

ITEM 136-1004-R0907

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Forest Biometry Upon Hans Zuuring; The University of Montana-Missoula

THAT:

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Hans Zuuring from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated service to the College of Forestry and Conservation, the Forest Management Department, and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION:

Following his retirement on June 30, 2007, the faculty of the Forest Management Department unanimously requested emeritus status for Professor Zuuring. During his tenure he served as a Research Associate, Associate and Full Professor, Station Biometrician for Montana Forest & Conservation Experiment Station (1979 to present), Director of the Geographic Information Systems Lab (1987-1995), Director of the Quantitative Services Group (1995 to present), Chairman of the Forest Management Department (2003-2007), and Champion Professor (endowed professor).

Professor Zuuring came to The University of Montana in 1974 after serving as an instructor at Iowa State University and as a Research Officer with the Canadian Federal Forestry Service, Biometrics Branch.

Since joining the UM faculty, Professor Zuuring has been an outstanding teacher, research scientist, and service provider in the area of forest biometry. He taught both graduate and undergraduate courses, mentored graduate students, led a very active research program, and served on many committees and/or task forces. He has produced many publications and presentations during his time at UM in addition to participation and/or coordination of workshops. For the last fifteen years he has been instrumental and active with various individuals and institutions including the USDA Forest Service, Montana DNRC and the College leading a cooperative research project involving the development of MAGIS: A Multi-resource Analysis and Geographic Information System. This modeling system permits the planning of complex and often conflicting site-specific resource management activities. Numerous documents have been written about the design of the software which uses and utilizes more than 285 databases. Professor Zuuring has also conducted numerous short courses about MAGIS.

There is little doubt that Professor Zuuring has been a significant contributor and inspiration within the College of Forestry and Conservation. Our students were well served as were our faculty and external relationships. He successfully fulfilled his roles and for this we commend him. We congratulate him upon his retirement and wish him the very best for his future.