

November 18-19, 2021

**ITEM 197-1010-R1121**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Philosophy on Dr. Deborah Slicer, University of Montana- Missoula**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Deborah Slicer from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for her 30 years of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Explanation Dr. Slicer earned her Ph.D. at the University of Virginia and joined the Philosophy Department at the University of Montana in 1991. Professor Slicer obtained the ranks of Associate Professor and later Professor. She served as Chair of the Department from 2009 to 2011.

Professor Slicer taught a wide range of courses, including several lower-division courses on moral philosophy and philosophical reasoning, and a number of upper-division and graduate seminars on environmental philosophy, just war theory, and philosophy and literature. She served as Director of Graduate Studies for the Environmental Philosophy M.A. Program for over ten years. Her teaching evaluations were strong, and her graduate seminars were rated especially highly by students. She also chaired and served on multiple thesis committees.

Professor Slicer published numerous articles on such topics as ecofeminism, animal ethics, Thoreau, what joy is, and on quiet. She also gave a number of public talks on these subjects. She was the guest editor of a special issue of *Ethics and the Environment* on the topic of environmental narrative. She is also a published poet, with a collection called *The White Calf Kicks* that won the Autumn House Poetry Prize (selected from over 500 manuscripts).

Professor Slicer played an important role on campus and in the larger profession. Her leadership helped the Philosophy Department to rethink and reorganize its M.A. Program and to give it its current focus on environmental philosophy. She also oversaw a departmental external review and wrote the Department's self-study. She helped to develop what became the University's program in Ecological Agriculture and Society, administered jointly with the PEAS Farm. She served on the editorial board for *Ethics and the Environment* and was a referee for *Hypatia* and *Environmental Ethics*.

The Department of Philosophy was well served by Professor Slicer's versatility, collegiality, and range of expertise. We are pleased to nominate her for emeritus status

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None