

Budget Council Minutes

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Montana Room, NAH 359

Members:

Terry Leist

Alison Harmon

Brian Gillespie

Robert Mokwa

Jason Browning

Ryan Knutson

Steve Swinford

Craig Woolard

Kim Obbink

Stephanie McCalla

Elizabeth Olson

Will Brazda, ASMSU

Francis Kawalski, Grad Student

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1. **Call to Order**
Chair Terry Leist
 2. **Approval of Minutes for February 4, 2025**
 3. **University Information/Announcements**
 - a. Board of Regents Overview - [March 2025](#)
 - i.State Legislative Update
 1. One-Two Free Funding added - \$2.95M for biennium
 2. Montana10 Funding added - \$7M for biennium
 - ii.Budget, Administration, and Audit Committee
 1. Lease to USGS in the Molecular Bioscience Building
 2. Paisley Court Major Maintenance - \$3.5M
 3. Classroom Renovation - \$2M
 4. **Action Items**
 5. **Public Comment/Member Feedback**
 6. **Training and/or Data Review**
 - a. Recruitment and Persistence Presentations
 - i.Undergraduate Admissions – Michael Ouert, Director
 1. New student enrollment up 54% in 15 years
 2. Reach out to over 1 million students
 3. Common app has seen students from Mississippi, North Carolina, Georgia, D.C. areas increase among others
 - ii.International Programs – Sally Mudiamu, Dean
 1. 80% retention rate in international students
 2. Shorelight used as digital recruitment for international students only sending applicants that are qualified to attend MSU

3. Certain degrees are pre-admitted by Shorelight
 4. Initial proposed number of students brought by Shorelight was 1000 students, transitioned contract to moderate growth to allow for appropriate alignment with capacity in programs
- iii. Graduate School – Deborah Haynes, Dean
1. Substantial number of grad students do not rely on university for funds to go to school
 2. Student recruitment is completed at program level
 - a. Denials due to not having right background or GPA
 - b. Consistently trying to balance opportunities to support Graduate students with availability of resources
- iv. Persistence to Degree – Durward Sobek, Vice Provost
1. $\frac{1}{4}$ of students who start at MSU do not come back for second year
 2. Multiple programs support in persistence efforts across campus including:
 - a. Persistence to Degree Committee
 - b. Preregistration of OF4 Students
 - c. Morrill Scholars Program
 - d. navMSU Appointment Campaigns
 - e. Revised Academic Standing Policy
 - f. ADC Partnership with OSE
 - g. Curriculum streamlining
 - h. Hilleman Scholars
 - i. Early Alert
 - j. Second Wind
 - k. Return to Learn
 - l. SmartyCats Tutoring
 - m. Success advising
 - n. MSU 101
 3. Students who attended last orientation (O4) had worse outcomes
 - a. Implemented preregistering students which appears to have had an impact on retention of those students
 4. 2023 had preregistration which helped narrow the gap for O4

Next Meeting
Tuesday, July 8, 2025
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Montana Room 359