

March 6-7, 2014

**ITEM 162-1002-R0314**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Biology on Dan Pletscher, University of Montana.**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dan Pletscher 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 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.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dan Pletscher was a leading wildlife researcher at the University of Montana for the past 30 years, examining endangered species, strategies for conservation, and predator/prey relationships. His work carried him across the world, including China and Pakistan. His leadership of the Wildlife Biology program catalyzed the creation of the PhD program in Fish and Wildlife Biology and attracted the best new scientists in the nation to join the UM Wildlife Program, building it to one of the preeminent research and instructional programs in the world. The UM Wildlife Biology program was recognized in 2013 as one of UM's Programs of National Distinction.

Moreover, Dr. Pletscher's vision and energy allowed him to connect with major philanthropic organizations, and his personal efforts led to substantial gifts from donors to create the Boone and Crockett Wildlife Conservation Program at UM as well as establish the endowed Boone and Crockett Professorship.

Professor Pletscher's focus on students has been tireless. He advised upwards of 75 Wildlife Biology students each year, established engaging freshmen wildlife seminar programs, and built a student body that has the largest number of undergraduates of any of the College of Forestry and Conservation's five undergraduate majors. His value to the University of Montana remains strong, as he continues to advocate for UM and for sound wildlife management in Montana and across the nation.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

No Attachments