

**Montana Association of Collegiate Registrars & Admissions Officers  
Spring 2006 Meeting Minutes  
MSU-Bozeman**

Thursday, March 23, 2006

Janet Alberson, Association President opened the meeting with a welcome and introduction to those present.

Campuses provided updates for Spring 2006 and FTE figures.

Janet Alberson led a discussion on diploma fraud in Montana. Contacting the Consumer Affairs Office & preparing a draft to the legislature is a first start to enact laws in Montana. Ed Johnson volunteered to take the issue to his local legislature in Butte. A timeline for preparing a draft would be established after the November elections. A vote was taken and approved by the members to move forward with this.

Melanie Bell gave a presentation on the National Student Clearinghouse's services. The Transcript Ordering System is available to universities at no cost & can be customized for each institution. The Clearinghouse and SCT (Banner) plan to announce a partnership to interface the programs. Student Self Service provides enrollment verification. Enrollment Search is now tracking high school students from graduation to college enrollment.

MACRAO Business Meeting

Old Business:

- Janet shared a thank you letter from Karen Everett.

New Business:

- Joint IACRAO/MACRAO meeting to be held June 21-23 at UM-Missoula. Theme of the conference is "You Make a Difference."

Elections:

- President – Deana McNabb, BCC
- Four Year Vice-President -Jason Karch, UM-Western
- Two Year Vice-President – Lane Holt, Dawson CC
- Treasurer – Lou Laakso, UM-Missoula
  
- Phil Bain and Kathy Decker were recognized and honored for their years of commitment to MACRAO. The other members were somewhat envious....
  
- The Treasurer's report (minutes of Fall 2005 and the finance report) was reviewed and approved by the membership.
  
- Dawson CC and Miles CC were selected as the site for the Fall 2006 meeting to be held October 26 and 27, 2006.

The group met at Johnny Carino's for dinner.

Friday, March 24, 2006

Roger Barber gave an update from OCHE:

- The Commissioner's Office has moved to Last Chance Gulch with the future possibility of a new building near Helena College of Technology.

- The transfer credit issue raised by the Legislative audit has not been put to rest. It is now on the Governor's agenda. It would be wise for campuses to frame the next steps themselves as a way to reassure the Regents that they are working on the issue. The Regents approved a two million dollar infusion of money (one time only) to focus on transferability of credits. Monies would be used to refine the data warehouse and to establish faculty councils. Councils would examine programs and identify learning outcomes.
- OCHE has hired a new institutional research person – Tyler Trevor (Nevada)
- There is a transfer page on OCHE's website – contains policies & avenue for students to communicate transfer problems and campus links. The MUS core is missing on several of the campus links.
- The general ed committee has met for the first time to reexamine the MUS core and develop criteria.
- Outdated coursework policy – policy mainly being applied at the advising level. Phil Bain's last words of advice to the group were "if there aren't any complaints, leave it alone."
- Writing Proficiency – moving forward but controversial with K-12. Scores will be ramped up for the next three years. Students can be admitted provisionally and must take remedial course to be fully admitted.
- Indian Education for All – policy also applies to Higher Education.
- WUE – California schools have agreed to join. There will be no quota for Montana.
- Committee to be formed to examine a common standard for posting of credits on transcripts.

Rene DuBay, Director of Partnerships for Access, OCHE gave a report on the P-20 Program.

- Four committees and a leadership group have been formed
- There is a difference of philosophy between K-12 and MUS system.
- Shared Leadership Group – college access network, affordability issues.
- Strategic Plan is post on MUS website.
- Dual Enrollment Committee – licensed K-12?
- Assessment Alignment Committee – focus on assessment of years 10-14
- Counseling Leadership Committee – goal is an effective new counseling program.

Members thanked MSU-Bozeman for hosting the Spring 2006 meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Lou Laakso, Treasurer

