

July 10, 2025

**ITEM 219-1001-R0725**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Department of Pharmacy Practice, College of Health on Donna G. Beall; The University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Donna G. Beall from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for her 28 years of dedicated and valued service to the Department of Pharmacy Practice, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, College of Health, 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**

The University of Montana requests the Board of Regents to appoint Dr. Donna G. Beall as Professor Emeritus in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, Skaggs School of Pharmacy. Dr. Beall will retire as a Professor in the Department on July 1, 2025. Dr. Beall joined the Pharmacy Practice Department at The University of Montana in August 1997 as Assistant Professor and quickly progressed to the rank of tenured Full Professor by 2009. She served as the Interim Dean for the Skaggs School of Pharmacy from June 2022-June 2024 and the Director of Student Services for the College of Health from 2015 to retirement.

Dr. Beall earned her BS in Pharmacy at Northeastern University, in Boston in 1982 and Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Florida in 1984. She practiced professionally as a clinical pharmacist in the Veterans Administration and Managed Care settings before beginning her academic career at UM.

Dr. Beall joined the faculty at the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy in 1997, and for the past 28 years has exemplified passion, commitment and excellence in pharmacy education and community service. Throughout her career, Donna taught and continues to teach numerous courses within the curriculum (PHAR 514 Pharmacy Ethics and Phar 310 Pharmacy Practice II) fostering a deep understanding and appreciation for the profession among her students. Students have consistently recognized her contributions as an educator, honoring her with the Pharmacy Practice Teacher of the Year award seven times. In addition to her student accolades, she has received multiple faculty appreciation awards from the University of Montana. From 2003-2017, Donna served as the Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at the Curry Health Center where she provided clinical pharmacy services and precepted an Ambulatory Care Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotation for 4<sup>th</sup> year students. Her exceptional ability to mentor and teach was recognized by students, who honored her as Clinical Instructor of the year in 2009. This award highlights her excellence in teaching and dedication to student success.

Dr. Beall served as the Director of Experiential Programs from 2017-2020. In this role, she was instrumental in overseeing the transition of the program to new leadership. She worked to ensure the continued success and growth of the program by maintaining and expanding high-quality experiential sites for students. Her efforts to recruit and evaluate new sites led to increased opportunities for students, both locally and internationally. She personally traveled as far as Scotland to foster international partnerships that would provide pharmacy students with extraordinary global learning experiences.

In 2015, she added another role, Director of Student Services for the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, now the College of Health. In this role she supervised staff, maintained policies and procedures in the student handbook, ensured compliance with accreditation standards, monitored student

enrollment, retention, progression, and graduation rates, and oversaw the School of Pharmacy Committee on Ethical and Professional Conduct. While her administrative contributions in this position are admirable, her legacy will be defined by her unwavering commitment to student success. She never hesitates to advocate for students. She has been an advisor, mentor, and trusted confidant to countless students. She encourages both personal and professional growth, constantly challenging students to reach their full potential. She has a remarkable ability to recognize struggling students and empower them not only to succeed, but to thrive. Many graduates of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy can attribute their current success to her dedication and compassion.

In June of 2022, she assumed the role of Interim Dean of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy, a position she held until June 2024. She stepped into this leadership role during a particularly challenging period, following the COVID-19 pandemic and at a time of leadership instability in the School of Pharmacy and College of Health. At the same time, enrollment at both the University of Montana and the Skaggs School of Pharmacy had reached an all-time low. She was entrusted with maintaining quality education and student experiences while managing significant financial constraints. She worked tirelessly to promote recruiting and expand student experiences. As a result of her leadership, most students will not recognize the challenges faced by the School of Pharmacy during the last several years. Faculty and staff appreciate the significance of her contributions, which cannot be overstated. She was instrumental in the search for a new Dean for the College of Health, and her continued support as an advisor has been invaluable during the ongoing leadership transition.

Professor Beall's scholarship focused on rural health. In 2004, she demonstrated her innovative approach to pharmacy practice by developing the IPHARM (ImProving Health Among Rural Montanans) program. Over the years, this program has received funding from the Montana Geriatric Education Grants totaling \$600,000. This model rural ambulatory care practice site, designed to educate healthcare providers across Montana on geriatric wellness testing, demonstrated the invaluable role pharmacists can play in improving health outcomes. Over the last 20 years, IPHARM has provided essential healthcare services to rural areas while simultaneously providing valuable hands-on experience for students. Her work with the IPHARM program continues to have a lasting impact on both the profession and the people of Montana. Her curriculum vitae outlines her contributions to the profession at the state and national levels in publications and presentations.

Professor Beall's service is a combination of campus, School, professional and community efforts. Her service to the School and university were highlighted previous. In the professional arena, Dr Beall is a longstanding member of the Montana Pharmacy Association. She represented the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy as a non-voting member of the MPA Board from 2014-2024, and served as Chair of the Program and Awards Committee, Advocacy Committee and Futures Committee. Additionally, she has contributed more than 20 presentations at Montana Pharmacy Association conferences. She has been an active member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) since 1988. She served as an abstract reviewer for more than 20 years, as a member of the Annual Meeting Program Committee four times, as an appointed member of the Pharmacy Advocacy Task Force, a member of the Task force on Managed Care, and a member of Ambulatory Care PRN and Pharmacoeconomic PRN. In addition to her participation in MPA and ACCP, she maintains membership in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP), and was previously a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (1987-2002) and the North Central Florida Society of Hospital Pharmacy (1986-1991). She served as a reviewer for the Annals of Pharmacotherapy and the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, she was actively involved in immunization clinics hosted by All Nations Health Center, a non-profit community-based Urban Indian Health Program located in Missoula, Montana. She donated hours of her time to immunize patients, helping to provide more than 1,100 vaccines to American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Indian Health Services (IHS) publicly recognized the All Nations Health Center and the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy for these vaccination efforts.

Dr. Beall served as a board member for Open Aid Alliance from 2016-2021 and as chair from 2019-2021. Open Aid Alliance is a nonprofit organization in Missoula that provides harm reduction services and strives to overcome the stigma and fear associated with HIV. She was instrumental in fundraising for Open Aid Alliance as well as promoting syringe exchange programs throughout the state as part of an outreach program.

She also volunteered at the YWCA in Missoula, assisting with programs designed to end domestic and sexual violence and help unsheltered families obtain stable housing. She directly contributed monthly meals to residents at the Family Shelter and the Meadowlark.

Her impact on the pharmacy profession extends beyond the classroom, as she has been recognized by multiple professional organizations for her outstanding contributions to the profession. Donna was recognized as an elected fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) in 2007 and remained the only ACCP fellow in Montana until 2023. She was recognized as an Academic Leadership Fellow of the American Association Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) in 2005, and as a Montana Pharmacy Association (MPA) Fellow in 2024. This January, Dr. Beall was Montana's recipient of the Bowl of Hygeia Award. The Bowl of Hygeia Award is a nationally recognized award presented to pharmacists for their outstanding community service. Few people have had as significant an impact on the field of pharmacy as Dr. Beall. In her 28 years at the University of Montana, she has personally influenced the lives of more than 1,500 students, shaping the careers of countless pharmacists who have gone on to make meaningful contributions in healthcare. While her exemplary record of community service speaks for itself, perhaps even more significant is the importance of community service that she has instilled in graduates of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy. Through her mentorship, she has emphasized the value of giving back to the community. The impact of Dr. Beall's contributions to both her community and the profession of pharmacy will continue for generations, as her graduates carry forward her legacy of service.

Given Dr. Beall's consistent and impressive levels of teaching, scholarship and service for 28 years, the Department is pleased to nominate Professor Donna G. Beall for emeritus status.

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## ATTACHMENTS

None