

March 6-7, 2014

ITEM 162-2802-R0314

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Economics upon James Edwards; Montana State University Northern

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor James Edwards from the faculty of Montana State University – Northern, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for years of dedication and service to the University, the College of Education, Arts & Sciences, and Nursing 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

Dr. James Edwards graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.A. in Political Science in 1966. In 1977, James entered the Institute for Human Studies in Menlo Park, California as a Research Fellow. From that position he served at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa (1981-1982) as a Lecturer in Economics. Dr. Edwards earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Utah in 1983. Upon completion of his doctorate, James served as an Assistant Professor of Economics at Hillsdale College, Michigan from 1983 through 1985. In 1988, Dr. Edwards joined the faculty at MSU-Northern as an Assistant Professor, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1994 and to full Professor in 2004.

Dr. Edwards has been an active faculty member for the past 25 years. During his tenure at Northern, Jim has been a member of nearly every faculty committee, as well as serving as chair for several search committees. During this time James' evaluations had greatly improved from the early 1990s—where, initially, he was well below the University mean—into the 2000s, where he was well above the University mean. Dr. Edwards clearly refined his courses for the better, and the evaluations document that he is a good instructor.

James won the paper contest held by the Association of Private Enterprise Education in 1998 for an essay, "Production, Profits, and the Environment." He was awarded the Faculty Award at MSU-Northern for Excellence in Scholarship in May of 2011 which reflected two major papers and seven articles published. Edwards has also published four books: Painful Birth: How Chile Became a Free and Prosperous Society (University Press of America, 2013); Regulation, the Constitution, and the Economy (University Press of America, 1998); Macroeconomics: Equilibrium and Disequilibrium Analysis (MacMillan Publishing, 1991); The Economist of the Country: Ludwig von Mises in the History of Monetary Thought (Touchstone Books, 1985).

Most recently, Dr. Edwards completed the third revision of "From Disorder to Order: Price Adjustments by Perfectly Competitive Firms under Market Disequilibrium Conditions," providing a solution to a theoretical weakness in modern economic theory that has gone unresolved for over sixty years, suggesting that this paper is the most noteworthy of his career.

The award of Emeritus to Professor Edwards demonstrates our high esteem for him as a colleague and would show appreciation and recognition of his twenty-five years of service to MSU-Northern and to Montana Higher Education.

ATTACHMENTS

None