

May 20, 2020

ITEM 188-1008-R0520

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus on Linda Frey, University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

Upon the retirement of Linda Frey from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wish to express their appreciation for her 48 years of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by requesting that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Linda Frey earned her Ph.D. at the Ohio State University in 1971 and joined the History department at the University of Montana that year. She rose through the ranks and earned promotion to full professor in 1982, chairing her department from 1984 to 1986.

Professor Frey has been an astonishingly productive researcher. Her primary area of research is early modern European international relations, and her output has been nothing short of prodigious. Publishing most of her work with her twin sister, Marsha, Professor Frey has written on numerous topics, including a biography of Frederick I; a comparative study of eighteenth-century insurrections in France, Hungary, and Spain; an analysis of Leopold I and the War of Spanish Succession; and a large work on diplomatic immunity. Most recently, she has written a brilliant overview of the French Revolution. In all, she published fourteen books and dozens of articles. Professor Frey's work on French diplomacy is original, creative, and important. Professor Frey's stature can be measured not only by her impressively large number of published book reviews but by the numerous manuscripts of books and articles she has refereed for various publishers and journals.

Professor Frey's work has been recognized by appointments to prestigious positions, by the receipt of sought-after grants, and by the receipt of esteemed awards. She has been a visiting professor at the United States Military Academy and has also held the McDermott Chair in Humanities and Public Policy at West Point. She has been a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. In addition, Professor Frey has been awarded grants by the Earhart Foundation, the Newberry Library, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the International Center for Jefferson Studies. Most recently, she received the Hagley H. B. Du Pont Fellowship. She has received the Outstanding Civilian Service medal from the Department of the Army. Finally, she received the Distinguished Scholar award from the University of Montana in 2001.

Professor Frey was a demanding and inspiring teacher. For years, her courses on the French Revolution drew fifty to sixty students. She taught at every level from the introductory survey course through a graduate seminars. She frequently taught the department's course on historical methods.

When it came to service to the department, the university, and the profession, few could equal her. She served on numerous campus-wide committees and on committees in our department. Within the department, she chaired the Curriculum Committee and made it a model of efficiency and collegiality. In the university, she served on the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, the Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee, Graduate Council (which she chaired), the Independent Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Admissions Committee, and the Humanities Subcommittee of ASCRC. She also engaged in numerous civic activities and even dipped her toe in local politics. Within the profession, Frey served as president of the Western Society for French History. She reviewed grants for the National Endowment of the Humanities and for the Department of Education.

This is a career of outstanding achievement in every area of academic life. The History Department is honored to nominate Professor Frey to emeritus status.

ATTACHMENTS

None.