

September 13-14, 2017

ITEM 176-1501-R0917

Request for authorization to confer the title of Professor Emeritus of Mining Engineering on Dr. H. Peter Knudsen - Montana Tech of The University of Montana

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Harvey (Pete) Knudsen from the faculty of Montana Tech, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his 36 years of dedication and valued service by requesting that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of Higher Education.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Harvey Peter (Pete) Knudsen grew up in Great Falls, Montana graduating from Great Falls High School. In the Fall of 1964 he entered the Montana School of Mines as a Freshman. In 1968, Dr. Knudsen earned his B.S. in Geological Engineering from the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology and began work for the Atomic Energy Commission as an Ore Reserve Analyst. Dr. Knudsen interrupted his work with the Atomic Energy Commission to serve four years as an officer in the U.S. Navy where he saw active duty in Vietnam. Following an honorable discharge from the Navy, Dr. Knudsen returned to the Atomic Energy Commission before embarking on additional academic pursuits at the University of Arizona.

Dr. Knudsen received his M.S. in Mining Engineering from the University of Arizona in 1975. While working on his Ph.D., Dr. Knudsen served as research assistant in Mining Engineering at the University of Arizona and worked three summers for Anaconda Minerals Company. He also started a small mining company, called Gleason Heights Mining Company, where he mined lead and silver from the Silver Bill Mine in Gleason, Arizona. In 1981, he received his Ph.D. in Mining Engineering from the University of Arizona. Dr. Knudsen started his career at the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology in 1981 as Assistant Professor in Mining Engineering. Promotion to Associate Professor occurred in 1986 and to Professor in 1993. Dr. Knudsen served as the Department Head in Mining Engineering from 1998 through 2005 and was Dean of the School of Mines and Engineering from 1996 until his retirement in 2017. Dr. Knudsen has been a Registered Professional Engineer in the state of Montana since 1992 and a long-time member of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME).

Dr. Knudsen served a distinguished 36-year career at Montana Tech and is known as a trusted colleague, department head, sought after academic advisor and successful researcher/publisher. Dr. Knudsen maintains strong ties to industry and alumni, especially by serving as a board member of the Montana Tech Foundation Board of Directors. The American Federation Scholarship Foundation presented Dr. Knudsen an Honorary Award in 2001. In 2011, SME recognized Dr. Knudsen with the Ivan B. Rahn Education Award for distinguished contributions to the educational activities within SME.

During his tenure at Montana Tech, Dr. Knudsen was the brain child behind the Bright Prism program which promoted math and science in regional high schools to help drive STEM students to Montana Tech. The Underground Mine Research Center is credited to Dr. Knudsen's foresight, fund raising and drive to provide the only on-campus underground lab for mining engineering schools in the USA.

Based on his accomplishments in teaching, research and service, the Mining Engineering Department of Montana Tech is pleased to nominate Professor Pete Knudsen as Professor Emeritus of Mining Engineering at Montana Tech together with all the rights, privileges, and honors thereto appertaining.

ATTACHMENTS

No Attachments