

May 17-18, 2023

ITEM 206-1004-R0523

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Geoscience on Nancy W. Hinman; University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Nancy W. Hinman from the faculty of The University of Montana, the UM Geoscience faculty wishes to express its appreciation for her 32 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.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Nancy W. Hinman earned her Ph.D. at Scripps Institute of Oceanography and joined the Geology (Geosciences) Department at The University of Montana in 1988. She was awarded continuous tenure in 2000 and attained the rank of Full Professor in 2009. She was a Faculty Fellow for a NASA Joint Venture (JOVE) from 1991 until 1994, and she was a Faculty Fellow for the Department of Energy between 1995 and 1998. While on sabbatical in 2001-02 she served as Geothermal Geologist in Yellowstone National Park. She is a sitting Member of NASA's Astrobiology Institute team (SETI).

Professor Hinman was a very successful and popular teacher. As the only Oceanographer at UM, she introduced generations of students to this important topic through her undergraduate classes. Her main teaching focus at the upper undergraduate and graduate levels was in aqueous geochemistry and the role this plays in water-rock interactions, particularly in hot springs. This teaching focus fueled student curiosity about the early evolution of Earth as a planet, the study of Martian environments, and the search for early life, which provided a wide-variety of pathways for students to engage in research on these topics.

Professor Hinman's research on water-rock interactions in extreme environments continues to be wide-ranging and cross-disciplinary. She continues to be a widely-sought research collaborator at the international level, as she was throughout her career at UM. Many of her collaborators have spent significant time at UM as visiting scholars where they were integrated into Dr. Hinman's research group and where they contributed significant technical breadth to the UM Geoscience community.

Dr. Hinman's record of publication is deep and has involved a particularly diverse suite of peer-reviewed international journals, including Applied Geochemistry, Geomicrobiology, Astrobiology, Planetary and Space Sciences, Hydrogeology, and the Journal of Geophysical Research. She has received extramural funding from NASA and the Department of Energy. Dr. Hinman is continuing to pursue research on water-rock interactions in extreme environments, including the submission of collaborative research proposals and research manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication and the mentoring of graduate students.

As a Professor at UM, Dr. Hinman provided valued service to the Geoscience Department, the University, the State of Montana, and the international community. She served for many years as Graduate Student Advisor in the Department of Geosciences. She served multiple terms as Faculty Senator, including on the Executive Committee of the Senate between 2007 and 2009, and was Chair of the Faculty Senate during the 2008-09 academic year. She served as Interim Associate Provost between 2009 and 2010. Beyond UM, Professor Hinman has served as a Council Member for the International Association of

Geochemists and Cosmochemists. She received a Certificate of Recognition from this Association and was elevated to 'Friend of Water-Rock Interaction'. In 1996, she was invited to testify before the US Senate Sub-Committee for Evidence for Life on Mars.

For her service to the Department of Geosciences as a teacher and researcher, and her broad-ranging work as an interdisciplinary scientist, Professor Nancy W. Hinman is highly deserving of recognition as an Emeritus Professor of Geoscience.

ATTACHMENTS

None