

July 11, 2007

ITEM 136-1007-R0707

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Art and Humanities Upon Anthony Mattina; The University of Montana-Missoula

THAT:

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Anthony Mattina from the faculty of The University of Montana-Missoula, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the College of Arts and Sciences, the linguistics program, the department of anthropology, and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION:

Anthony Mattina was born in Palermo, Italy and received secondary and college education in both the United States and Italy. He received his baccalaureate degree in English with honors from Drury College in 1964 and his master of arts in Linguistics from the University of Kansas in 1967. He received his doctor of philosophy from the University of Hawaii in 1973, and continued his training through National Institute of Humanities summer seminars over the following two decades. Dr. Mattina is a member of the Linguistic Society of America and the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas.

He commenced his employment with The University of Montana in 1971 as an instructor with the department of foreign languages. In 1974, he earned his promotion to Assistant Professor. In 1978 to 1984, he earned his promotion to Associate Professor and Professor in the department of anthropology. In 1986 and 1987, he was a Visiting Exchange Professor at Northern Arizona University. From 2000 to 2006, he served as the Director of the linguistics program.

Teaching has always been central to Mattina's career, as attested by 30-year span of merit awards that were given, in part, for his stellar teaching. Whether an introductory class or a graduate seminar, he has always tried to reach every student in the class. He has been a skilled advisor, and has served as chair for many master of arts thesis committees.

In 1980, Mattina founded and became editor of the University of Montana Occasional Papers, a series dedicated to the study of the native languages of the Northwest, a post that he still holds. With 19 published volumes to date, the contribution of the series to the field of linguistics is internationally recognized. Further, Mattina has been a tireless researcher, and the importance of his linguistic fieldwork and analyses have been widely recognized through prestigious grants, articles in peer-reviewed journals, a vast number of professional conference papers, and monograph publications.

With this recommendation go sincere thanks for 36 years of invaluable service to the State of Montana and The University of Montana. Congratulations and best wishes for the future.