

September 21-22, 2022

**ITEM 202-1009-R0922**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Social Work on Dr. Janet L. Finn; University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Janet L. Finn from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for her 25 years of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Janet L. Finn earned her Ph.D at the University of Michigan and joined the School of Social Work at The University of Montana in 1994. Dr. Finn was appointed Associate Professor in 1998 and Professor in 2005. During her time at UM, Finn authored eleven books and dozens of articles and book chapters. Among her publications is Just Practice: A Social Justice Approach to Social Work, a cutting-edge textbook on social work theory and practice that is widely used in social work education. Her most recent book, The Just Practice Framework in Action: Contemporary Case Studies (Oxford University Press, 2021), features contributions by fifteen UM MSW alumni and School of Social Work faculty along with contributions from noted social work scholars around the country.

A branch of Dr. Finn's scholarship has had direct relevance to the people of Montana. Three of her books, Tracing the Veins: Of Copper, Culture, and Community from Butte to Chuquicamata, (1998), Motherlode: Legacies of Women's Lives and Labors in Butte (2005), and Mining Childhood: Growing Up in Butte, Montana, 1900-1960 (2012), offer unique insights into social, cultural, and political history in Butte. These books, taken in order, probe a century of corporate, community, and cross-national relations; reveal the untold stories of Butte women's contributions to community building and social justice, and illuminate mining history through the eyes and experiences of children.

Dr. Finn was a dedicated and engaged teacher and mentor during her time at UM. She was a co-founder of UM's highly successful MSW program. She served as MSW Program Director for 6 years and assumed the role of Acting Chair on 3 occasions. Dr. Finn was also active in service to the School, University, community, and profession through numerous roles on committees and boards.

Finn was a respected teacher, consistently earning outstanding teaching evaluations. Finn contributed to UM's mission of global engagement by developing and leading study abroad courses in Chile and Mexico and an elective course on Social Work in a Global Context. She has received both the Winston and Helen Cox Distinguished Teaching Award and UM's Most Inspirational Teacher award in recognition of her contributions.

Finn was a contributing editor for numerous journals in social work, history, cultural anthropology, childhood studies, and women's studies. She served for twelve years on the editorial and corporate boards of Women and Social Work, Inc. She is currently serving as Associate Editor of *Affilia: Journal of Women and Social Work*, a leading publication in the profession.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None