

November 20-21, 2014

ITEM 165-1008-R1114

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Curriculum and Instruction on Marian McKenna, University of Montana.

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Marian McKenna from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its deep appreciation for her years of diligent and valued service to the University and the state of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred up on her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Professor McKenna was conferred the Doctor of Education from the University of Colorado in 1987 and was hired to join the faculty in what is now known as the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences in the fall of 1991. Highlighted achievements include the following: Professor (since 1999); Tenured (1996); Associate Professor (1994); and Merit Award (2008). Professor McKenna's teaching record in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction included undergraduate and graduate courses with specialization in the teaching of literacy. Quite significant in the area of teaching is Dr. McKenna's leadership as a member of the Presidential appointed task force charged with establishing academic service learning as standard pedagogy on the University of Montana campus.

In the area of research, Professor McKenna's contributions have national significance in the areas of academic service learning pedagogy, teaching for social justice, and the use of young adult literature to teach content concepts. She has authored a book, multiple book chapters, articles, and position papers published in a wide range of peer-reviewed publications as well as making numerous invited national and international presentations. As an international scholar, Dr. McKenna contributed to the development of the Welsh Curriculum for the Curriculum Council of Wales when Wales won their curricular independence from London. Furthermore, Dr. McKenna was instrumental in bringing approximately four million dollars in grant monies to the University for projects focused on increasing the number of Native American teachers in Montana.

In the area of service, Dr. McKenna has played a significant role for the College, the University, the region, and the nation. She held leadership roles in numerous regional and national education organizations. Additionally, Dr. McKenna's long-standing leadership in Phi Delta Kappa resulted in the creation of the College Research Symposia that continues to present educational research from faculty and graduate students to the larger community.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction is honored to recommend Professor Marian McKenna for Emeritus status.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

