

September 19-21, 2007

ITEM 136-1001-R0907

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Education upon L. Dean Sorenson; The University of Montana-Missoula**

**THAT:**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor L. Dean Sorenson from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its deep appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the University, the School of Education, and the State of Montana by recommending the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

**EXPLANATION:**

Professor L. Dean Sorenson received his master's degree in Counseling and Guidance from Seattle University in 1975, and he earned his doctorate in Educational Administration from Washington State University in 1984. His extensive work in K-12 education included serving as a teacher, counselor, principal, and superintendent in public schools in Washington. Thus he brought great expertise to his role as a faculty member in Educational Leadership at Washington State University, the University of Wyoming, and The University of Montana.

Following his experience in the public schools, Dr. L. Dean Sorenson served for four years as an assistant and associate professor and program coordinator at the University of Wyoming. He then came to The University of Montana in 1997, and over the next ten years advanced to the rank of Professor and Department Chairman. In his years at The University of Montana, Dr. Sorenson was a prolific writer, contributing to a variety of text books and scholarly journals as well as developing six new graduate courses for campus and online presentation. He directed the University's first full graduate degree available online, winning recognition from *US News and World Reports*. Dr. Sorenson's ten years of academic and leadership contributions were significant to the success of the School of Education's Department of Educational Leadership. Moreover, his service in a multitude of School and University-wide roles brought honor to the campus. Perhaps most importantly, his teaching was consistently of the highest caliber. Former doctoral students continue to express profound gratitude for his mentoring.

With this recommendation go sincere thanks for 10 years of invaluable service to the State of Montana and The University of Montana-Missoula. Congratulations and best wishes for the future.