

May 20, 2020

ITEM 188-2001-R0520

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Chemical and Biological Engineering upon Dr. Ron Larsen, Montana State University

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Associate Provost and Professor, Dr. Ron Larsen from the Norm Asbjornson College of Engineering at Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Larsen began his faculty position at Montana State University in 1985 and he retired in January of 2020, completing a 35-year career of extraordinary service to our institution and its students. Dr. Larsen was a highly respected teacher and researcher in the Department of Chemical Engineering, being tenured and later promoted to full Professor. During the 2001-02 academic year, Dr. Larsen served as chair of MSU's Faculty Senate. In 2002, Dr. Larsen was appointed Department Head of Chemical Engineering by Dean Robert Marley. This appointment began a period of rapid growth and change, including the hiring of 8 faculty (including both individuals writing this nomination), the establishment of a Bioengineering program, and a renaming of the department to Chemical and Biological Engineering.

In 2011, Dr. Larsen was appointed Associate Provost, and he served as the university's accreditation liaison, oversaw program review, curriculum, and the academic catalog. Dr. Larsen twice served as interim dean of the Graduate School – the first time in 2012-13, and the second in 2019.

On Feb. 1 of 2017, Dr. Larsen was appointed Interim Chancellor of MSU-Billings. Dr. Larsen's contributions and dedication to higher education in Montana was best summarized by President Cruzado, "Dr. Larsen has devoted his entire professional career to serving the people of the state of Montana, and he is deeply knowledgeable regarding our state's higher education opportunities and challenges."

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer on Dr. Ron Larsen the rank of Professor Emeritus of Chemical and Biological Engineering at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None