

May 26-27, 2021

**ITEM 194-2005-R0521**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Plant Sciences on Dr. Phillip L. Bruckner; Montana State University**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Phillip L. Bruckner from 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.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Bruckner has served as the winter wheat breeder for the state since 1992, a 29-year span in which Dr. Bruckner consistently released varieties that were high yielding and the choice to be grown on more than 1 million acres per year in Montana.

Basic and applied winter wheat research programs were led by Dr. Bruckner, looking into such topics as cold hardiness, disease resistance, and bread and noodle quality. These programs were continuously funded by Montana grain growers and the wheat industry to create and test new wheat varieties, while also being funded by federal agencies to carry out basic research studies. Dr. Bruckner actively collaborated with private wheat breeding companies to help ensure Montana farmers had access to the best varieties, including serving as developer or co-developer of 36 small grain cultivars and 6 germplasm lines.

Dr. Bruckner published more than 90 journal articles in his career, as well as more than 40 Montana Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) bulletins and reports. In recognition of the significant impact upon Montana agriculture, Dr. Bruckner was awarded the MSU Vice President for Research Meritorious Technology/Service Award in 2013.

Undergraduate and graduate crop science and plant genetics courses, including Field Crop Production, Genetics of Plant Improvement, and Practical Genetics, were taught by Dr. Bruckner during his tenure. Eight graduate students garnered their degrees under Dr. Bruckner's supervision.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Dr. Phillip L. Bruckner the rank of Professor Emeritus of Plant Sciences at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None