

September 15-16, 2021

ITEM #: 196-1012-R0921

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor of Classics And Art History And Dean Emeritus Of The Davidson Honors College on Dr. John Madden – University of Montana-Missoula.

THAT

Upon the occasion of the 30-year anniversary of the founding of the Davidson Honors College at the University of Montana, the faculty wish to express its belated appreciation to Dr. John Madden for his 24 years of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor and Dean Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Madden earned his Ph.D. from Yale University's Department of Classics in 1975, having served as a Fulbright Fellow and Honorary Charles R. Wheeler Fellow of archaeology and art history at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece. He began his career at the University of Montana in 1975.

Dr. Madden was Professor of Classics and Art History at the University of Montana from 1975-1998. He was director of UM's Honors Program from 1978-1991, and was the father/founding Dean of the University of Montana's Davidson Honors College from 1991-1998. He retired from UM in 1998.

While at UM, Dr. Madden's great passion was teaching Latin and Greek languages and literatures, and Greco-Roman, Early Christian and Byzantine art, architecture, and archaeology. He was a prolific scholar and a gifted teacher, inspiring his students with deep intellectual engagement, presentations punctuated with stunningly beautiful images, and leading numerous study-abroad experiences to Greece and Italy, which to this day, former students describe as the most powerful educational experiences of their lives. He was beloved by his students, and a widely respected leader of the faculty, and a visionary leader for honors education at UM.

Dr. Madden describes his proudest accomplishment as bringing the Davidson Honors College into being and nurturing its early years. Beginning with 'no budget, no clerical staff, no office, no stipend, and one pre-World War II type-writer with glass-covered keys' Dr. Madden was tireless and tenacious in garnering faculty, student, administrative, political, and, importantly, the private financial support from Ian and Nancy Davidson (and many others) to build a strong foundation for the Davidson Honors College, and its positive trajectory which continues today.

Dr. Madden was a national and international leader in his discipline and in honors. He served as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Classical Association of the Pacific Northwest between 1978 and 1990. He co-chaired the steering committee for the National Conference on Undergraduate Research at UM in 2000. He chaired the nominating committee for the National Collegiate Honors Council, was secretary for NCHC, and served on its executive committee. After his retirement from UM, Dr. Madden served as Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Scholars' Honors Program at Cerritos College, CA.

ATTACHMENTS

No attachments