

September 16-17, 2015

ITEM 168-1007-R0915

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Regents Professor Emeritus of Philosophy on Albert Borgmann – University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Albert Borgmann from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his 44 years of dedicated and valued service by requesting that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of Higher Education.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Borgmann earned his Ph.D. at the University of Munich in 1963 and joined the Philosophy Department at the University of Montana in 1970. Professor Borgmann was promoted first to Associate Professor, and then to Professor, and finally in 1996 to Regents' Professor of Philosophy. He served as chair of the Department from 1987 to 1993.

Professor Borgmann was a revered teacher and mentor to many generations of University of Montana students. His teaching was brilliantly engaging and uncommonly rigorous. He took very seriously the task of equipping young minds to wrangle intelligently and responsibly with ethical questions and it would be impossible to quantify the impact his efforts on this front had on the lives of his students. He was an inspiring and generous advisor to countless students and regularly supervised graduate student theses. His teaching was consistently evaluated as outstanding by his students and colleagues.

Professor Borgmann's research will long continue to be enormously influential on an international scale. He has been a major innovator in the Philosophy of Society and Culture, introducing many important ideas about the roles that technology plays in human life (among other topics). He published dozens of books and articles, including *Technology and the Character of Contemporary Life* (1984) and *Crossing the Postmodern Divide* (1992).

Professor Borgmann played an important service role on campus in addition to his contributions in the areas of teaching and research. The Philosophy Forum was a long time labor of love for him. With his energetic leadership, the Forum has made an invaluable contribution to the intellectual culture of the University and the City of Missoula. Over the course of 44 years, he served the department, university and profession in countless ways, always showing eagerness to give of himself for the greater good.

The Department is pleased to nominate Professor Borgmann for emeritus status.

ATTACHMENTS

No Attachments