

May 17-18, 2023

ITEM 206-2002-R0523

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Economics upon Vincent Smith;
Montana State University**

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Vince Smith from Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

During 35 years at Montana State University, Dr. Vince Smith has contributed significantly to the quality of undergraduate education in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics. In addition to winning the 2004 Chamber of Commerce Award for Excellence in Teaching, he has been at the forefront of developing innovative programs within the department: the Undergraduate Scholarship Program and the Ag in a Global Context course.

The Scholarship Program was the department's first initiative to reward students based on merit in the field of economics. This initiative, together with the Honors Program, has helped to attract several top scholars in the last decade, including winners of the prestigious Marshall, Gates Cambridge, Fulbright and Truman Scholarships. With Dr. Smith's help the Ag in a Global Context course started in 1999 with a trip to Taiwan. Over the past 24 years its impact on students is incalculable.

In addition to contributions to the department and the State of Montana, Dr. Smith has made a lasting mark internationally in the field of agricultural economics as author of nine books and monographs and published over 100 articles on these and other topics. His efforts have been recognized by multiple national organizations, including the USDA, which awarded him the Bruce Gardner Award for Outstanding Contributions to Economic Policy Analysis in 2011, and the Western Agricultural Economics Association, which honored Dr. Smith with the title of Distinguished Scholar in 2008.

In summary, Dr. Vincent Smith has provided outstanding service to Montana State University by combining his knowledge of economics with his exemplary skills in research and teaching to increase understanding of critical issues and to communicate his unique insights to his students, his colleagues, and the public.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Vincent Smith the rank of Professor Emeritus of Economics at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years into the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None