

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ROYAL C. JOHNSON, on February 4, 1997, at 8:10 AM, in room 312-2 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Royal C. Johnson, Chairman (R)
Sen. Daryl Toews, Vice-Chairman (R)
Rep. Don Holland (R)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Ken Miller (R)
Rep. Ray Peck (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sandy Whitney, Legislative Fiscal Division
Connie Jacobs, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: MUS, Educational Units,
2/3/97.

Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM EDUCATIONAL UNITS

Ms. Sandy Whitney, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, discussed issues with the resident and non-resident enrollment projections, and the millage revenue estimate. Ms. Amy Carlson, Office of Budget Program Planning, Mr. Rod Sundsted, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE), Commissioner Dick Crofts, addressed the issues and questions from the committee.

EXHIBIT 1 (Ms. Whitney)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-43; Comments: .}

Further discussion on enrollment projections and figures. University of Montana President George Dennison, Montana State University (MSU) President Michael Malone, Chancellor Ron Sexton MSU-Billings, and Chancellor Bill Daehling of MSU Northern, responded to questions from the committee.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1-42; Comments: .}

Additional questions concerning University marketing strategies, recruitment of residents versus non-residents, effect of distance learning courses on projected enrollments, enrollment caps, models and projections.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-24; Comments: .}

Questions from the committee about ratio of allocated funding and high cost programs/priority programs. Ms. Whitney presented issues about residents versus non-residents, including financial benefits and access to higher education. Capacity issues and overall limits within the system, as well as SJR 2 implications were discussed.

EXHIBIT 2 (Ms. Whitney)

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 25-40; Comments: .}

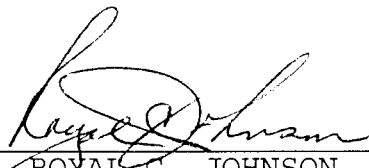
Comments regarding enrollment estimates, general fund appropriations and reversions. Exhibit 3, presented by Ms. Whitney, replaced Graph C, on page E-124. Costs per student FTE and student/faculty ratio were reviewed.

EXHIBIT 3 (Ms. Whitney)

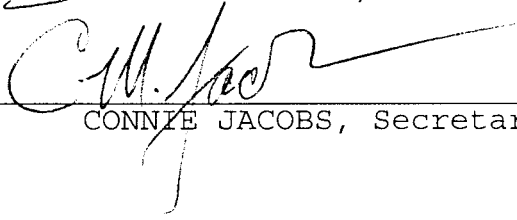
{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-32; Comments: .}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: This meeting was adjourned at 11:44 am.



REP. ROYAL C. JOHNSON, Chairman



CONNIE JACOBS, Secretary

RCJ/cj

Note: This meeting was recorded on three (3) 90 minute tapes.