

March 9-10, 2017

ITEM 174-2002-R0317

**Request authorization to confer the title of Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering upon Joseph (Joe) J. Fedock**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Joe Fedock from the faculty of Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his 26 years of service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana by conferring upon him the rank of Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Fedock received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Arizona State University, M.S.C.E. from the University of Colorado, and Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico. Following his M.S. program, Dr. Fedock worked full time for two years as a design engineer for Bechtel Power Corporation, Los Angeles, before returning to school in 1975 to pursue his Ph.D. degree. In the latter part of his Ph.D. program, Dr. Fedock was a graduate fellow at Argonne national laboratories. After completing his Ph.D., he joined the Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics faculty at Santa Clara University, and served as their department head for ten years. During this period, Dr. Fedock also spent a year in New Zealand as a visiting lecturer at the University of Canterbury.

Dr. Fedock began his 26 year career at MSU in 1990, as a Professor of Civil Engineering and Associate Dean of the College of Engineering. He served in this role for five years, with his primary responsibilities being oversight of the college's undergraduate programs and the Engineering Experiment Station. In 1995, Dr. Fedock became Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, and over the next 18 years, served the university in several different administrative capacities, successively as Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, and Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, with further service as Interim Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and the College of Arts and Architecture.

Throughout his time in university administration, Dr. Fedock provided stable, capable leadership focused on MSU's academic affairs. He was known as a consensus-builder, always striving in creative ways to best serve MSU's students, faculty and staff and the institution forward in a resource constrained environment. He strongly supported a host of academic programs that are prominent among the defining elements of our institution, including the Undergraduate Scholars program and the Honors program. He also supported the university's expanding research enterprise, and its synergistic integration into our academic programs. In 2010, Dr. Fedock's outstanding service to MSU was recognized with a national Phi Kappa Phi Distinguished Member Award. As important as his many accomplishments as an administrator, the award nomination also emphasized the integrity, distinction, compassion and humility with which he discharged his job responsibilities.

In 2011, Dr. Fedock retired from administration, returning to his faculty roots as a Professor of Civil Engineering. Dr. Fedock's area of expertise is structural engineering, and he immediately went to work teaching courses in and related to this technical discipline (even as an administrator, he taught an occasional structural engineering class for the Civil Engineering Department and participated as a technical advisor at seismic workshops/meetings around the state of Montana). In the classroom, he quickly became a favorite of students, who frequently commented on his depth of knowledge of the subject matter, the quality of his instruction, and his commitment to their success. He further seamlessly

integrated himself into the department, contributing across-the-board to our teaching, research and service activities, including serving on faculty search committees, as principal advisor for our international dual degree program, as our representative on the college strategic planning committee, and more.

In summary, for these and other contributions, the Board of Regents is pleased to confer the rank of Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering on Dr. Fedock in recognition of his 26 years of substantial and sustained contributions to the University and its students, faculty and staff.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None