

November 17-18, 2016

ITEM 173-2003-R1116

Request authorization from the Board of Regents to confer the titles of Regents Professor Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Physics upon Dr. John Carlsten

THAT

Request authorization that the Montana Board of Regents grant Dr. John Carlsten emeritus status at Montana State University with the title Regents Professor Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Physics.

EXPLANATION

John Carlsten has been associated with Montana State University since 1984 where he quickly rose through the professorial ranks and was appointed as a Regents Professor in 1992. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1974 and worked at Los Alamos National Labs from 1979 thru 1984 where he was an Associate Group Leader. He retired from MSU on May 15, 2016.

John has had a distinguished career at MSU as demonstrated by his substantial and sustained contribution to the department and to the university. His research career was focused on optical physics, especially non-linear optics, quantum fluctuations, and stimulated Raman scattering, publishing over 140 articles in diverse, refereed journals. During the years his work was well cited, he has 25 articles that have been cited 25 times or more (h-index of 25). In recognition of his contributions, he has received the Phi Kappa Phi Fridley Distinguished Teaching Award (1986), the Charles and Nora Wiley Faculty Award for Meritorious Research (1986), the Pi Sigma Alpha Mortar Board Award for Teaching (1987, 1988, 1992, 1993), the Sigma Xi Outstanding Research Scientist Award (1989), the Outstanding Teaching Award in CLS (1989), the Cox Family Faculty Award for Creative Scholarship and Teaching (1990), and the James and Mary Ross Provost's Award for Excellence (2001). He was successful in obtaining extramural funding from federal funding sources including NSF, DOE, DOD, and from the regional M.J. Murdoch Charitable Trust. He was one of the founders and initial Directors of the Optical Technology Center (OpTeC) and has been instrumental in helping form a number of optics start-up companies in the Bozeman area. A number of those companies are run by some of John's Ph.D. graduates from MSU and have employed MSU graduates as they continue to grow.

As demonstrated by his multiple teaching awards, John has been a departmental asset for his role as a caring educator. He has taught at all levels within the department and his educational expertise is often relied on in assessing other faculties teaching abilities for promotion and tenure decisions within the department. He always received glowing student evaluations that place him numerically near the top of the department and his mentoring of new faculty has helped them improve their instruction. Students that take his class continue to appreciate his willingness to spend time with them, whether to help fix a laser or to help inspire them with exciting physics. This type of care is extraordinary, going well beyond the departmental expectations. John also has served on a number of important committees within the university and in his professional societies.

In elevating to emeritus rank, we recognize and honor the many roles that he has served in for the department, university, and local economy, helping strengthen ties with the local optics community.

ATTACHMENTS

None