

March 8-9, 2018

ITEM 178-2001-R0318**Request for authorization to confer the title of Dean and Professor Emeritus of Nursing upon Dr. Helen Melland, Montana State University**

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dean and Dr. Helen Melland from the College of Nursing at Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for her service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Helen Melland received her B.S.N. from Pacific Lutheran University in 1972, her M.S. from the University of Portland in nursing education in 1980, and her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in higher education administration in 1992. Dr. Melland assumed the deanship of Montana State University College of Nursing in August 2009, serving as dean for 8 years.

Under Dr. Melland's leadership, the College of Nursing started the doctor of nursing practice (DNP) program. In doing so, MSU joined the "early adopter" institutions offering DNP preparation for advanced practice nurses, thereby providing Montana with family and psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioners to meet the healthcare needs of today and tomorrow. Under Dr. Melland's vision, the College also implemented a master's program designed to prepare the nurse leaders needed for today's increasingly complex healthcare world. Her vision around graduate nursing education has positioned MSU nursing to serve Montana and the health of Montanans for years to come.

Dr. Melland's leadership encouraged excellence within the College of Nursing including curricula with rigorous standards, nursing graduates that met national licensure and certification requirements, and increased refereed publications and funded research. During her tenure, nursing had the highest percent of Native American students of any MSU unit demonstrating her support for diversity.

In addition to contributions within her college, Dr. Melland has been an exemplary MSU citizen. She served on multiple university-wide search committees, the President's Commission on the Status of University Women, Suicide Prevention Task Force, One Montana: The Rural Urban Divide, MT-Center to Advance Health through Nursing, University Council, AHEC Advisory Board, MSU Presidential Scholars selection committee, University Research Council – to name but a few.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer on Dr. Helen Melland the rank of Dean and Professor Emeritus of Nursing at Montana State University and wishes her well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None