# MSU INVESTMENT PROPOSAL FOR INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES

## PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student Environmental Health &amp; Safety, Risk Mgmt Coord.</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>Safety &amp; Risk Management</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shada@montana.edu">shada@montana.edu</a></td>
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<th>Requester</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Shada</td>
<td>994-3546</td>
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## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

### Educate Students
- Our graduates will have achieved mastery in their major disciplines
- Our graduates will become active citizens and leaders
- Our graduates will have a multicultural and global perspective
- Our graduates will understand the ways that knowledge & art are created and applied in a variety of disciplines
- Our graduates are prepared for careers in their field
- We will provide increased access to our educational programs
- Communities and external stake holders benefit from broadly defined education partnerships with MSU

### Create Knowledge and Art
- Students, faculty, and staff will create knowledge and art that is communicated widely

### Serve Communities
- We help meet a fundamental need of the citizens of Montana by providing degree programs for our students
- We help meet the educational needs of the citizens of Montana by providing a wide range of educational opportunities to a variety of students
- Our students, faculty, staff, and administrators reach out to engage and serve communities
- Our students, faculty, staff, and administrator reach in to build the university community

### Integrate Learning, Discovery, and Engagement
- Each graduate will have had experiences that integrate learning, discovery and engagement
- Outreach activities will educate students and address the needs of the communities we serve
- Students, faculty, and staff will create knowledge and art that addresses societal needs
- MSU is a community that will be characterized by synergy within and across disciplines, roles and functions.

### Stewardship
- The public trusts the institution to operate openly and use resources wisely
- The faculty and staff are well-qualified and supported
- MSU will support Native American students, programs, and communities
- MSU will be an inclusive community, supporting and encouraging diversity
- Our publicly provided resources are used efficiently and effectively
- Natural resources are used efficiently and sustainably
- MSU nurtures a culture of resource conservation and ecological literacy among students, faculty and staff
- Our physical infrastructure (e.g., building, equipment, open spaces) will be well-maintained and useful

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Page 1 of 6
The above cost estimates are considered adequate to implement this program. Support from existing environmental health and safety and risk management programs can be provided in order to ensure the efficacy of the Student EHS/RM Program.
This 1.0 FTE is proposed to establish a Student Environmental Health and Safety and Risk Management Program Coordinator position within MSU Safety and Risk Management. Increasing experiential educational opportunities provided to and encouraged among MSU graduate and undergraduate students requires that the University establish a central point individual with the responsibility to oversee, coordinate and implement safety and health programs and appropriate risk management strategies and activities that will contribute to the success of those undergraduate and graduate student experiential programs and activities.

*The increasing emphasis on programs that provide/require on and/or off-campus, real-life experiential components require appropriate risk assessment and risk management planning such as:

- undergraduate research experience
- student service program (office of student involvement)
- instructional programs e.g., laboratory safety
- internships
- off-campus U.S./Foreign Travel/Experience Programs

The coordinator will establish a methodology to evaluate environmental health and safety and liability risks and introduce controls to minimize the adverse impact upon students’ educational goals. The coordinator will evaluate student experiential activities and work with the appropriate faculty to integrate controls into the student academic and research activities.

MSU students enter into a number of experiential activities that are in concert with the University’s mission and core values. Student experiential activities can include student internship, volunteer, domestic and foreign travel, independent study and academic projects activities. An increased emphasis upon undergraduate research activities and opportunities creates an additional need for increased focus upon student environmental health and safety and risk management. MSU Safety and Risk Management has provided much assistance with regard to the environmental health, safety and risk management of student experiential activities, however to guarantee student success** an investment in the requisite personnel and a dedicated program is required.

**Student Success=prevent adverse health/safety outcomes for students participating in experiential programs.
The broader impacts and benefits to be obtained by the implementation of this proposal, in addition to contributing to student success, include improved student health and safety. Additionally, professional and liability risks associated with these student activities will also be more consistently identified and controlled.

Student programs and activities that are non-occupational but which are academic, research, or service activities, fall into a resource gap that is outside SRM's traditional environmental health, safety and risk management efforts. By identifying and helping to mitigate student risks, MSU is also helping to mitigate its own financial, political and reputational risk.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Implementation Plan (Please describe with timelines):


April through June, 2012: Conduct position search and hire candidate for position: (SRM may elect to identify and establish a current MSU employee into this position on a temporary professional letter of appointment.)

Assessment Plan (Please describe with indicators):

Formative assessment will include feedback from SRM Director, MSU Provost and Dean of Students.

Student health, safety and risk management incidents will be tracked and investigated by Student EHS-RM Coordinator with the intent to establish future program efforts to help reduce repetitions of incidents and problems.

Student program and activity self assessments will be conducted by the Student EHS-RM Coordinator to provide qualitative feedback regarding program’s interactions and impact upon student success.

If assessed objectives are not met in the timeframe outlined, what is the plan to sunset this proposal?

The Student EHS-RM Coordinator program can be modified as indicated by assessment results. If student success objectives are not being supported by program the SRM Director may elect, with consultation from the Provost and Dean of Students to decentralize program activities.
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Shada</td>
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<td>Rob Leshaway</td>
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<td>Terry Leist</td>
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