

**ITEM 147-1006-R0510**

**Professor Emeritus of Geography: Paul B. Wilson; The University of Montana – Missoula**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Paul B. Wilson from the faculty of UM-Missoula, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the University, the Department of Geography, the Certificate in GI Sciences and Technologies Program, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Emeritus Professor be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Paul B. Wilson was born in Jackson, Wyoming. He earned his baccalaureate in 1964 from the University of Wyoming-Laramie in geography, his Master of Arts in geography at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1967, and his doctorate in geography from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1972. Dr. Wilson came to The University of Montana in 1968 as an instructor in geography, and for the next 42 years he made a name for himself on campus as a geography professor and advocate for the teaching of human geography, urban geography, cartography, and geographic information science (GIS). After joining the geography tenure-track faculty in 1972, Dr. Wilson continued to teach in the geography department, serving as the chair of the department for 15 years (1981-1984; 1989-2001; 2003-2004), becoming a full professor in 1983, and establishing himself as an academic leader in the field of applied GIS. He was instrumental in the creation and development of the Undergraduate and Graduate Options in Cartography and GIS and the Certificate Program in GI Sciences and Technologies in collaboration with the College of Forestry and Conservation. Dr. Wilson has provided four decades of continuous service in a broad range of areas of campus, in the community, and for the State. In recent years, he has been very active in the Intermountain West GIS user group, regional GIS conferences, and developing research and professional opportunities for UM students. He was awarded the Academic Administrator Award in 2005, and he has been recognized by his colleagues and this institution as a dedicated and devoted teacher.

The Department of Geography is honored to recommend Professor Paul B. Wilson for Emeritus status.