

MINT
December 13, 2002 Minutes

Attendance:

Cynthia Gustafson, Carroll College
Jocie Waldron, Carroll College
Margaret Wafstet, UM Missoula COT
Barbara Swehla, Board of Nursing
Betty Mullette, MSU Bozeman-Billings
Audrey Conner-Rosberg, MSU-Billings COT
Kathleen Wankel, Miles Community College
Lea Acord, MSU Bozeman
Gretchen McNeely, MSU Bozeman
Susan Kerschen, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital
Milly Gutkoski, MNA (for Linda Henderson)

Welcome 9:30am:

Margaret Wafstet, UM Missoula COT

- Minutes accepted with the following corrections to the minutes: Audrey Conner-Rosberg (correction in spelling), and Montana Congressman rather than state legislature.
- Nurse Reinvestment Act
*Margaret will send a letter to our Congressmen, stating who MINT is, thank them for their previous support, the need to allocate monies now, and talking points as outlined in *ANA(?)* information.
- MBON news- Barb Swehla
*Barb notified the group that the SBON would be looking at the approval process for on-line programs on 1/22/03 in Helena. The Excelsior program director will be at this meeting. Discussion followed.
*Lea presented information regarding the CRN language that is currently being reviewed. Her recommendation is that there be some guidelines as to extent that CRN's will be used, which ultimately was that a program will not exceed 10% of the number of FTE faculty as CRNs or a total of 3 FTE CRNs, whichever is greater. Kathy asked about the language that was stricken on page 3211. It was determined that the lawyer felt that the language was unnecessary, as all schools have a right to an appeal under federal laws. There is also new language regarding this issue on page 3223. Other concerns were discussed, but will be presented on an individual basis at the board meeting.
- Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force discussion
*Margaret will forward a letter to the Governor giving MINT's perspective. The group felt that Proposals 5, 6 and 14 were important proposals to enact. Preliminary data from Bobbie Derwinski-Robinson's survey were presented, in that nurses who are not currently working, are not doing so due to salary, staffing levels, working hours and benefits that are not acceptable.
- Talking points for discussion with policy makers included: the benefits of health care education to the economic impact on the state; the importance of creating a

collaborative environment in the university system; and the need to fund distance education efforts.

- The MINT report still requires one more report to complete. Lea will contact Connie to get that information. The brochure will have several revisions. Committee will solicit input from teens as to what would make an appealing product.
- Meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm