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SB18-21/22: Resolution Endorsing Campus Instructional Space Improvements

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Endorsing Campus Instructional Space Improvements**
3 **September 29, 2021**

4 **SB18-21/22**

5 **Authored by: Jack Rinck, ASUM Business Manager;**

6 **Sponsored by: Paul Lasiter, Vice President of Operations and Finance;**

7
8 Whereas, The University of Montana (“UM”) is an institute of higher education whose primary
9 function is to provide enrolled students with an enriching and meaningful education;

10
11 Whereas, UM’s Mission Statement reads:

12
13 *University of Montana-Missoula pursues academic excellence as demonstrated by the*
14 *quality of curriculum and instruction, student performance, and faculty professional*
15 *accomplishments. The University accomplishes this mission, in part, by providing unique*
16 *educational experiences through the integration of the liberal arts, graduate study, and*
17 *professional training with international and interdisciplinary emphases. The University*
18 *also educates competent and humane professionals and informed, ethical, and engaged*
19 *citizens of local and global communities; and provides basic and applied research,*
20 *technology transfer, cultural outreach, and service benefiting the local community,*
21 *region, State, nation and the world.¹;*

22
23 Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (“ASUM”) holds the
24 responsibility and privilege of speaking on behalf of the UM student body;

25
26 Whereas, Paul Lasiter, Vice President of Operations and Finance, came before the Senate to seek
27 support for and justify classroom improvements;

28
29 Whereas, Instructional space is an important aspect of students having rich and fulfilling
30 educational experiences at UM;

31
32 Whereas, UM’s existing fixed seating classrooms and lecture halls are generally more than forty
33 (40) years old and in need of significant upgrades;

34
35 Whereas, In an effort to ensure that all classroom spaces are conducive to effective teaching,
36 learning and collaboration, there is a proposal to remodel select classrooms around campus;

37
38 Whereas, The proposed improvements are not only geared towards modernizing instructional
39 spaces, but also to directly impact and enhance the learning experience by creating flexible,
40 technology-ready classrooms;

41
42 Whereas, During the Spring of 2020, classroom audits were conducted to assess the areas that
43 require the highest need for improvements;

44
45 Whereas, A priority list of upgrades was set in collaboration with the Registrar’s Office;

¹ <https://catalog.umt.edu/administration/ummmmission>

46
47 Whereas, The Urey Lecture Hall and North Underground Lecture Hall renovations are already
48 complete;

49
50 Whereas, The list of spaces in most need of instructional space investment are as follows:

- 51
52 1. *Urey Lecture Hall (renovations complete)*
53 2. *North Underground Lecture Hall (renovations complete)*
54 3. *Chemistry 123*
55 4. *CLAPP 131*
56 5. *Forestry 305*
57 6. *Gallagher 106, 122, 123*
58 7. *Social Science 254, 352, 356;*
59

60 Whereas, The source of funding for these improvements were Series B tax-exempt bond funds in
61 the amount of approximately \$3.2 million;

62
63 Whereas, The repayment of this investment will be made with student Facility Fees;

64
65 Whereas, Board of Regents policy 940.3 states:

66
67 *When a construction project to be financed by new or existing building fees in an amount*
68 *more than \$200,000, an election or survey of student opinion shall be conducted by the*
69 *duly constituted student government organization on the proposition. The determination*
70 *of which means of ascertaining student views is to be used shall be made by the campus*
71 *administration in consultation with the student government.;*
72


73 Whereas, UM Administration seeks ASUM approval to use the Facility Fees to repay the
74 investment in fixed seating classroom instruction space;

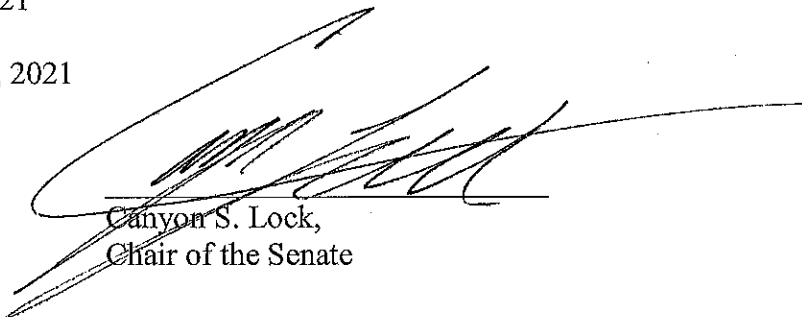
75
76 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM establish its endorsement of the expenditure of
77 approximately \$3.2 million to be used for fixed seating improvements to UM instructional
78 spaces;

79
80 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, This resolution be sent to Paul Lasiter, Vice President of
81 Operations and Finance; Seth Bodnar, President of the University of Montana; and Clayton
82 Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education.

83
84
85 Passed by Committee: October 3, 2021

86
87 Passed by ASUM Senate: October 6, 2021

88
89
90 
91 Elizabeth Bowles,
92 Chair of Relations and Affairs


Canyon S. Lock,
Chair of the Senate

93 Passed unanimously.