

UM / City Luncheon
November 2, 2011
12:00 – 1:30 pm
University Center, Room 331/332

UM Attendees: President Royce Engstrom; Jim Foley, Executive Vice President; David Aronofsky, Legal Counsel; Teresa Branch, VP for Student Affairs; Perry Brown, Provost and VP for Academic Affairs; Bob Durlinger, VP for Administration & Finance; Jeff Edmunds, ASUM Vice President; Lucy France, Director of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action; Nancy Wilson, Director of ASUM Transportation

City of Missoula Attendees: Mayor John Engen; Bruce Bender, CAO; Mike Brady, Assistant Police Chief; Ellen Buchanan, MRA Director; Melani Coyle, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; Jason Diehl, Assistant Fire Chief; Gordy Hughes, Fire Marshal; Steve King, Public Works Director; Ginny Merriam, Communications Director; Mark Muir, Police Chief; Nikki Rogers, Deputy City Clerk; Gail Verlanic, HR Director;

City Council Attendees: Dave Strohmaier and Jason Wiener, Ward 1; Pam Walzer and Cynthia Wolken, Ward 2; Bob Jaffe, Ward 3; Lyn Hellegaard, Ward 4; Dick Haines and Renee Mitchell, Ward 5; Ed Childers and Marilyn Marler, Ward 6

Jim Foley's role has changed as UM has increased participation and interaction with government officials and his title has changed

UM COT Renaming and Mission – Perry Brown:

Statewide, there is discussion of branding two-year schools. The recognition is to do a better job of providing a full two-year college mission statement. The name "College of Technology" does not describe the mission. The COT is well embedded in UM. There are front line services at the COT, but all staff are UM employees. There is a workshop starting November 3 to refine the branding and discuss how it fits together with parent campuses and tribal campuses. In Montana, 63 – 68 percent of jobs require a college degree.

The Bitterroot Community College was voted down in the last legislative session. The program ha grown from 25 students to 220 students, and a majority of those are enrolling at UM when they finish the two-year program. This is providing a service to many people who felt they didn't have the opportunity.

Tuition difference between the two-year and four-year schools was discussed. The two-year is less expensive and UM has not increased their fees to keep the tuition lower. Many students are taking advantage of the lower tuition which is approximately \$5,800 versus \$3,500. With the financial aid and grants that are available, many students are going to school on \$108 a semester. Pell grants are under threat of being cut, which would cause that amount to rise. One reason they can charge less is the students don't get the full experience they get being at a four-year school.

Jeff Edmunds, ASUM Vice President, said he doesn't receive financial assistance from his family. He worked two jobs for two years to save up money to go to school. He is able to go to school because of the financial aid and grants.

UM BioMass Update – Bob Durlinger:

Five years ago, former president Dennison signed the ___ to reduce the carbon footprint at UM. Last May, they went to the Board of Regents and were given the approval if they met two requirements: 1) they have to have an air quality permit; and 2) they had to work through the environmental analysis. The air quality permit addressed three things: 1) nitrogen oxide; 2) particulate matter and 3) carbon monoxide.

Using hog fuel vs. wood chips was discussed. Hog fuel is \$40 per ton versus wood chips at a lot higher price. The price of natural gas is what has this project stalled at this time. There is an understandable fear of air

quality becoming what it was in the past when everyone burned wood. This uses a very different process than just burning wood. It is a multi-faceted process where hog fuel is turned into a natural gas.

This is such a high efficiency process and there is a relatively small amount of ash remaining that is non-toxic, and that now is taken to Allied Waste.

MonTEC Update – Bob Duringer:

With the closing of MAEDC, a lot of the space in the Mon TEC building was vacant. Rivertop Renewables currently occupies about half of the space in the building with 17 PhD chemist employees. They have signed a contract with the state for road salt. They are also working on negotiating several chemical companies for a new detergent.

UM 2020 Report and Assessment Report

This is the strategic plan for UM and is based on five major strategic issues: 1) Partnering for student success; 2) Education for the global century; 3) Discovery and creativity to serve Montana and the world; 4) Dynamic learning environment; and 5) The planning-assessment continuum.. The annual assessment report will be done each summer. There is also a pocket size “report card” that is available.

Roundtable

Global Leadership Initiative – this is an effort to transform the undergraduate education and provide opportunities for students to learn beyond the classroom. Freshman will attend “big question seminars” where small groups will discuss large issues. Sophomores will have “models of leadership” where leaders in the community or from across the country will spend a couple of days talking with the students about big picture problems. Juniors will have a semester long experience that related to the classroom activities in studying abroad, civic engagement and internships. Seniors will have a capstone experience which is a board room setting, defining a question and coming up with a solution. They then write a policy paper on the issue. This will be a high quality paper and will engage in real problems. Two hundred freshman responded and the seminars start in the spring. Funding for this initiative has been made a priority and they are fundraising through philanthropy.

Responsibility of housing – housing on campus was discussed in regards to the number of enrollment versus housing provided. Teresa Branch said UM provides housing to 28 percent of the student body. They looked at building more student housing, but a big question is where to build it. This is included in the ten-year plan. If enrollment goes down, is there a need for more student housing? Filling the housing is critical, and there are no plans currently to build more housing.

Missoula’s vacancy rate is approximately three percent. The last change was during the construction of the Lewis & Clark Apartments. UM is working with the Missoula Housing Authority who has been open for discussion about students qualifying for low income housing.

Investment in downtown or other aspects of the community – the museum had looked at the Macy’s building for expansion. After discussions and looking for alternatives for the art museum, the conclusion was it would serve better if on the UM campus. SpectRUM is looking at space in the Macy’s building to expand their

The next UM / City luncheon will be held in spring 2012 with the City hosting.

Respectfully submitted,

Melani Coyle
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
City of Missoula