

July 8, 2008

ITEM 140-1504-R0708

Professor Emeritus of Mathematics: Virginia (Ginger) Toivonen; Montana Tech of The University of Montana

THAT:

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Ginger Toivonen from the faculty of Montana Tech of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its deep appreciation for her outstanding service to the university by recommending the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION:

Professor Ginger Toivonen has completed a distinguished teaching career in mathematics with 30 years at Montana Tech, formerly the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology. Ginger received her B.S. and M.S. in Mathematics from Montana State University. Ginger began her teaching career at Montana Tech in 1978 and has served as Academic Director of the Tech Learning Center since 1988. During her tenure at Montana Tech, Professor Toivonen has served as Co-Director of the College Success Course, Summer Advising Coordinator, on the STEP Advisory Board, and developed and managed the curriculum for the Mathematics Education Option and served as Program Manager for the Cooperative Montana Tech – UM Western Licensure Program.

Professor Toivonen's teaching has been acknowledged by the faculty and students with five teaching awards and outstanding student evaluations. Professor Toivonen won Rose and Anna Busch Faculty Achievement Award in 2006, 2003, and 2000, a Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation Faculty Achievement Award in 1995, and a Burlington Resources Foundation Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award in 1990 for her outstanding teaching. Ginger has been an excellent advisor and student mentor during her tenure at Montana Tech.

Professor Toivonen's research career has been in the field of mathematics education. Professor Toivonen has received 8 externally funded grants and brought a total of \$1.4 million to Montana Tech. Professor Toivonen's contributions to both the Mathematics and Mathematics Education Programs within the Department of Mathematical Sciences have enabled these programs to flourish at Montana Tech.

Professor Toivonen's tenure at Montana Tech can be characterized as one of exceptional contribution to student learning, the Montana mathematics community, and service to the University and to the State for which she is to be

commended.

For these and numerous other contributions, the faculty of the Department of Mathematical Sciences is pleased to nominate Ginger Toivonen for the rank of Professor Emeritus of Mathematical Sciences at Montana Tech of The University of Montana.