about \$80,000 to \$100,000 worth of books each year. This also includes periodicals, etc.,

Sen. Fasbender: What does your total budget run?

Dr. Van de Wetering: We will get that figure for you.

Sen. Fasbender: How did you get below the standards? Were you cutting costs someplace in the library and putting the money somewhere else.

Dr. Van de Wetering: I think we've gotten in this shape because we have a very low financial base for a long time and we have had a huge drop in enrollment. In counting, we would count only titles which would not take into account micro-films, periodicals, etc., We'd only be talking about volumes at this point.

Sen. Fasbender: In evaluation, you are only 80% below standard...

Dr. Van de Wetering: We're still 20% low. We'll agree to that.

Questions asked about Priority #4:

Dr. Van de Wetering: Over the years building fees have gone to maintain the P. E. Building and part of the Student Union Building instead of going into a fund to build new buildings. Students are concerned about this. Because the money has been used as it has been, there isn't a reserve that would permit us to go ahead with any building or construct any additions. This is a facility that is generating student-credit hours. A recreation facility should be supported by state funds rather than by the building fee that students are supporting.

Chairman South: Do you hold classes in the student-union building?

Dr. Van de Wetering: No.

Chairman South: How would you be generating any student-credit hours in the Student Union building then?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Part of the Student Union building is being used for functions that are not traditional student oriented, however.

Rep. Moore: You mentioned construction?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Only in that had we been able to put away that money all these years, we would now be in a position to do some construction work and be able to build the kind of P. E. facility that we badly need.

Questions asked about Priority #5:

Dr. Van de Wetering: We need to hire an EEO officer. Equal work opportunities on campus have become horrendous and that would involve Title 9. We have no one for that responsibility. And also someone for some teaching responsibility. We also need an institutional grants administrator--someone with expertise in writing grant proposals. Some one who could give guidance to the administration in keeping up with the availabilities of monies as well as guidance in the actual writing of the grants.

Chairman South: Shouldn't this last FTE be paid through indirect costs? If you get the grant, their salary should be paid for by the grant, shouldn't it?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Currently, we are not able to do this. In some instances it might be possible but enough monies would have to be generated through grants in order to make this feasible.

Rep. Moore: This request is for two FTE's?

Dr. Van de Wetering: No, it is for two part time FTE, the EEO officer would be 3/4. The grants officer would be 1/2 FTE and there is room also for a 1/2 clerk. Having a grants officer should expedite the doing of grants by librarians, faculty and any of those persons who are use to writing their own grants. This would give them the expertise

that they need for the program.

Sen. Himsl: Have the negotiations in bargaining for higher salaries increased the salaries and, if so, what percentage?

Dr. Van de Wetering: About 87.5%.

Chairman South: Is that just in the unrestricted area?

Dr. Van de Wetering: Yes.

Questions regarding Priority #7:

Dr. Van de Wetering: Capital equipment is needed badly. That is what we are after now is money to repair equipment. I have specific lists of equipment needs. The lists were developed by individual departments and they have been cut again by the Administration and then again by the Board of Regents. The need is serious. We have a large collection of audio-visual equipment that badly needs repair. Also in the area of scientific equipment.

Chairman South: Do you have any programs that are going currently that were not in operation in FY 1976?

Dr. Van de Wetering: I'm pretty sure we don't.

Chairman South called upon Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology to begin with their presentation. Dr. Fred de Money, President, spoke in behalf of Montana Tech, in listing the following priorities:

Priority #1 - Ad Assistant/Development Officer	- Total - \$ 59,656.
#2 - Capital Acquisitions	- Total - \$195,795.
#3 - Two Clerk-Typists	- Total - \$ 32,572.
#4 - Operations	- Total - \$ 40,000.
#5 - Photographer	- Total - \$ 20,884.

Dr. de Money: This position is needed to prepare reports and responses to enrollment growth, involvement with Commissioner's Office and State and Federal agencies. This position would return seven-ten times the expenditures.

Questions asked regarding Priority #1:

Rep. Moore: Is this for just one FTE?

Dr. de Money: No, it is for one FTE and staff and a secretary.

Sen. Himsl: Doctor, do you have someone doing this function now?

Dr. de Money: I am, and our alumni have a small effort involved in it also. We have had others help with this but it would be a second effort for them and often they couldn't get to it.

Sen. Hims1: It seems that this is something that surfaces in each one of these. Couldn't this be one person--say, in the Commissioner's office who could write grants for all of the schools. Why does there need to be one for each school?

Dr. de Money and Jack Noble both commented on this: That one person would not have the knowledge and expertise that they would need to write specialized grants for all six units. It would be impossible to find one person who would have the knowledge needed to write scientific grants as well as sociological grants, etc.

Rep. Moore: How many FTE's are involved here?

Dr. de Money: One.

Rep. Moore: One, with a \$22,000 salary increase after the first year?

Dr. de Money: No, it is a \$1300 increase after the first year... Do you think that is too little or too much.

Rep. Moore: Too much.

Dr. Bowers: A great deal of the work of a grants person is involved with working with faculty and working with the budget. There is a great deal of work involved and it would be impossible to find one person who could do this work for all six units. It involves keeping track of a large amount of regulations.

Dr. de Money: I have just returned from a trip to Washington trying to find out what had happened to grants which we had written three months ago. I found out they were tied up in procurement in Denver because of some irregularity in defining some of the grant proposals. It is a very big job to write grants and it requires pretty much the full time of any one person. It takes a great deal of follow-up on any grants work, also.

#### Questions regarding Priority #2:

Dr. de Money: Our capital equipment budget has been severely restricted over the past several years. We are spending less than in 1969 for capital equipment. We feel that our students are handicapped because of our lack of equipment. Dr. de Money called upon Dr. Vernon Griffiths who supported him in his request. He said that they didn't have much of the equipment in their school that is required in some of the smaller high schools around the state. They have been frozen at a relatively low base and much of the money for capital equipment has gone for other needs as their enrollment increased. Some of the money has gone into physical plant, instructional areas and library. Much of the capital equipment and scientific equipment is very old and past repairing. We are spending less and less on equipment. It is the very last purchase consideration that we make. In fact, last year, we only spent \$6 per student for equipment which means that we made practically no purchases or repairs.

Since the equipment which we have is used heavily throughout the year, this small amount being spent for new equipment and repair has a way of catching up with a school before too long. We feel now that we have reached a point where we must do something about the equipment that our students are being asked to use. It is detrimental to their educations and can only mean for them that they will not receive the type of training that they are paying to get and that they are expecting to get.

Chairman South: I disagree with Mr. Nobel that those indirect costs offset general fund monies. I can't see where that happened at all. One of the problems that the Legislature use to have is in reference to seed money--where general fund money is used as seed money to get federal money and then the federal money is put in restricted accounts where the Legislature has no control over it at all. We have allowed the use of money we had control over to generate money we had no control over.

Sen. Himsl: Do we have assurance that if this money is appropriated into these categories, that that is where they are going to stay? Have we reached any kind of an agreement that if we appropriate money for a certain specific place, that we can know that is where it is going?

Chairman South: There has been no such agreement reached, that I know of. I have a memo from Dr. Larry Pettit to the effect that they are working on something like that and we will lay down some guidelines but we have nothing on this as of yet.

Sen. Himsl: I note here that the library is the "heart" of the university--of any university--but then when the money is needed somewhere else, you cut that out. It is the first thing to be considered when making cuts. You don't seem to have much control over this either because of negotiations, etc., We must have some guidelines to follow and know that they are going to be followed.

Dr. de Money: Our budget here is based upon what the Regents approve. This is based upon what the Regents called for in their budget and that is quite different from those recommendations of the fiscal analyst. My first reaction to the fiscal analyst's budget is that we would be in very serious trouble for our instructional needs.

Sen. Himsl: Did the Board of Regents adopt the priorities that you have here?

Dr. de Money: Yes.

Chairman South: Matt, look in your Regent's Budget Book under system and you will see that they have added the new programs to the current level and you will get the total amounts.

Sen. Fasbender: If the Regents budget were granted and still did not come up to level that you had requested, would you spend the money on the campus as you requested. Would you spend the money as the Regents suggested? If the Legislature granted a different budget, would you follow that?



Dr. de Money: I think that we'd have to see what the impact was... There are many pressures from all different areas. It's quite a job in management. We'd have to examine all areas. We may lose some of our faculty if we don't take care of them. The salaries are not what they should be. We face this problem as managers. A turn-over in faculty is not good. Must be somewhat stable.

Rep. Moore: I wish to remind all of you who have had specific needs over the past two years that there was a 4 million dollar fund set up for this sort of thing and to date you still didn't get 1.4 million of it. If you had gotten the money that we set up for you, you would all be in better shape today than you are.

Questions regarding Priority #3:

Dr. de Money: Due to increased enrollments the last three years, additional clerical help is needed in the Registrar's office to work with student records and with SBAS requirement. (No questions.)

Questions regarding Priority #4:

Dr. de Money: We have been criticized over the years for such small departmental operating costs. Dr. Griffiths has pretty well covered this. Repair maintenance and modified travel requests.

Chairman South: What would this be used for?

Dr. de Money: Mainly for laboratory repair and maintenance and replacement.

Chairman South: If there are any new buildings, I would like it broken down so we will know what it is going to cost to heat and maintain it and how many additional FTE's are needed. It becomes necessary when we are operating from past expenditures.

Questions regarding Priority #5:

Dr. de Money: We need a photographer for production of slides and simple movie sequences for instructional use. This person would also instruct basic courses. There are history programs that are being phased out and will be replaced by a new degree program in Science and Technology.

Chairman South called upon Montana State College to begin with their presentation of priorities.

Dr. Carl McIntosh, President, spoke in behalf of MSU, listing the following priorities:

Priority # 1 - Recognition of low student/faculty ratio requirement in off-campus clinical nursing instruction. Clinical nursing instruction requires and is presently staffed at a student/faculty ratio of about 8-1. This is necessary because of the patient care involved. Total adjustment - \$610,168.

Dr. McIntosh discussed this and questions were asked that have been asked in previous minutes. For a full report, see tape which was made of this meeting and is on file in the office of the fiscal analyst.

Priority # 2 - Capital Deficiency Request	- Total - \$ 100,000
# 3 - Expansion-Improvement of Instructional Program	- Total - \$ 76,140
# 4 - Central Stores and Receiving	- Total - \$ 835,308

Much of the same discussion was held regarding the requests for the capital equipment of the other units and the need of increased expansion in instructional needs.

There was some discussion regarding the need for a central store and receiving place where supplies would come in and be distributed to the bookstore, commissary, etc., from a central receiving place. It was felt by Dr. McIntosh that this would be a time-saving and money-saving step.

Chairman South called upon Northern Montana College to begin with their presentation.

Dr. Duane M. Leach, President, Northern Montana College, spoke in behalf of NMC, listing the following priorities:

Priority # 1 - Computer	- Total - \$ 150,000
Priority # 2 - Increased Capital	- \$ 140,000

Northern has no on-campus computer facility. There was discussion regarding the fact that they use the services of a local dairy for leased computer services, supplemented by some out-dated card handling equipment on campus for administrative needs. Dr. Leach called upon Larry Clinton and Warren Gardner who supported him in testimony regarding the need for a campus computer facility. They also testified as to the technological advancements which have made equipment obsolete. They said that since the capital budget has been declining for several years, we are in need of additional funds to replace and repair some of the equipment.

Chairman South called upon University of Montana to begin with their presentation.

Dr. Richard Bowers, President, spoke in behalf of UM.

Priority # 1 - Library Expansion	- Total - \$ 500,000
# 2 - Instructional Equipment	344,000
# 3 - University Writing Program	31,000
# 4 - Computer Software	25,000
# 5 - Supervisory Accountant	41,551
# 6 - Instructional Television	225,670
# 7 - Instructional Materials/Service Equipment	40,060
# 8 - Washington Library Network	68,928

Much of the conversation regarding library expansion, capital equipment needs and FTE's has been pretty well covered in these minutes as well as the minutes of other meetings. There was probably the most discussion regarding the request for a tie-in with libraries from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia to share resources, cataloging and to have access to a national library network. The original tie-in now would be with the University of Washington. It was asked if the rest of the university system would be able to use these services for this amount of money and Dr. Bowers said that he doubted if that would be possible.

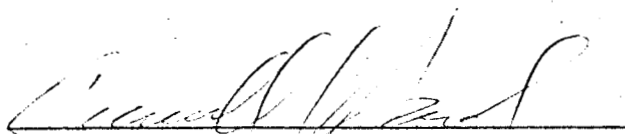
Chairman South called upon Western Montana College to begin with their presentation. Dr. Bandy, President, was unable to be present and he was represented by Dr. Dale Towle, faculty at WMC who presented the following priorities:


Priority #1 - Computer Terminals	Total	\$120,875
Priority #2 - Academic Administrator		65,963
Priority #3 - TV Technician		28,157

There was much of the same discussion regarding the needs for additional staffing, a full time grants officer, a terminal station to work with the computer at the U of M. There was also a discussion regarding the need for position of a TV technician to operate and maintain equipment. Also, to best utilize the proposed TV link between Western and the U of M, a ble loop is needed to connect the three most used instructional facilities on campus.

For a full report on this meeting, please refer to the tape which was made and is filed in the office of the Fiscal Analyst.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 Noon.

  
 CARROLL V. SOUTH, CHAIRMAN

  
 Betsy Clark, Secretary