

October 22, 2010

Rev. Zane Buxton, Executive  
Synod of the Rocky Mountains  
7061 S. University Blvd. Suite 206  
Centennial, CO 80122

Dear Rev. Buxton,

Enclosed are the Higher Education Campus Grant requests from Montana State University – Bozeman, Rocky Mountain College, and Montana State University – Billings. Each request is accompanied by a statement of goals and assessment for the 2009-10 school year and their goals for the 2010-11 school year. Also attached is the Presbytery Mission Statement for Higher Education.

The MSU – Bozeman ministry program has been in flux since the United Methodist Church withdrew financial support for the joint campus pastor. A church member from First Presbyterian Bozeman filled in as a volunteer for two years, but completed his work this last spring. The church began a parish-based peer ministry this fall. The program is being support by residual funds from the previous year. We are, therefore, asking that a portion of the funds identified for MSU – Bozeman be directed to Rocky Montana College.

The Presbytery is levied \$4,620 per year for our share of facility costs of the Center for Campus Ministry ( Christus Collegium) facility at MSU - Bozeman. Part of this cost will be covered by a \$3,000 annual payment from an endowment fund that was established with proceeds from the sale of a manse used by the Bozeman campus ministry program in the 1960s. We request that \$1,620 of the Synod grant be used with the \$3,000 endowment income to cover the\$4,620 facility fee for 2011. The Presbytery has initiated actions to terminate our partnership in the Christus Collegium facility by the end of 2011. We anticipate the annual \$3,000 endowment income would then be available to support the MSU – Bozeman peer ministry program.

We ask that the remaining \$660 of the \$2,820 grant available to MSU - Bozeman be transferred to Rocky Mountain College for 2011. This makes the Rocky Mountain College Grant request \$1,660. Synod financial support for Rocky Mountain College was cut to \$1,000several years ago when the chaplain's position was temporarily terminated. We have not restored our support since an active chaplaincy was reestablished. As the single denominationally related college in our Synod, it would be appropriate to restore some of the financial support that we previously cut.

The grant request for MSU – Billings is for the budgeted \$4,048.

We thank you for your service as our denominations ex-officio executive member of the Rocky Mountain College Board of Trustees during recent years. Rev. Goodrich has now assumed that role and will be able to provide an interface with the College at the Presbytery level.

Sincerely yours,

XXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXX

Attchs:

1. MSU – Bozeman Grant Request
2. Rocky Mountain College Grant Request
3. MSU – Billings Grant Request
4. Yellowstone Presbytery Mission Statement for Higher Education