

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 18, 1983

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education met at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, February 18, 1983 in Room 104 of the State Capitol. With Chairman Rep. Esther G. Bengtson presiding, all members were present. The budgets for Eastern Montana College and Northern Montana College were heard.

The first budget to be heard was for Eastern Montana College. Mr. Tom Crosser, OBPP, said the Executive budget utilized a projected enrollment of 3,519 for 1984 and 3,581 in 1985; in addition, the Executive budget contained salary guidelines from 1981. He pointed out that the new Regents' enrollment estimates were approximately 64 students above the OBPP's. EMC had one modification for new space, which was contained in the OBPP budget.

Mr. Curt Nichols, LFA, said their approach was the same as was used on the other units of the University System. Fiscal 1983 guideline salaries were used, with critical area adjustments. The new space modification is included as a part of the formula.

Dr. Bruce H. Carpenter, President of Eastern Montana College, presented the budget. He distributed a small fact pamphlet on EMC; see Exhibit "A." He outlined the cooperative programs which EMC offered: one example was the hearing impaired degree program, which was shared with the University of Montana. In addition, EMC is working with UM on a cooperative doctorate degree in Special Education. Space is provided for MSU's nursing program. He rose in support of UM's modified request for a Masters degree program in Business Administration, to be located at EMC. In addition, he pointed out several other highlights about the institution: KEMC, their public radio station, the Center for Handicapped Children, etc. A two-year revision of the general education program requirements has been concluded, and the result has been a strengthened program.

He gave an overview of the student population at EMC.

Mr. Joel Hardy, a lobbyist for EMC, read a letter from Student Body President Gale Hart; see Exhibit "B." He reasserted that students at all four of the units of the Montana College system realized that they had to help meet increased costs, and were in support of the Regents' recommendation for tuition increases.

Dr. Carpenter stated that EMC had the highest student/faculty ratio and the lowest instructional support per FTE student in the University System. In the current year, they were budgeted at a ratio of 18.84:1 and in FY 1982 they had an actual ratio of 20.93:1, and they expect they now have a ratio of over 21:1. He expressed concern that the formula be fully funded, utilizing

the most accurate possible enrollment projections. In the Fall of 1982, EMC had its highest student head count ever, at 4,200. He stated that there were several areas of difficulty with the formula: he encouraged a review of the formula and the peer institutions after the end of the Legislative session. He stated that EMC shared other units' problems regarding faculty salary levels. In the Business and Computer Science departments, they have a high demand for faculty, and they need to be competitive in the national marketplace in order to attract the best qualified faculty. An analysis was done in 1981-2 of the faculty salaries on EMC's campus. When compared with other faculty in the same disciplines in the System, with the same qualifications, the salary of EMC faculty ranged from 97% - 103% of that of their colleagues. Thus, while the appropriation has been at 90%, the allocation has not been. He was opposed to the LFA's tuition recommendation, which would bring the University System to 100% of its peer institutions, because appropriations for the support budget had been recommended at a lower level.

Dr. Carpenter reviewed the research and public service activities on EMC's campus. He urged support of the Regents' budget. He reviewed the program modification requests, two of which were recommended by the Board of Regents. He explained that in 1981, almost \$1.2 million was appropriated for space to house the new Music Department. However, when the bids came in, they were all about \$1.75 million. It was determined to work with the Regents and the State Architect to up the request, for \$625,000 from the Long Range Building Program, to add to the original appropriation. This received a high priority by the Regents and by the Governor. He commented that the LFA had not included the new space in their calculations.

He stated that they also had a problem with the income estimates provided by the LFA for Other Revenue sources. He submitted that the LFA had over-estimated the income level. He stressed, regarding the scholarship fund, that enrollments needed to be accurately projected, because otherwise the actual funds would not accurately reflect the funds that were available to be spent.

The second modified request was for a systems analyst, and he reviewed it.

Questions were then asked. The Chairman wanted to know what was expected of the faculty in the research area. Dr. Carpenter said that although they were not a research institution, they did indicate to their faculty that they expected them to be involved in research-grade activity, in the broadest sense of the term.

However, they did not expect every faculty member to do original research and publishing, because this was not the mission of EMC. The Chairman wanted to know, if they did get money for research, where they would apply it. He replied there were a variety of very active faculty members particularly in the area of the sciences who could take advantage of funding.

Rep. Ernst wanted to know if EMC had any additional budget requirements for the UM proposed Masters in Business degree program at EMC. Dr. Carpenter replied that there were funds within the UM modified request which would go towards upgrading EMC's library holdings in business, but EMC was not directly requesting funds.

The Chairman wanted to know the amount which EMC allocated for faculty salaries, above the appropriated amounts. Dr. Carpenter replied that through the collective bargaining process, they had been about 4% over the 90%. Through negotiations and some retirements, they are now less than 1% above the 90%. However, he stressed that the faculty salary issue on campus was not resolved. The Chairman called the Committee's attention to a letter she had received from Maury Evans, President of the EMC Chapter of the American Association of University Professors; See Exhibit "C."

The Chairman wanted to know where EMC had utilized its METS System. (Montana Educational Telecommunications System) Dr. Carpenter replied that they had a variety of sites in the eastern part of the State. There were nine sites which could originate programs. The METS could serve up to 25-30 different communities as far as where the material could come in.

Dave Goss, Billings Area Chamber of Commerce, then spoke up in support of EMC and its programs. They felt the MBA Program would be an important addition to the community and Eastern.

The hearing on Eastern Montana College's budget was closed.

The Committee took a short recess.

With Vice Chairman Sen. Swede Hammond presiding, the hearing on the budget of Northern Montana College was opened. Northern President Dr. James H. M. Erickson gave a short presentation, describing what sort of programs NMC offered. He referred the Committee members to a graphic presentation of NMC student enrollment trends; see Exhibit "D." He stressed that NMC was well aware of the bad economic conditions and unemployment in the State, but NMC was part of the solution, not the problem. He pointed out that two years previously when the Anaconda Company had closed in Anaconda, NMC sent its Registrar down to visit with

those who had lost their jobs, and as a consequence, nine heads of families came to NMC to enroll. He pointed out that NMC was unique in the nation for its four-year degree program in Farm Mechanics. This program he pointed out was in direct response to the needs of Montana farmers. He pointed out that a year before, NMC had reformed and added to its general education program. They increased their program 40%. He cited several of the improvements made at NMC with the increased funding granted by the 47th Legislature, including their new library building and increases in faculty salaries. They were now asking for funding to maintain the gains they had made. He rose in support of the Board of Regents' budget proposal, and asked for full funding of the formula. He stressed the importance of remaining competitive in the area of faculty salaries.

Dr. Erickson introduced another member to the NMC "Team: " Prof. Art Dolan, President of the NMC Federation of Teachers. Dr. Dolan then spoke; see Exhibit "E."

Laurie Banderob, Student Body President, then spoke. She stressed how NMC had made moves to accommodate students, by taking on evening courses and developing curriculums and new general education requirements. This is attracting more and more new students each year, as is evidenced in Exhibit "D." She pointed out that NMC students are considered consumers of higher education and they are looking for a quality higher education. Full funding of the formula will help ensure this. The students have two areas of concern: (1) Equipment. Up-to-date technical equipment is needed. (2) Enrollments. Many classes are full to capacity, and the student:teacher ratio is high. She asked for support of the Regents' budget.

Dr. Erickson then directed the Committee's attention to Exhibit "F," which described the program modifications they were proposing. He pointed out that NMC's new Farm Mechanics building was being built, at no cost to the State. The second modification had to do with a computer upgrade. He stated that the best asset they had in their computer science program was not their DEC-10 computer, but was their Computer Center Director, who was nationally known: Mr. Lou Lucke.

Mr. Lucke then spoke. NMC cannot now meet the needs to educate their students with the computer resources they have. They first of all need new space to house the computer. Therefore, the expense of the computer installation would not come until 1984-5, after the new space had been prepared. About half the time of the five FTE associated with the computer department is presently spent in direct support of the Department. They will attempt to shift this burden to the departments themselves

when the new computer is installed, in order to avoid increasing personnel expenses. The operating expense increases will be absorbed out of their current budget, if they can sell their old card machine.

Questions were then asked. The Chairman wanted to know if the request for the computer could be scaled down. Mr. Lucke said it could be, but there had to be a balance somewhere. He submitted that the amount of the request was an optimum.

Sen. Hammond wanted to know about the possibility of leasing the computers. Mr. Lucke said this was a possibility. Most lease terms were for five to seven years, the entire lifetime of a modern computer, however, and the Legislature had hesitated to make major acquisitions on that basis. In addition, the high interest rates have forced lease rates up as well, so that purchasing is a better option.

Mr. Jack Noble, Commissioner of Higher Education's office, pointed out that there was a bill before the Legislature which provided for lease purchase to go beyond three years. He pointed out that with a lease, the State ended up having to pay the property taxes on the computer. However, the bill would open up more options.

Regarding the first modified request, the Chairman wanted to know if construction had been completed on the Farm Mechanics building. Dr. Erickson said that it would be in service in the fall of 1983. The fund-raising campaign has now raised about \$325,000 out of the needed \$350,000.

Mike Wojtowick, an associate professor, explained the third modified request, which was for an automotive dynamometer. See Exhibit "G," bulk testimony file. He pointed out that new cars, although the driver operated the throttle plate, were controlled by computers. The dynamometer would be used to test these new cars. At present, they have no way to test other than driving the car on the road, and this machine would enable them to do in-house road testing. They have the facilities and the people, they just don't have the test cell. Two years ago, the best diesel mechanic came from NMC: he was awarded the gold medal at the VICA national competition in Atlanta, GA. He pointed out that the modification would help provide a service to the public as well as for the students.

The Chairman wanted to know if any of the Vo-Techs. had a dynamometer. Mr. Wojtowick pointed out that NMC was the training center for the Vo-Tech. instructors, and the Vo-Techs. did not have such a device.

Sen. Haffey asked Dr. Erickson to comment on the productivity and attitude of the faculty. Dr. Erickson said that the hallmark of a small college was concern for the students and enthusiasm and this was much in evidence at NMC. Although NMC does research, it is primarily replicative; research is the mission of the larger units in the University System. He expressed pride in Northern's freshman writing program. The Writing Across the Curriculum modified would supplement this, and he rose in support of that request, which had been made on behalf of the entire University System.

The hearing was closed on the budget of Northern Montana College.

Dr. Irving Dayton, Commissioner of Higher Education, then made some comments. He rose in support of the presentations made by the various units of the University System, and the talented and hard-working people employed there. The System has made considerable strides because of the funding given in 1981 and he expressed hope that this support would continue.

Mr. Jeff Morrison, Chairman of the Board of Regents, then spoke. From the Regents' point of view, this year's budget was probably more conservative than the ones presented to the Legislature in the past. He urged the Committee, if the money was not available to fund the budget, not to "play games with the numbers." He submitted that the enrollment figures and indirect cost estimates were highly in question. He added that the tuition levels were not realizable.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Rep. Esther G Bengtson Chm.
Rep. Esther G. Bengtson - Chairman

DA

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE Appropriations 5 due Sub COMMITTEE

Budget

EMC, NMC

Date 2/18/13

SPONSOR

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Under the auspices of the School of Extended Studies and Community Service, over 300 credit courses are offered annually to more than 6,000 participants. About 120 noncredit classes, workshops, seminars, and conferences are held for nearly 2,000 participants. It is also possible for individuals to work toward a degree by attending night classes at Eastern.

FINE ARTS

Eastern students have the opportunity to compete and perform on the on-campus, local, national and international levels through fine arts programs. Art, music, and theatre in particular have active organizations. The students and faculty are creative in bringing to the campus art exhibits, performing groups, and dignitaries of national and international reputation.

INTERCOLLEGiate ATHLETICS

Eastern is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II and offers competition for both men and women in six sports including: cross country, basketball, gymnastics, track, golf, and tennis. The men's basketball squad is a charter member of the Great Northwest Conference.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Montana Educational Telecommunication System
Montana Center for Handicapped Children
Institute for Habilitative Services
Gerontology Center
KEMC - FM Radio Station
Native American Studies
Financial Aid
Placement Services (over 90 percent of the registered graduates are placed each year)
Counseling and Testing
Reference Facilities
Basic Skills and General Studies Advising
Women's Studies and Service Center

ALUMNI

The EMC Alumni Association is in regular contact with 7500 Eastern graduates across the country (5700 in Montana) and special alumni discount packages are available to members of the association.

FOUNDATION

The EMC Foundation receives and administers gifts, grants, and bequests to support scholarships, research, and special needs of the College which cannot be met through public funds. It is incorporated in the State of Montana as a non-profit organization for charitable and educational purposes.

Additional information about Eastern may be obtained from the EMC News Media Services office, Eastern Montana College, 1500 North 30th Street, Billings, Montana 59101-0298.

Eastern is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

MONTEANA COLLEGE

EASTERN

*Education Subcom
3/18/23
EXHIBIT "A"*





EASTERN MONTANA COLLEGE

Eastern Montana College, the third largest of six units in the tax-supported Montana University System, was founded in 1927. It is a comprehensive, multi-purpose college offering numerous undergraduate degrees in Business and Economics, Liberal Arts and Education. Master degree options are available through the School of Education.

LOCATION

Eastern is located in Billings, the largest city in Montana with a metropolitan area population exceeding 100,000. The "Magic City" is a transportation, medical, wholesale, and retail trade center situated along the Yellowstone River on Interstate highways 90 & 94.

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Bruce H. Carpenter, President
Dr. Robert J. McRae, Acting Academic Vice President
Mr. Kenneth W. Heikes, Administrative Vice President
Lowell A. Dunlop, Dean of Students
Mr. Harry W. Caghen, Acting Dean, School of Business and Economics
Dr. Benedict J. Surwill, Dean, School of Education
Dr. Jay F. Kirkpatrick, Acting Dean, School of Liberal Arts
Dr. J. Patrick Wagner, Dean, School of Extended Studies and Community Services

FACULTY AND STAFF

Full-time Teaching Faculty	155
Student-Faculty Ratio: 20.93 to 1	
Administrators	30
Employee Staff	191

ENROLLMENT

More than 4000 students representing all of Montana's 56 counties, 27 states, and 10 foreign countries are enrolled in the following areas:
School of Business and Economics
School of Liberal Arts
School of Education

DEGREES

Through the Schools of Business and Economics, Education, and Liberal Arts, Eastern offers a variety of Associate of Arts or Science degrees, eight Bachelor's degrees, and three Master's degrees in addition to 15 pre-professional programs.

Eastern is fully accredited by the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education through the Master of Science in Education degree, and the National Association of Schools of Music.

CALENDAR

Fall Quarter: September to December
Winter Quarter: January to March
Spring Quarter: April to June
Summer Quarter: June to August

PHYSICAL PLANT

Eastern takes great pride in its 100 acre campus. Activity flows throughout the 14 buildings including the eight story Liberal Arts structure, the Special Education building, the Library, and the Student Union. Three residence halls offer housing for single, full-time students. The Physical Education complex has a 4,000 seat basketball arena, a practice gymnasium, a collegiate-size swimming pool, and enclosed running track, racquetball-handball courts, and there are tennis courts on campus.

LIBRARY

The catalogued books and periodicals which form the nucleus of the collections number over 140,000 volumes and are supplemented by over 260,000 units of microforms, nearly 180,000 U.S. Federal documents, over 40,000 maps, and nearly 10,000 other non-book media, and a large indexed collection of Montana documents and clippings. The library is a selective depository for Federal and State of Montana publications, and has been designated as a map reference library by the U.S. Geological Survey. Eastern also has an extensive inter-library loan service and has several scholarly research collections. Additionally, the college is affiliated with the Washington Library Network.

COSTS

Basic expenses for a full-time student including tuition, books, and fees total about \$1,000.00 per year. Non-Montana residents pay an additional per quarter fee. A number of options is available to students who choose to live in the on-campus residence halls at an approximate cost of \$2,100.00 for the academic year.

About 50 per cent of Eastern's students receive financial aid while attending college, and scholarships available range from \$50 to \$4000.

Education subcomm
2/18/83
EXHIBIT "B"



EASTERN MONTANA COLLEGE

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

BILLINGS, MONTANA

406-657-2365
657-2396
657-2160

59101

February 17, 1983

Representative Esther Bengston
Chairperson of Joint Appropriations
Montana Legislature
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Madam Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Due to classes, distance, and time, I regret that I am unable to attend the hearing for Eastern Montana College.

Twenty-nine students from Eastern were in Helena to attend the State Student Lobby Day on Tuesday, February 15, 1983, and we felt very good about the reception we received from the legislators.

There are a few points I would like to make concerning Eastern Montana College. First, Eastern is unique in that our average age is 25.4 and we have a 54% nontraditional student population. These students are very serious minded and face problems unlike those of the traditional student. A great majority of our nontraditional students are single, divorced, or widowed women trying to obtain an education to help support their families. Along with the regular responsibilities a student faces, in most cases they are also responsible for children and supporting a family.

With this in mind, I would like to stress that our students can not handle a drastic increase in tuition as proposed by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. We are aware of the rising costs and are willing to help. We will support the Regent's recommendations.

Eastern is constantly improving its standards. Since I have been at Eastern during the last four years, I have seen many improvements with the academic standards required. We are improving and offering more to the community and with the help of the Legislature we can continue to improve what we have to offer.

I am certain I am speaking for the students of Eastern Montana College when I say that I am proud to attend Eastern and be a part of the University System of the State of Montana. If you have any questions or I can help in any way, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Gale L. Hart

Gale Hart
ASEMC President, 82-83

EX 117011
204c-Subcom
2/18/83

EASTERN MONTANA COLLEGE CHAPTER
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF
UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

Executive Committee

President	Maury Evans	At Large	John Bratton
Vice President	Neil Jussila		Dawn Chesarek
Secretary	Bob Gee		Carol Critelli
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February 15, 1983

The Honorable Esther Bengtson
Montana House of Representatives
Helena, Montana

Dear Chairperson Bengtson:

Please consider this letter as the testimony of the AAUP, as the collective bargaining representative of the faculty, concerning the appropriation for Eastern. Since the hearing for Eastern will be held on Friday morning, it is difficult for a faculty member to attend and I hope you will understand.

As you know the faculty compensation portion of Eastern's budget has been driven by three factors. They are enrollment, the student teacher ratio, and the "guideline salary concept". A check of the past reports of the Fiscal Analyst will show that for some time that:

1. Our enrollments have been under-predicted
2. Our student teacher ratios have been among the highest in the system
3. Guideline salaries for EMC have been set at 90% of those at UM and MSU.

This has resulted in imposing a triple whammy on Eastern's students and faculty in terms of funding and makes it very difficult to hire and retain the faculty necessary for quality programs.

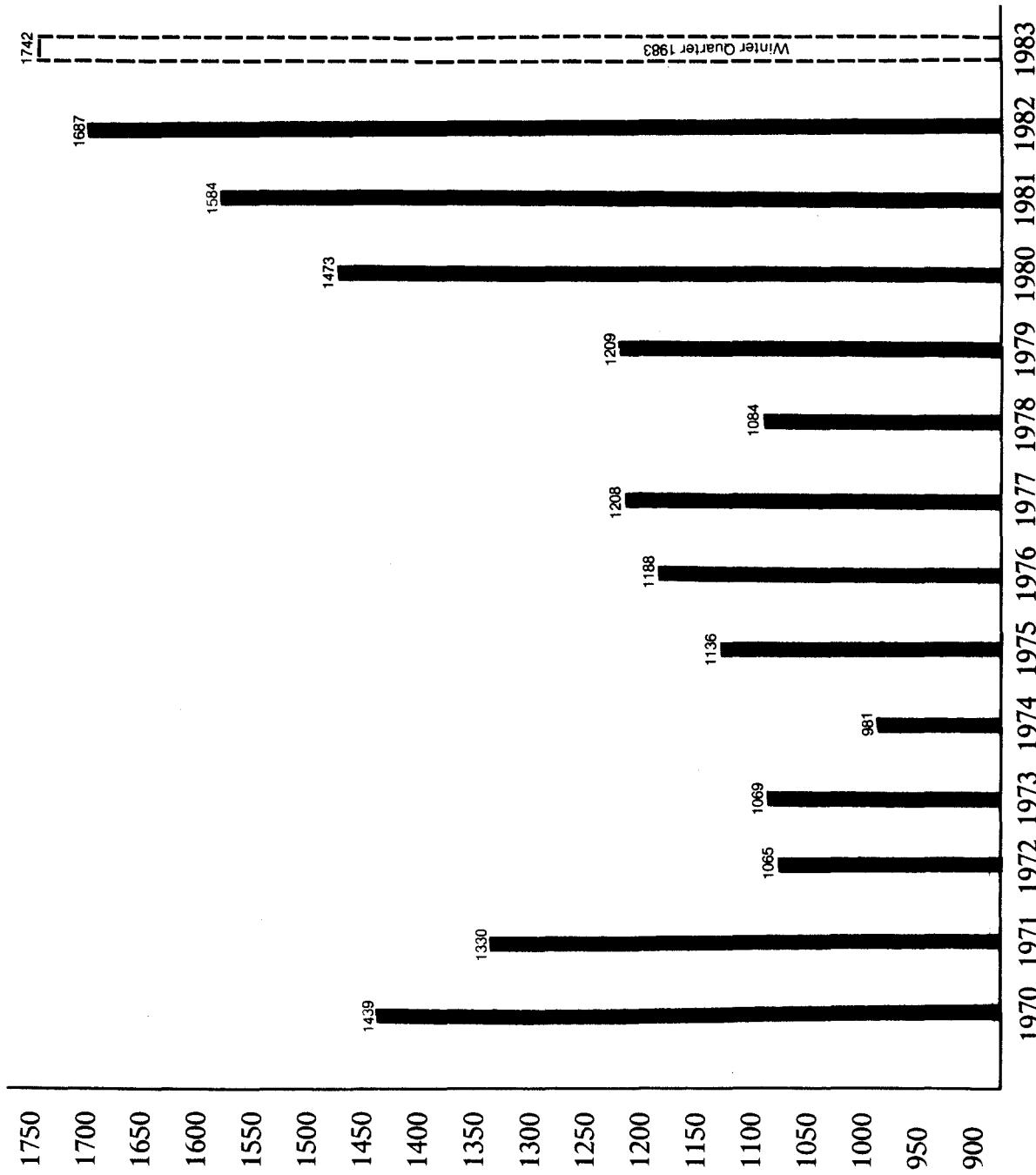
The AAUP supports more realistic enrollment projections and a funding formula which supports each student with the same number of dollars for instruction regardless of where that student attends college. It is our belief that the present formula discriminates against our students and thus our faculty to the detriment of our academic programs.

If the AAUP can be of any assistance in providing information or analysis concerning appropriations and the impact on our academic programs, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Respectfully,
Maury Evans*

Student Enrollments (Headcount)

Fall Quarters 1970-82



LA 411
2/18/83
EDUC. SUBCOMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY ARTHUR DOLMAN, PRESIDENT, NORTHERN MONTANA COLLEGE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, MFT, AFT, AFL-CIO PRESENTED TO THE APPROPRIATIONS - FINANCE AND CLAIMS SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1983.

Madam Chairman and Committee Members:

I wish to thank you and President Erickson for the opportunity to present a statement to you. I would like to speak about the concerns expressed by our faculty with regard to the future funding of our institution. We recognize that the task before you is an extremely difficult one, in view of our troubled economic times and the need to provide a quality education for our students. I wish to discuss the problems related to an increased student enrollment, reasonable faculty salaries, renewed demands by industry and commerce on the resources of the college, and a continuation of the workstudy program for our students.

About half of our student body consists of those who are taking courses and programs in Vocational Technical Education and another half of the student body is in Teacher Education and the Arts and Sciences areas. We have a unique campus, for we prepare students to go directly into industry, commerce, and the professions; or on to further training in these fields at other institutions.

The recent enrollment increases have created many problems on our campus. These begin with a lack in basic communication skills and conceptualization skills by many of our students who never intended to go on to higher education when they went through secondary schools. However, our enrollment has reached the point that, especially in the technical areas, students have to postpone, or delay, their courses and programs for there is simply no room in the classes, or laboratories, that their programs require. This problem is further complicated by the fact that much of our instructional equipment is not up-to-date, including our library which has almost no materials related to vocational technical education. This creates a severe problem in the value of our technical programs, to say nothing of a critical concern for matters of safety.

Yet, such problems are not only unique in the technical areas but are also present in the arts and sciences. The lack of communication skills possessed by students for instance, increases the teaching load for instructors, who must spend more time on individualized instruction. The extra time cuts down on classroom progress, and it is for this reason that our organization supports such programs as writing across the curriculum.

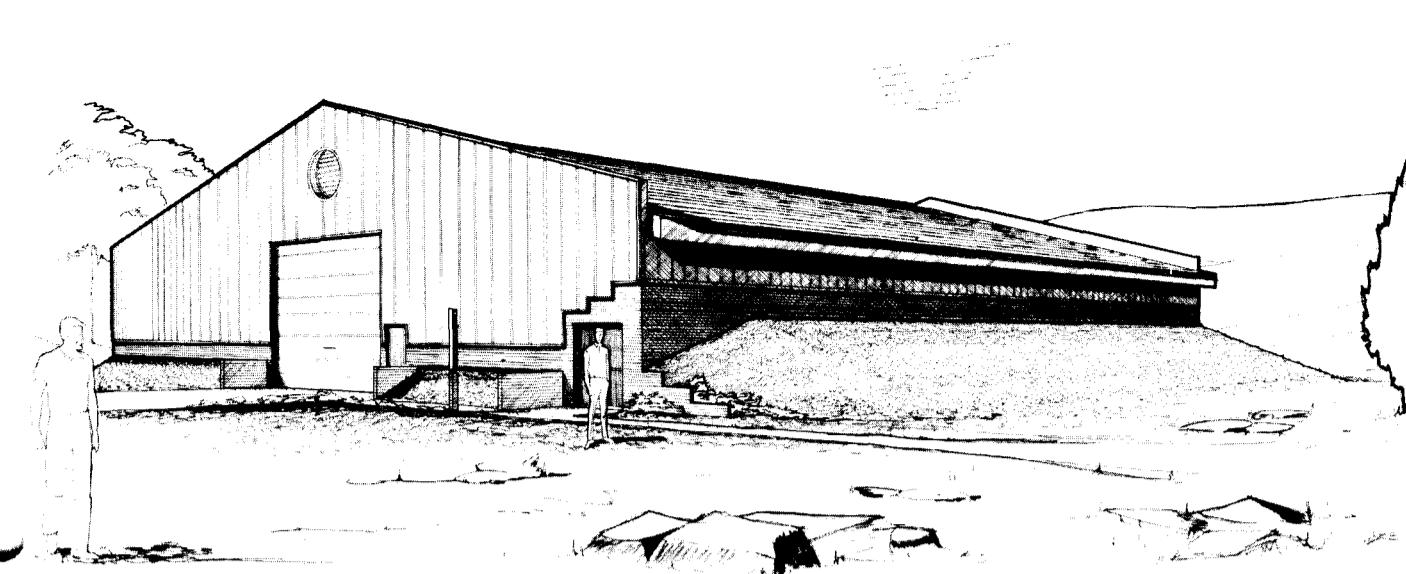
However, faculty salaries are low at our institution because we compete with industry and with other institutions, in-state and out-of-state, who provide higher pay scales than we do. Over the last few years, many fine instructors have left, not only in the technical areas, but also in the Arts and Sciences, for many possess the unique ability of combining technical areas with Liberal Arts. It is for this reason that we are seeking the extension, or broadening, of critical areas pay into other disciplines.

Another problem for our campus is that the program of work study funding is essential for our students. The lack of such a program is a disaster, for we have many older students with families who are retraining for job skills. They are not asking for a hand-out, but they require a basic income to continue with their training. They are conscious of the fact that they must work not only to support themselves, but that employers are increasingly looking for college graduates who have both work and academic skills. This latter point is especially attractive to businessmen who wish

Statement by Arthur Dolman (Page 2)

to locate manufacturing or commercial outlets in the state. Our cooperative education program, for instance, has been of interest even to out-of-state employers.

It is for the above stated reasons that the Northern Montana College Federation of Teachers, MFT, AFT, AFL-CIO supports the budget as presented by the Board of Regents and supports the one hundred percent level funding.



PROPOSED FARM MECHANICS BUILDING

Northern Montana College

(PERSPECTIVE VIEW N.E. CORNER)

*Education Subcomm.
2/18/83
EXHIBIT "F"*

Printing Costs Paid for by
NORTHERN MONTANA COLLEGE
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