

May 18-19, 2022

**ITEM 200-1023-R0522**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Linguistics on Robert Bankson Hausmann – University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

That the faculty of The University of Montana wishes to express its appreciation for his several decades of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Robert Hausmann earned his PhD at the University of Wisconsin in 1972 and joined the Linguistics Department at the University of Montana in 1971 as an assistant professor. Professor Hausmann rose through the ranks to Professor and became a vital leader in the University of Montana's internationalization efforts establishing and directing numerous partnerships from 1990-2005. Following his retirement, he sustained his service for several years through the cultivation of numerous international partnerships and stewardship of grants and contracts that benefited UM.

Professor Hausmann scholarship in the study of Linguistics was rooted in field work with the Dictionary of American Regional English while a student at the University of Wisconsin (1966-68) and supported through several appointments as a visiting scholar at world renown universities (Michigan, Chicago, and Vienna). Although an expert in the linguistic study of standard vs non-standard grammars, Professor Hausmann quickly gained recognition through his expertise on second language acquisition theory and the design and administration of language programs. He served as the chairperson of the linguistics program (1973-2000), served as director of English Language Programs (1992-2005), served as director of the UM English Language Institute (1995-2005), and was involved in the Montana Writing Project (MWP) from its inception in 1978. The MWP, after so many years, still provides important professional development and continuing education for educators across the state at all levels (P-16) and in all subject areas. He blended his scholarship and teaching expertise as he mentored and supervised Teaching Assistants in both English Composition (1981-1988) and ESL (1984-2000). Through his activities as an instructor of both public school educators, UM students training in English Composition and Second Language Acquisition, Professor Hausmann made a profound impact on generations of students who may never have encountered him personally.

Professor Hausmann began a second phase of his professional career in the early 1990s. As a leader in the field of Second Language Acquisition and English as a Second Language, he was influential in numerous international English Language programs in Hungary, at Toyo University, Kumamoto Gakuin University, Nagoya Gakuin University, was the director of the Kangnung Language and Culture Institute in Korea (Summer 2003-2005). Between 1990 and 1998, through his work as the director of the Professional English Language Teaching Program in conjunction with the Soros Foundation, he recruited and placed more than 500 English teachers in more than 15 Eastern European countries. Throughout this time, Professor Hausmann was not only a consummate ambassador for the University of Montana, the Montana University System, but the United States by leading efforts to professionalize English language instruction in the newly independent states following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

From his early scholarship on dialects and generative phonology to his reports on language instruction as a means of supporting social and economic development, Professor Robert Hausmann has left indelible

impressions on the lives of countless students in Montana, throughout Eastern Europe, and in Asia. His professional career truly epitomizes the University of Montana's mission of the transformative power of education, an important lesson that he exported far beyond the boundaries of our state. For this reason, and for many others too numerous to catalog here, the College of Humanities and Sciences at the University of Montana is pleased to nominate Professor Robert Hausmann for emeritus status.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None