

March 8-9, 2018

ITEM 178-2701-R0318

Request for authorization to confer the title of University Lecturer Emeritus of Educational Theory and Practice upon William Gregory Allard, Montana State University Billings

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Mr. Gregory Allard from Montana State University Billings, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciations for his service to the University, Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Mr. Allard's educational background includes a B.S. in Art Education, as well as a B.S. in Special Education and a M.S. in Special Education from Eastern Montana College. While in the Master's program, Mr. Allard was recognized as a strong candidate and received a graduate assistantship to teach and work with faculty. His success led to his employment at Eastern Montana College as a special educator and university lecturer.

Mr. Allard's exemplary teaching builds upon a goal of "improvement of education and inclusion of all learners." He has tirelessly worked toward this goal through the teaching of courses that are core to the professional preparation and development of teacher candidates in all areas of elementary, secondary, reading, and special education. He not only built the philosophical and ethical base that every educator must have to be successful, but also the knowledge of the ever-changing legal implications in their professional practice regarding students with special needs.

In Mr. Allard's continual efforts to improve the education of not only teacher candidates, but also their own students when they become teachers, he became one of the first faculty members at MSU Billings to teach and advocate for the inclusion of students with special needs. The consummate advocate for special education, Mr. Allard recruited many teacher candidates into the special education double major as he shared his enthusiasm and experiences of teaching students with special needs.

Mr. Allard has advised hundreds of undergraduate students during his position in the College of Education. He has continually set a high standard in advising, seeing himself as a mentor who nurtures long-term relationships. His varied background continues to provide for his students a foundation of experiential understanding of education and special education.

Mr. Allard has provided dedicated and wide-ranging service to the College of Education by serving on the Diversity and Dispositions Committee, the Teacher Education Appeals Committee, COE Scholarship Committee, Commencement Committee, and numerous search committees. He has also served with Eagle Mount and the Billings Education Academy, and at the national level, the Council for Exceptional Children.

Beyond the campus Mr. Allard is well recognized as a leader and colleague in the area of special education. While at EMC and MSU Billings, a few highlights of his awards follow: Ronald P. Sexton Award for Professional Commitment (Spring 2015); Award of Excellence (Spring 2015); Outstanding Faculty Award (Spring 2006); Nominated to the Making a Difference Award (Fall 2005); Leadership Recognition Award – Outstanding Advisor Award (Spring 2005); Nominated for Faculty Achievement Award in Teaching (Spring 1988); and Assistantship: Special Education (1985-1986).

For these and numerous other contributions, Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon William Gregory Allard the rank of University Lecturer Emeritus of Educational Theory and Practice at Montana State University Billings.

ATTACHMENTS: None