

November 21-22, 2008

ITEM 141-2802-R1108

Title of Professor Emeritus of Automotive Technology: Robert Miller; MSU– Northern

THAT:

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Robert Miller from the faculty of Montana State University – Northern, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the University, the College of Technical Sciences, and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon Professor Miller by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION:

Bob Miller joined MSU-Northern in 1971 after having worked on diesel engines for 28 years. Bob was a mainstay for the Northern Diesel program, working at the institution for 36 years as an active member of the Northern faculty. Bob was a driving force for the Diesel Technology programs and was a strong proponent for the baccalaureate degree in Diesel technology, which remains a unique program in preparing students as Diesel technicians.

Bob's long and distinguished career included service in the US Navy, where he worked on marine diesel engines for landing craft, and served as a machine gunner during the landing at Omaha Beach in France. After the military, Bob used his GI Bill to earn a BA in Education from Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. Bob distinguished himself on the football field for Simpson, and was inducted into the Simpson College Football Hall of Fame in 1970.

Bob moved to Montana in 1951, and to Havre in 1952 where he worked as a Diesel and Heavy Duty Mechanic until he was hired to teach at Northern Montana College in 1971.

During his years at Northern, Bob has served on every campus committee and has remained active in student life and activities – serving as a faculty advisor for Tau Kappa Club for 11 years and was actively involved in the VICA organization and its successor SkillsUSA for thirty years. Bob has been active in the Montana Vocational Association (MVA) and its successor organization the Montana Association for Career and Technical Education (MACTE) – not missing a convention for over 30 years. He was awarded the Montana Industrial Technical Educator Association (MITEA) Teacher of the Year award in 2003, and was previously awarded the highest honor bestowed by students at Northern, the Golden 'N' award in 2000.

Bob is decidedly student oriented, and continued to be an advocate of students and supporter of the Diesel program, even endowing a scholarship for diesel students.

Bob has been a fine member of the MSU-Northern Community and his legacy remains in hundreds of Diesel technicians and teachers throughout the state, and the Diesel industry. It is with great fondness and respect that the faculty and staff of Montana State University Northern request permission to award this honor to Professor Robert Miller.

