

September 17-18, 2014

ITEM 164-2004-R0914

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Mathematics upon Ken Bowers**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Ken Bowers from the faculty of Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University and the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Ken Bowers received his B.S. in Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science in 1982 at Ball State University, his M.A. in Mathematics and Physics in 1976 from Ball State University and his Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1982 from Colorado State University. He joined the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Montana State University as an Assistant Professor of Mathematics in 1981. He was promoted to Professor of Mathematics in 1993 and has been on the faculty at MSU for 33 years.

Dr. Bowers has been involved in the mathematics program at Montana State University as a teacher, mentor, researcher, and as a leader. He was an outstanding teacher on both undergraduate and graduate levels. He supervised seven Ph.D. students, many of whom have had successful research careers themselves.

Dr. Bowers has distinguished himself as a leader of the numerical analysis group at Montana State University. He is a nationally known expert on the Sinc-Galerkin numerical method for solving partial differential equations. He published 33 peer reviewed papers on numerical analysis, and is a co-author of the highly regarded monograph on Sinc-Galerkin method.

He put MSU on the national map when he co-organized a series of seven *Bozeman Conferences on Computation and Control* every two years between 1988 and 2000. This series of conferences was supported by NSF and was highly popular in this research area. Dr. Bowers co-edited proceedings from the first six of these conferences.

Dr. Bowers has been an outstanding leader in the Department of Mathematical Sciences for more than two decades. He was a Director of Graduate Programs in the Department of Mathematical Sciences between 1987 and 2001. In 2001, he assumed the position of Department Head of the Department of Mathematical Sciences, which he held until 2013. Under his leadership the Department strived to improve the educational environment for both undergraduate and graduate students. Extensive renovations were performed on the Mathematics Learning Centers, the Mathematics Testing Center, and the departmental computer lab. Under his leadership BOR approved mathematics program fee which every year continues to improve learning experience for thousands of undergraduate students. Finally, in the last decade there was a substantial increase in private donations to the Department for student scholarships and faculty

development. His legacy will be felt for many decades.

He selflessly served MSU on many University committees including MSU Graduation Success Team, College of Letters and Science Budget Advisory Committee and Graduate Council. His service to the state of Montana, MSU and Department of Mathematical Sciences has been extraordinary and leaves a record that will be difficult to match.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer on Dr. Ken Bowers the rank of Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.