

September 19 – 20, 2012

ITEM 156-2004-R0912

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Animal Science upon Leonard C. “Sandy” Gagnon; Montana State University-Bozeman

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Leonard C. “Sandy” Gagnon from the faculty of Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Leonard (Sandy) Gagnon received his B.S. in Animal Science in 1966, and M.S. degree in Animal Physiology in 1969 from Montana State University. Mr. Gagnon started working as a faculty member in the Department of Animal and Range Sciences teaching courses related to horse production and continued to instruct equine science courses as an Associate Professor over the next 40 years. Sandy served as the Animal and Range Sciences Department Head, helped form the Equine Science option, coached the Rodeo Team and was the Extension Equine Specialist for Montana. During his years at MSU, Mr. Gagnon has made significant contributions to teaching, Extension, research and service.

Sandy was an integral part of the teaching faculty and taught equitation and equine science courses. Students respected his thorough knowledge of the inner and outer workings of the horse as well as a natural instinct with equine behavior, training and recreational uses. Sandy started coaching the MSU Rodeo Team while he was a graduate student in 1967 and continued as faculty coach until 1980. During that time, Sandy led the MSU team members to 11 individual national championships, 3 team national runner-up and 2 national team championships. While hosting the College National Finals Rodeo at MSU, Sandy was instrumental in developing and designing computerized timing and scoring systems that are still in use today.

As the Extension Equine Specialist for Montana, Sandy was involved in national committees, organized and hosted the regionally-acclaimed MSU Equine Conference and established the MSU Youth Horsemanship School. Highlights of Sandy’s research program include establishment of intake of free roaming horses and nutrition of growing horses, and development of horse nutritional performance in relationship to feed.

Sandy could always be counted on to serve on departmental and University committees, along with state and national committees related to horses. He formed and established the Equine Advisory Committee, bringing together experienced equine professionals to work closely with the department and equine science program. Sandy continues to support the department’s equine program as a member of the Equine Boosters. He is instrumental in securing horses for the Colt

Breaking and Specialized Training courses which are sold at an annual event which MSU students plan and host. Students learn everything from marketing skills to proper horse training and care, to real-world livestock sales experience with this event.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Leonard C. "Sandy" Gagnon the rank of Associate Professor Emeritus of Animal Science at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

No Attachments