

March 8-9, 2018

ITEM 178-2704-R0318

Request for authorization to confer the title of Professor Emeritus of Educational Theory and Practice upon Dr. Daniel Yazak, Montana State University Billings

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Daniel Yazak from Montana State University Billings, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Daniel L. Yazak earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 1969 from Baylor University; a M.U.P. in Regional Planning in 1976 from Texas A & M University; and a D.E.D. in Health Care Planning, Management, and Administration from Texas A & M University, 1980. Prior to his full-time employment at Eastern Montana College, Dr. Yazak taught as a part-time instructor in the Human Services program. He taught Management, Supervision, and Organization in Human Services disciplines. In September 1990, he was appointed Assistant Professor in the College of Education and Human Services at Montana State University Billings. In 1994, the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification recognized his completion of education, practice, and national examinations and recognized him as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. Subsequently, he joined the Graduate faculty at Montana State University Billings. In 1999, he earned tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2000. During the academic year 2004-2005 he received an Outstanding Faculty Award for excellence in teaching by the Students of Montana State University Billings. He was promoted again to full professor in 2005 and has served the institution and college well at that rank.

In his courses, Dr. Yazak not only built the philosophical and ethical base that every counselor must have to be successful, but also the knowledge of the ever-changing legal implications in their professional counseling practice. In his continual efforts to improve the education of his students, he became one of the first faculty members at MSU Billings to teach in an online format. With the expertise that he developed as an early adopter, he became not only an example of what was possible in online instruction, but also a vital resource for colleagues in the College of Education and throughout the MSU Billings campus. Dr. Yazak was instrumental in the re-design of the School Counseling program. His expertise and knowledge of School Counseling standards and clinical state standards is valued.

Dr. Yazak has advised hundreds of graduate students in his career. He has continually set a high standard in advising, seeing himself as a mentor who helps students become autonomous in this process.

As either the lead or a secondary author, Dr. Yazak has published 53 scholarly papers and presented at professional conferences locally, regionally, and nationally, 12 of those with papers presented. His scholarship activities have focused on rehabilitation counseling and school counseling.

Dr. Yazak has served on Academic Senate, Academic Standards Petition Committee, CAEP Standard 1 Committee, Department Rank and Tenure Committee, Environmental Studies Rank and Tenure Committee, Faculty Association Treasurer, Outstanding Alumni Award Selection Committee, Sabbatical Review Committee, Salish Kootenai College Advisory Committee, SCOU Program Leader, Harry S. Truman Foundation Faculty Review Committee, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee member and chair, and Wilson, Waterman, McRae, and Copple Scholarship Selection Committee.

Dr. Yazak has made significant contributions to the profession as a principal investigator for several grants, with titles that reflect the empathy and compassion for those needing help in our society: *Living Independently for Today and Tomorrow*, *Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Efficacy of a Camp Experience*, and *Barriers to Native American Indian Education*.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Dr. Dan Yazak the rank of Professor Emeritus of Educational Theory and Practice at Montana State University Billings and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS: None