

November 19-20, 2020

**ITEM 191-1004-R1120**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus on Mark Dean, University of Montana - Missoula**

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**THAT**

Upon the retirement of Mark Dean from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his 28 years of 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.

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**EXPLANATION**

Professor Mark Dean was hired as an assistant professor of Lighting and Sound in 1992, after serving as a visiting professor at both UM and Western Washington University. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1996, awarded tenure in 1999, and was promoted to Full Professor in 2004. Over his tenure at UM, Professor Dean received three Merit awards, was named Outstanding Educator of the Year by the Montana State Thespian Association in 2008 and was honored by the College of Visual and Performing Arts as Distinguished Faculty Member in 2016.

Professor Dean served as the Head of the Design/Technology program from 1994-2002; he was instrumental in all aspects of the training, education and development of the technical-theatre majors. In 2003, he stepped into the role of Co-Chair, and in the following year assumed the position of Chair. Professor Dean served as the Chair of the Department/Director of the School from 2004 until 2012. During that time Professor Dean helped stabilize the budgets and further the growth of the program. In addition to his many administrative duties, Professor Dean continued his work as a designer for the School as well as for Montana Repertory Theatre and numerous other professional companies.

As the University of Montana is an accredited program with the National Association for Schools of Theatre, Professor Dean became very active with the national accrediting organization, serving as a team member on accreditation visits at schools such as Marquette University, Cal State Northridge and Florida International University. He was recognized nationally for his knowledge of educational programs, appropriate standards and effective solutions.

Professor Dean was solely responsible for the acquisition of desperately needed equipment for our program to ensure we maintained professional standards and training for our students in preparation for the careers. His commitment to the success of his students is evident in the fact that students that trained under Professor Dean can be found in many of the largest theatre companies and venues in the country or touring with some of the largest acts in the entertainment industry.

Professor Dean was a key contributor to the growth and success of the School of Theatre and Dance, overseeing our transition from department to school, reshaping the entire curriculum to meet the requirements of common course numbering, and helping guide our school to greater success for many years. The faculty/staff in the School Theatre and Dance support conferring the title of Professor Emeritus on Mark Dean.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

No attachments.