

May 23-24, 2013

**ITEM 159-1506-R0513**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Geophysical Engineering upon Curtis A. Link; Montana Tech of The University of Montana**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Curtis A. Link from the faculty of Montana Tech, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to Montana Tech, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

Montana Tech will be granted limited authority to offer a PH.D as a participant in the collaborative Material Science Program. Montana Tech will remain a predominately undergraduate institution. The Montana University System will continue to have only two primary PH.D institutions; Montana State University, Bozeman and the University of Montana, Missoula.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Curtis A. Link grew up on a small farm in Iowa. In 1971 he earned a BA in Physics from the University of Iowa as well as a Certification for secondary education, also from Iowa, in 1972. Dr. Link began his career teaching junior high school science and math in Ottumwa, Iowa (Radar O'Reilly had already matriculated before Curtis arrived in Ottumwa). After a two year stint in the K-12 arena, Dr. Link spent the next eight years with Coca Cola, Inc. In 1982, Dr. Link enrolled in the Geophysical Engineering program at Montana Tech. He graduated in 1985 with his second bachelor's degree (Geophysical Engineering) and spent the next three years performing seismic work for Geophysical Services, Inc. in China. In 1988, Dr. Link moved to Houston, TX, where he worked on 3-D land seismic data processing for Halliburton Geophysical Services, Inc. (by day) and took graduate courses from the University of Houston (by night). Dr. Link graduated in 1993 from the University of Houston with a PhD in Geophysics. During his time at the University of Houston, Dr. Link worked on some of the first crosswell tomography oilfield work. Dr. Link began his career at Montana Tech in 1994 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1997 and Professor in 2002.

During his distinguished 19-year career at Montana Tech, Dr. Link was an award-winning professor, a trusted colleague, department head, sought after academic advisor and successful researcher/publisher. Dr. Link is a four time recipient of the *Rose and Anna Busch Faculty Achievement Award*, which is awarded to faculty in recognition of teaching, scholarship, and professional excellence on the Montana Tech campus. He has been nominated four times for the Montana Tech Distinguished Researcher award. His research interests are diverse, ranging from human resource challenges for Earth Science education to High Resolution Seismic Refraction Tomography. Dr. Link has published extensively in the application of Artificial Neural Networks and their use in the prediction of oil reservoir porosity, seismic discrimination of earthquakes and rockbursts, and lithology prediction/reservoir characterization. During his tenure at Montana Tech, Dr. Link and his collaborators secured over \$4,000,000 in extramural funding for research. Dr. Link has been an author/co-author of 32 publications with his peers, colleagues, and students and his papers have been presented at 30 symposia/meetings. He has been an active member of Tau Beta Pi, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG), the American Geophysical Union (AGU), the European Association of Geoscientists & Engineers (EAEG), the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), the Montana Geological Society (MGS), the Billings Geophysical Society (BGS), the Environmental

and Engineering Geophysical Society (EEGS) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Curtis A. Link the rank of Professor Emeritus of Geophysical Engineering at Montana Tech together with all the rights, privileges, and honors thereto appertaining.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None