Resolution to Reduce the Cost of Summer Internship Credits

Sponsor: Sawyer Clifton
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Vote Necessary: Majority

Intent: To reduce the cost of summer internship credits at Montana State University.

Whereas, Currently summer internship credits for in state students cost $355.10 for one credit, $582.60 for two credits, and $830.10 for three credits for either a six or twelve week summer internship at Montana State University; and,

Whereas, Summer internship credits for out of state students cost $1,014.20 for one credit, $1,940.80 for two credits, $2,867.40 for three credits for either a six or twelve week summer internship at Montana State University; and,

Whereas, Most scholarships offered through MSU are only eight semesters, so the cost associated with summer internship credits do not apply; and,

Whereas, Each individual college receives revenue from the amount of credits enrolled in the college except for those used for internships; and,

Whereas, Professors who serve as internship advisors for individual students over the summer do not receive any sort of compensation for their work; and,

Whereas, Other land grant universities such as Colorado State University have differential tuition, in which a portion of the summer internship credit cost is allocated to the appropriate college; and,

Whereas, Framing an internship within the parameters of a for-credit internship allows for identifiable learning goals associated with it and students learn more from the experience because it requires reflection on what they are learning; and,

Whereas, The College of Business, Engineering, and others allow for up to three internship credits to count toward electives, therefore, incentivizing students to receive credits through internships; and,

Whereas, Although many interns receive some compensation, it might not be enough to pay for three credits of internship – especially if the student is paying out of state tuition; and,

Whereas, In a study done by U.S. news it was reported that 65.4% of the graduating class of 2014 received job offers prior to graduation from past internship employers. Additionally,
National Association of Colleges & Employers reported that according to employers in 2014 51.2% of interns turned into full time hires; and,

Whereas, The Jake Jabs College of Business and the entire Montana State University should be doing everything in its power to encourage students pursuing summer internship and therefore offer reduced costs to enroll in summer internship credits; and,

Whereas, The immense cost associated with summer internship credits discourages students from progressing through their major with applicable work experience; now, therefore, be it,

Resolved, That the Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU) support that the costs of internship credits for students is substantially lowered and that a portion of the revenue received be re-allocated to the appropriate college of the specific student performing the internship; and,

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to Dr. Waded Cruzado, MSU President; Brett Gunnink, College of Engineering Dean; Nicol C. Rae, College of Letters and Science Dean; Dr. Alison Harmon, College of Education, Health and Human Development Interim Dean; Dr. Royce W. Smith, College of Arts and Architecture Dean; Dr. Charles Boyer, College of Agriculture Vice President, Dean and Director; Helen Melland, College of Nursing Dean; Terry Leist, Vice President Administration & Finance; Dr. Kregg Aytes, Jake Jabs College of Business & Entrepreneurship Dean; Marianne Brough, Director of OSE; Garrett Leach, ASMSU President; Geneva Zoltek, ASMSU Vice President.