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SB82-16/17: Resolution Recommending Changes to the Financial Aid Appeals Process

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1	The Associated Students of the University of Montana
2	Resolution Recommending Changes to the Financial Aid Appeals Process
3	04/11/2017
4	SB82-16/17
5	Authored by: Ryan Alexander Payne, Student-At-Large; Sam Forstag, ASUM President;
6	Sponsored by:
7	
8	Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents the interests
9	of the University of Montana (UM) student body;
10	
11	Whereas, the UM Office of Financial Aid does not currently include information as to why
12	financial aid appeals are granted or denied according to their stated policy;
13	
14	Whereas, a general form letter is currently used to inform students of the approval or denial of
15	appeals;
16	
17	Whereas, the process by which student financial aid appeals are processed and evaluated would
18	benefit from added transparency;
19	
20	Whereas, the University Faculty Association -UM Collective Bargaining Agreement states that:
21	"Students shall have the right and responsibility of participation in all faculty and/or
22	Administration committees, both standing and ad hoc"
23	
24	Therefore, Let it Be Resolved, that the Associated Students of the University of Montana
25	(ASUM) requests that the University of Montana (UM) Office of Financial Aid draft and post an
26	accessible document outlining the timeline, various steps of appeal, and general composition of
27	the Financial Aid appeals process and committee in a publically-available manner;
28	
29	Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved, that ASUM urges that the UM Office of Financial Aid
30	draft and implement a notification letter that ensures that UM students who have undergone the
31	Financial Aid appeals process are notified of the particular reasons for their appeals' rejection or
32	acceptance;
33	
34	Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved, that ASUM urges the UM Office of Financial Aid to
35	revise the structure of the committee or committees reviewing student financial aid appeals to
36	include the opportunity for meaningful participation and input of at least one (1) student
37	appointee in each committee meeting from a slate of student appointees as provided by ASUM
38	each year;
39	
40	Therefore, Let if Further Be Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Kent McGowan,
41	Director of Financial Aid; Tom Crady, Vice President of Student Affairs.
42	
43	Passed by ASUM Senate:, 2017
44	
45	

46

 $^{^1\,}http://www.umt.edu/provost/faculty/CBAs/UFACBA2013-2017.pdf$

47		
48	Elizabeth Engebretson	
49	Chair of the Senate	
50		