

May 26-27, 2021

ITEM 194-2001-R0521

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Librarianship upon Professor Kim Allen Scott; Montana State University

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Kim Allen Scott from the College of the Library 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

Professor Kim Allen Scott received a B.S. from Northern Arizona University in 1977, an M.A. from the University of Arkansas in 1986, an M.L.I.S. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1990 and became a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists in 1992. Professor Scott assumed the position of special collections librarian in the MSU Library in July of 1994 and led what is now called the Archives and Special Collections (ASC) department. Over his tenure at MSU his position evolved into that of the university archivist, and he was the team leader or department head of ASC for all but the last few of his years at MSU.

Over a twenty-five-year career at Montana State University, Professor Scott developed a strong collection of archival materials that document the history of the peoples of Montana, and of MSU and its local community. Professor Scott was instrumental in helping former dean of the library, Bruce Morton, establish the Trout & Salmonid Collection, which has grown to what may be the world's largest collection of literature on trout and angling.

At heart, Professor Scott is a historian. He recognized the common concerns of librarians, historians, and archivists to provide information to researchers and the public when needed and was distressed by attitudes and practices which divide these fields that should have so many common interests. Indeed, it was in conveying history to an audience that Professor Scott was often at his best. The secrets hidden in the Library's archival collections that he had so carefully organized would come to life as he spun tales about Vigilantes in the old West or about the rough streets of Butte during the age of the copper barons. His ability to regale audiences also paid off in donations of collections and helped position the MSU Library as one of the foremost centers of collections about Yellowstone National Park. He taught courses while at MSU, not only in archival description, but also as an affiliate member of the history department.

His publications have garnered awards, including having been recognized four times by the Arkansas Historical Association for authoring the best article of Arkansas topics. He authored a biography of Captain Gustavus Cheyney Doane, an early explorer of the Yellowstone Park region.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer on Professor Kim Allen Scott Professor Emeritus of Librarianship at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None