

March 10-11, 2022

ITEM 199-1033-R0322

Request for Authorization to Award an Honorary Doctorate to Jim Scott – University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

The University of Montana requests authorization from the Montana Board of Regents to award an honorary doctorate to Jim Scott.

EXPLANATION

Jim Scott is well-known for his impressive career with First Interstate BancSystem. His tenure includes serving as the chairman of the board and vice chair. However, Mr. Scott's community service and philanthropic contributions are even more noteworthy. Mr. Scott has held leadership roles in organizations across the state – including the Montana Community Foundation, Montana Ambassadors and Center for the Rocky Mountain West. Together with his wife, Chris, Mr. Scott co-chaired the Montana chapter of The Nature Conservancy, and he has also been actively involved with organizations outside Montana.

Mr. Scott's dedication to Montana's tribal communities is also significant. In addition to serving on the board of the American Indian College Fund, he worked with Chris and Harvey Stewart to start the Foundation for Community Vitality to support leaders and communities on the Crow, Northern Cheyenne and Blackfeet Reservations. This exceptional Montanan is an excellent candidate for an honorary doctorate.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Nomination Packet

Attachment #2: Letter of Support from President Bodnar