

September 17-18, 2014

ITEM 164-1005-R0914

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences on Richard L. Hutto, University of Montana.

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Richard Hutto from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its deep appreciation for his 37 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.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Hutto earned his doctorate in Biology in 1977 from the University of California at Los Angeles, and was immediately hired as an Assistant Professor of Zoology and Wildlife Biology at the University of Montana. He progressed quickly through the academic ranks, being accorded the title of Professor in 1987 in the newly-formed Division of Biological Sciences. He has published nearly 100 papers in professional journals and books, plus contributed dozens of authoritative essays and video productions in collaboration with PBS television and the National Audubon Society. This work has been supported by 78 distinct research grants from private, state, and federal sources.

Professor Hutto has always believed in the importance of making science accessible to citizens, first through collaborations with the Montana Natural History Center and then through his own Avian Science Center within the Division of Biological Sciences. His well-documented views on the importance of fire as a natural ecological process have received frequent news coverage from local, regional, and national press agencies. Professor Hutto has taught nearly every possible course on animal ecology or biology, but his signature course is Ornithology, which he has taught to generations of UM students, always to enthusiastic evaluations. He has mentored over 30 graduate students to their completed degrees, and these students now hold a diversity of productive positions in governmental agencies and academia. In his retirement, Dr. Hutto will continue active engagement with his DBS colleagues, work on ongoing research projects, and contribute his extensive experience to the biology and impacts of forest fires in western landscapes.

Based on his outstanding record of achievement and contributions to the University of Montana, the faculty of the Division of Biological Sciences is pleased to nominate Professor Hutto for emeritus status.

ATTACHMENTS

No attachments