

July 8, 2008

ITEM 140-1503-R0708

**Professor Emeritus of Geological Engineering: Mark A. Sholes; Montana Tech of The University of Montana**

**THAT:**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Mark A. Sholes from the faculty of Montana Tech of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his thirty years of dedicated and valued service to the university, the Department of Geological Engineering, 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:**

Mark Sholes earned his B.A. in Geology with Honors in 1965 from the University of Iowa, his M.S. in Geology from the University of Iowa in 1967, and his Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Texas, Austin in 1978.

From 1968 to 1969, Mark served as an Aerial Surveillance Officer in U.S. Army Military Intelligence. From 1973 to 1978, he was employed as a Coal Geologist by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Mark joined the faculty of Montana Tech in 1978 and held a joint appointment in the Department of Geological Engineering and the Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology until 1994, when he became a full-time member of the instructional faculty, having been promoted to the rank of Professor of Geological Engineering in 1991. Mark served as an Exchange Professor from Montana at Akita University, Akita, Japan from 1984 to 1985, where he held the rank of Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering for Resources.

Mark is a licensed Professional Geologist in Wyoming and a Member of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists and the Montana Geological Society.

Mark is the author or co-author of eight peer-reviewed geologic maps, twenty-five peer-reviewed papers, and six published abstracts.

Mark's insight and expertise in the areas of coal geology and energy resources, sedimentology and stratigraphy, and aerial photograph interpretation and geomorphology are invaluable

and have been shared unselfishly with his many students and colleagues during his 30 years of service at Montana Tech.

For these and numerous other contributions, the faculty of the Department of Geological Engineering is pleased to nominate Dr. Mark A. Sholes for the Rank of Professor Emeritus of Geological Engineering at Montana Tech of The University of Montana