THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM - MISSION

The following Strategic Plan was adopted by the Board of Regents in July 2006, and updated in January 2010.

More information is available on the Office of the Provost website (http://www.umt.edu/provost/default.php).

Mission
The Mission of the Montana University System is to serve students through the delivery of high quality, accessible postsecondary educational opportunities, while actively participating in the preservation and advancement of Montana's economy and society.

Vision
We will prepare students for success by creating an environment of ideas and excellence that nurtures intellectual, social, economic, and cultural development. We will hold academic quality to be the prime attribute of our institutions, allocating human, physical, and financial resources appropriate to our educational mission. We will encourage scientific development and technology transfer, interactive information systems, economic development and lifelong learning. We will protect academic freedom, practice collegiality, encourage diversity, foster economic prosperity, and be accountable, responsive, and accessible to the people of Montana.

Introduction
The Montana University System Strategic Plan is the primary planning document of the Board of Regents. The Plan sets forth an agenda for higher education in Montana by delineating the strategic directions, goals, and objectives that guide the Montana University System (MUS).

History
In July 2006, after several years of study, public dialogue, and internal deliberations, the Board of Regents approved the Strategic Plan. Since then, updates have occurred annually, including revisions to strategic initiatives as well as a refreshing of the data within each goal. The development of the Strategic Plan began with two primary initiatives.

In July 2004, the Board of Regents and the PEPB subcommittee met jointly and agreed on three priority initiatives for immediate implementation:

# Develop stronger business-university system partnerships for workforce training;
# Remove barriers to access for postsecondary education; and
# Expand distance learning programs and training.

Goals
The Strategic Plan is comprised of three primary goals that contain a series of sub-goal statements and objectives within each area.

Goal 1: Access & Affordability
Increase the overall educational attainment of Montanans through increased participation, retention and completion rates in the Montana University System.

Goal 2: Workforce & Economic Development
Assist in the expansion and improvement of the state's economy through the development of high value jobs and the diversification of the economic base.

Goal 3: Efficiency & Effectiveness
Improve institutional and system efficiency and effectiveness. Maintaining the high quality of our institutions and the education provided to our students is not listed as an explicit goal. This is because it is THE MOST IMPORTANT consideration for every goal and initiative of the Montana University System and is considered to be an integral part of every component of this strategic plan.