

May 20, 2020

ITEM 188-1009-R0520

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus on Liz Ametsbichler, University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

Upon the retirement of Liz Ametsbichler from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wish to express their appreciation for her 27 years of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by requesting that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Ametsbichler earned her Ph.D. at the University of Maryland, College Park and joined the Foreign Languages and Literatures Department at The University of Montana in 1992. She served as co-chair of the Department from 2012 to 2016, and as chair from 2016 to 2019.

Professor Ametsbichler was a very successful and popular teacher. She was well-known as the Department's specialist in nineteenth century German literature and culture and was regularly consulted by students and faculty regarding their research and supervised twelve M.A. theses. She served for five times as Director of the German Study Abroad semester-long program. She taught an array of required undergraduate and graduate-level courses. She earned strong teaching evaluations from her students and was evaluated consistently as an outstanding teacher by her colleagues.

The primary focus of Professor Ametsbichler's research is nineteenth century literature, with an emphasis on women's writing. She also researched and presented on *fin-de-siècle* Austrian writers and dramatists of the 19th and early 20th centuries (both major authors and lesser-known writers of those periods), at national and international conferences. Dr. Ametsbichler's translation of 19th-century writer Hedwig Dohm, *Become who you are*, preceded by an introduction, was published in 2005 with SUNY Press. She remains committed to translating the works of other 19th century women writers for a wider audience. Dr. Ametsbichler also undertook yeoman service as the book review editor of *The German Studies Review* from 2004-2011 (which supported a graduate student with a stipend) and was co-editor of the *Women in German Yearbook* from 2012 to 2015.

In addition to her contributions in the areas of teaching and research, Professor Ametsbichler played an important service role on campus. She served as the Campus Fulbright Program Advisor from 2002 to 2019, and was a long-time member of Faculty Senate, which she chaired in 2006-2007, 2010-2012, and 2013-2015. She actively participated in the University Faculty Association, serving on the Executive Board from 1994-2014, on the Bargaining Team from 1997-2003 – as Chief Negotiator for three years. Among her proudest achievements were receiving the UM Distinguished Service to International Education Award in 2014 and the UM Robert T. Pantzer Humanitarian Award in 2019.

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

ATTACHMENTS

None.