

September 14-15, 2016

**ITEM 172-2702-R0916**

**Request for authorization to confer the title of Professor Emeritus of Management upon Dr. Mary McNally**

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**THAT**

Upon the retirement of Dr. Mary McNally from the faculty of Montana State University Billings, the faculty of the College of Business extends its appreciation to Dr. McNally for 29 years of dedication and valued service to the College, University, and community. In recognition of her exemplary professional competence and compelling evidence of effective service, we recommend that the rank of Professor Emeritus of Management be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. McNally began her career at MSU Billings (Eastern Montana College) in September 1987 as a fixed term instructor. She was hired as an Assistant Professor in the fall of 1991; promoted to Associate Professor in 1994; was awarded tenure in 1995; and promoted to Full Professor in 2000.

Dr. McNally earned a BS degree in Urban Studies from Worcester State College in 1978; a MBA from Indiana University in 1980; and a PhD in Geography (specializing in Economic Geography) from the University of Chicago in 1991.

Prior to her employment at MSUB, Dr. McNally was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and served as Dean at Sinte Gleska College (now University) in Rosebud, SD for three years. During her tenure as Dean SGC became the first tribal College to attain four-year accreditation. She also worked as a consultant at Al Chalabi Group in Chicago for a year.

During her tenure at EMC/MSUB Dr. McNally served the College as an administrator, leader, teacher, researcher and advisor. Dr. McNally served as Chair of the Management and Economics Department for two years (1996-98) when there were two departments in what is now the COB. She subsequently was Interim Dean of the College of Business for 1 and ½ years (2005-6).

As a faculty member, Dr. McNally taught a variety of courses, initially in marketing as well as management. As the COB evolved and moved toward AACSB accreditation, Dr. McNally focused on teaching and research in management. In the past decade she has been the lead faculty on teaching International Business. In support of that Dr. McNally has developed ties between MSUB and the University of Denver/BYU Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), which included MSUB hosting its first Rocky Mountain CIBER conference in Billings. She also led first time short-term study abroad programs with students to Kumamoto, Japan and Jilin, China. Dr. McNally continues to serve on the board of the Rocky Mountain CIBER, and has presented at their Conferences.

Dr. McNally has also been the lead faculty on developing interdisciplinary curriculum. She was on the advisory board that created the Environmental Studies major in the College of Arts and Sciences; helped secure funding for an ArcView GIS lab; and was awarded a FIPSE grant for an innovative business

geographics minor in market mapping. Dr. McNally also brought sustainability principles into the business curriculum and the University community through her successful Business and Natural Environment course and work with environmental studies as well as business students. Dr. McNally secured a \$53,000 grant that supported an interdisciplinary project with the City of Billings to increase awareness of energy conservation efforts. She has taught sustainability courses for the MBA program and the graduate program at the School for International Training. She has been recognized by ASMSUB as an outstanding teacher (2002-03 and 2009-10) and received their first Outstanding Leadership in Environmental Sustainability Award (2009-10).

Dr. McNally is author or co-author of 16 publications, including articles in Natural Resources Journal, Water Resources Journal, Regional Studies, The International Journal of Case Studies, Journal of Global Marketing, Environments, Montana Business Quarterly, American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences, Papers and Proceedings of the Applied Geography Conferences, Proceedings of the Marketing Management Association, and American Marketing Association Symposium on the Marketing of Higher Education. She contributed chapters to Indian Water in the New West and International Business in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, and presented at numerous conferences and forums. Her research contributions included writing funded proposals, ranging from a three-year Fund for Improvement for Post - Secondary Education grant for \$200,000 (1995-98); TII Foundation Grant for \$30,000 (1999); \$53,000 for Energy Star Project (2009-12); and small institutional grants for research support.

Dr. McNally's service to the University and College has been significant. In addition to serving as Department Chair and Interim Dean, she served on the following EMC/MSUB major committees:

- University Rank and Tenure Committee (8 years); 2 years as Chair
- Academic Senate (5 years); Secretary for 1 year
- UCC (1 year)
- Strategic Planning (2 years)
- Union Executive Committee (5 years)
- Union Negotiation team (3 years)
- FACC (2 years)
- Environmental Studies Committee and DRTC (7 years)

She also served on RACE; Graduate Committee; College of Professional Studies; Allied and Technical Committee; Sabbatical Committee; Minority Student Task Force; Admissions Committee; Athletic Program Review Committee; Affirmative Action Advisory Committee; MSUB Dean Search Committee(s); Outcome Assessment (6 years); College of Professional Studies Curriculum Development (5 years); and Administrative Assessment Committee(s).

College of Business Committees included the following:

- Unit/Department Rank and Tenure Committee (11 years); Chair two years
- Advisory Board: at least 6 years
- Graduate related program Committees (5 years); the College of Business had a graduate program for several years (MSIPC)
- Assorted Search Committees (Dean, faculty): perennial

Additional committees included Academic Policy Committee (2 years); Curriculum Committee/Task force (4 years); Travel Committee; Student Placement Committee; COB Outcome Assessment Committee(s), etc.

Community involvement has included:

- Yellowstone Public Radio Board (6 years - ongoing)
- Mayor's Commission on Environment and Conservation, appointed member (5 years)
- Alberta Bair Board (6 years)
- Zonta: International Service Organization of executive women in business and the professions (9 years; served on Board)
- Montana Conservation Voters (5 years); local board Chair (1 year)
- Board Member, Community 7 (3 years)
- Reach to Recovery, American Cancer Society (4 years]
- Board of Directors, Rescue Mission (2 years)

In 2010 Dr. McNally was elected to the Montana State Legislature as the Representative from House District 49 (downtown Billings). She served in the House for four years (two sessions), and was a member of the Tax, Energy and Telecommunications, and Local Government Committees. In 2014 she was elected to the Montana Senate, and represents Senate District 24, which includes downtown and MSUB. She has served on the Judiciary, Energy and Telecommunications, and Local Government Committees in the Senate. She has also been a member of the Legislative Audit Committee for six years, and is currently co-chair. A notable personal accomplishment from the 2015 Legislative Session was co-sponsorship of HB 258 Authorizing Benefits Corporations. Benefits Corporation is a new form of for-profit corporate structure that allows corporations to have explicit goals to benefit society as well as shareholders. The bill passed and Montana is now one of about 30 states allowing this new corporate form.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None