

Memo

To: Commission Members
From: Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian
Date: May 31, 2006
Re: University of Montana contract regarding Montana Natural Heritage Program Services

Please find attached the final language of the Montana State Library and University of Montana contract to provide for the Montana Natural Heritage Program Services. Most of the work the last week and a half has centered with the sections 11-18, in which the final language restores ownership to the State Library. Please know that this document represents a lot of hard work and that the University has compromised on significant issues in order to make this happen.

Jim Hill and I are confident that, once this agreement is in place, we'll have smooth sailing, a good working relationship, and that both parties will benefit by continuing to support this great program.

I would appreciate a vote to move forward, recognizing all the hard work of Jim Hill, our lawyer, and the University folks, and urge me to sign this contract! Please let me know if you have any questions at this time. Thank you for all your efforts!