

January 14, 2020

ITEM 186-2004-C0120

Request for Authorization from the Board of Regents to Confer the Title of Professor Emerita of Nursing upon Charlene A. Winters, Montana State University

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Charlene A. Winters from the College of Nursing at Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for her service to the University and the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Winters received her A.D.N. from Long Beach City College in 1976, her B.S. from California State University –Long Beach in nursing in 1979, her M.S. from California State University –Long Beach in 1984 as a critical care clinical nurse specialist, and her Ph.D. from Rush University in nursing science in 1998. Dr. Winters served as a faculty member in the Montana State University College of Nursing at the Missoula campus location from 1984 until her retirement in 2019, except for a brief hiatus at Salish Kootenai College where she helped establish the nursing program. Dr. Winters achieved the rank of Professor in 2012. During her tenure in the College of Nursing (CON) she served in several administrative capacities including as one of the CON’s Campus Directors (equivalent to a department chair) at the time of her retirement.

Dr. Winters’s research scholarship focused on naturally-occurring asbestos. As the PI of a NIH grant on this topic, she worked closely with the community of Libby, Montana. In collaboration with Dr. Helen Lee, she developed rural nursing theory co-editing four editions of *Rural Nursing: Concepts, Theory, and Practice*. Dr. Winters was a fierce advocate for advanced practice nursing roles, helping to establish a new master’s program in the CON preparing nurses for national certification as clinical nurse leaders (CNLs). Over her career, Dr. Winters published 42 journal articles, four books, ten book chapters and regularly presented at scientific meetings. She was inducted as a Fellow in the Academy of Nursing (FAAN) in 2019.

Dr. Winters was a highly respected teacher consistently earning outstanding teaching evaluations. She taught students the science and art of rural nursing practice, particularly around care of vulnerable groups. Dr. Winters guided the scholarly projects of many Master’s and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) students. In addition to her college contributions, she was an exemplary MSU citizen serving on Graduate Council among other roles. Dr. Winters gave generously of herself to the profession she loved. She served as President of the Western Institute of Nursing, a member of several journals’ editorial boards, a member of the Providence Health and Services Board of Directors, and as a member of the Rural and Remote Nurses Network. In countless ways, Dr. Winters has represented Montana to the nursing profession.

For these, and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer on Dr. Charlene A. Winters the rank of Professor Emerita of Nursing at Montana State University and wishes her well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None.