

November 17-18, 2022

ITEM 203-2009-R1122

**Request for Authorization to Award an Honorary Doctorate to Dr. Alexander E. MacDonald,
Montana State University**

THAT

In recognition of many career achievements and the distinction brought to the Montana University System as an alumnus, the Board of Regents grants Montana State University the authority to confer an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dr. Alexander E. MacDonald.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Alexander (Sandy) E. MacDonald received his undergraduate degree from Montana State University in 1967. Courtesy of his Air Force ROTC commission, Sandy studied meteorology at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. After completing active duty in 1971, he earned both a master's degree and doctorate degree from the University of Utah, in meteorology.

Dr. MacDonald dedicated his life to federal public service. He served as the Chief Science Advisor for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s research line, and Deputy Assistant Administrator from 2006 to 2012. He was Director of NOAA's Forecast System Laboratory from 1988 to 2005. During his devoted career, he had many accomplishments and contributions which benefited NOAA, the nation, and the world.

Dr. MacDonald is also the inventor of NOAA's "Science on a Sphere", an educational interactive exhibit, in over 130 museums and educational science organizations worldwide. Sandy has been the recipient of four Presidential Rank Awards and a Gold Medal. And Sandy has written over 100 publications throughout his remarkable career.

For these and his other extraordinary contributions, the Board of Regents is pleased to confer the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters at Montana State University to Dr. Alexander E. MacDonald and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Letter of Nomination from President Cruzado