

ITEM 148-1007-R0910

Professor Emeritus of Health and Human Performance: Thomas R. Whiddon; The University of Montana–Missoula

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Thomas R. Whiddon from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its deep appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the Department of Health and Human Performance, the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, the University, 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

Professor Thomas R. Whiddon received both his master's and doctorate degrees from The University of Montana—his master's in Health and Physical Education in 1968, and his doctorate in Curriculum in 1975. Dr. Whiddon began his career in 1969 as an Instructor and was promoted to Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor in 1976, 1980, and 1985 respectively.

Dr. Whiddon's varied interests and breadth of expertise allowed him to successfully contribute to the Department's teaching mission across a wide spectrum of courses, and over the years the faculty has appreciated his willingness to expand/alter his teaching assignments to meet student needs. Indeed, it was the needs of students that Dr. Whiddon steadfastly viewed as paramount. An active scholar throughout his entire career, Dr. Whiddon's scholarly contributions include numerous research publications, presentations at scholarly meetings, articles in refereed journals, co-authored book chapters, an edited book, and authorship of an electronic book. Throughout his career Dr. Whiddon collaborated widely with colleagues from within the Department, The University, and across the country.

Dr. Whiddon thrice answered a call to dedicate his talents and energy to leadership roles—first when he was asked to serve as the Director of a newly formed Campus Recreation Department for the 1972-1973 school year. Dr. Whiddon then served twice as Health and Human Performance Department Chair—once as Acting Chair for the 1986-1987 year, and most recently from 2005-2008. His commitment to the Health and Human Performance Department was never so evident as when he served as Chair during this latter time period—one of significant growth and change for the Department.

With this recommendation go sincere thanks for 41 years of invaluable service to the State of Montana and The University of Montana-Missoula. Congratulations and commendations for an outstanding career.