



# MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

## Montana Board of Regents

Conference Call Meeting

April 7, 2014

2:30 – 3:00 PM

**Monday, April 7, 2014**

The meeting opened at 2:23pm

Roll call indicated a quorum present.

**Regents Present:** Paul Tuss, Vice Chair; Major Robinson; Bill Johnstone; Martha Sheehy; Zachary Rogala; Fran Albrecht; and *Ex officio* member Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian, all by phone. Regent Jeff Krauss, *Ex officio* members Governor Steve Bullock and Superintendent Denise Juneau were excused.

Sites represented by phone were: Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE), MT Tech, UM-Missoula, MSU-Bozeman, MSU-Billings, MSU-Northern, UM-Western, Miles Community College.

### ACTION

- a. Amendment to By-Laws – Article IV. Officers; OCHE ITEM 163-101-C0414 | Attachment #1

The proposed amendment to the current by-laws will resolve issues that have surfaced with not having an official Chair of the BOR in place to sign time critical and important documents such as diplomas and bond agreements. The original language primarily deals with an absent chair, not a vacant chair. In an effort to eliminate any concerns and allow ascension Item 163-101-C0414 is proposed. Regent Rogala asked what further options were available. Commissioner Christian briefly explained the three options available including: holding a special election, changing policy, or having the vice chair sign as the presiding officer of the BOR; he expressed that the policy change was the preferred option. Regent Sheehy noted her concerns surrounding the legality of signing formal legal documents as an interim or presiding officer and spoke in support of the proposed change. Commissioner Christian clarified that this policy change would lead to the immediate ascension of the Vice Chair to Chair should the position of Chair become vacated; this change would last until the next special election or regular election at the May meeting in accordance with the Board's policy or preference.

Regent Albrecht moved approval of ITEM 163-101-C0414. Motion passed 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:48pm



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Approved by the Board of Regents on

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Date

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Date

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Clayton T. Christian  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
and Secretary to the Board of Regents

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Paul Tuss  
Chair, Board of Regents