

ITEM 147-1017-R0510

Professor Emeritus Of English: Jocelyn Siler; The University Of Montana – Missoula.

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Jocelyn Siler from the faculty of UM-Missoula, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for her years of dedicated and valued service to the University, the Department of English, the Composition Program, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Originally a New Yorker with a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from Staten Island's Wagner College, Jocelyn Siler first came to The University of Montana in 1975 as a graduate student in the English Department's Creative Writing program. After earning her MFA 1977, she became an adjunct instructor, teaching composition in the "Special Services Program," a Federal Grant funded precursor to the University's Basic Composition Program. Due, certainly, to her strong teaching record – students rave about her – Professor Siler made her way through the ranks, to Adjunct Assistant Professor in 1984, Assistant Professor in 1993, Associate Professor in 1995, and Full Professor in 2001. In addition to teaching, Professor Siler distinguished herself during these years as the Director of the Basic Composition and Composition Programs. Her direction was instrumental in establishing this program that is central to the mission of The University of Montana. Professor Siler has been an active scholar in the field of Composition and Rhetoric, publishing three composition text books and several articles, and presenting her work on the teaching of writing in local, national, and international venues. She has been and remains an active writer as well. She has numerous poems and short stories to her credit and has participated in the many readings that have, in part, built the reputation of the English Department's Creative Writing Program. In her retirement, Professor Siler will pursue the publication of several longer works, including a memoir and a novel.