

May 20, 2026

ITEM 224-2002-R0526

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership upon Dr. William Ruff; Montana State University

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. William Ruff 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

Dr. William Ruff served as a tenure-track faculty member for 15 years prior to his retirement from his tenured position. During that time, he made substantial and sustained contributions in educational leadership, particularly in securing external funding to support educational initiatives in rural and reservation communities. Dr. Ruff served in leadership roles on the Indian Leadership Education and Development (I LEAD) project which prepared Indigenous school leaders, and the Montana Teachers of English Language Learners (MontTELLs) grant. Collectively, these federally funded projects supported Native language revitalization, bilingual and multicultural education, and leadership development across Montana communities.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Dr. William Ruff the rank of Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership in the Department of Education at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years into the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None