

September 25-26, 2008

ITEM 140-2701-R0908

Title of Professor Emeritus of Modern Languages: Dr. William Plank; MSU Billings

THAT:

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor William Plank from the faculty of Montana State University Billings, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the University, the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, the College of Arts and Sciences, 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:

Upon his retirement December 31, 2008, the faculty of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures unanimously requests emeritus status for Professor William Plank. Professor William Plank will have completed a distinguished academic career of 41 years at Montana State University Billings. During his tenure, Professor Plank served as Assistant, Associate and full Professor. Dr. Plank served his department as Chair for many years.

Professor Plank received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Missouri in French in 1956, and his MA and PhD in French, both from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Professor Plank has honored the University through his dedication to the teaching of the French and Spanish languages and rigorous classes in French civilization and literature.

Professor Plank has served the University as a distinguished scholar through his publications and his leadership role in seminars on the Humanities, revealing the breadth and depth of his knowledge.

Professor Plank has elevated the humanities and intellectual activity of both the University and the community through his founding and leadership of the Distinguished Lecture Series and as co-founder and editor of the Montana Professor.

Professor Plank has serviced the University through many years of committee service, including departmental, college and University-wide committees.

Given that Professor Plank has honored and served the University in the ways enumerated above, it is the wish of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures that he be honored and thanked, upon his retirement, with the title of Professor Emeritus of Modern Languages.