

September 21-22, 2022

ITEM 202-1008-R0922

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences on Professor Charles M. Thompson; University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Charles M. Thompson from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his 27 years of dedicated, effective and valued 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.

EXPLANATION

The University of Montana requests the Board of Regents appoint Dr. Charles M. Thompson as Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Skaggs School of Pharmacy. Dr. Thompson retired as a Professor in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy effective December 31, 2021. He served as a tenured full Professor and Associate Professor during his service to the institution.

Dr. Charles M. Thompson received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Rutgers University, New Jersey in 1978. He went on to earn a M.S/Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of California Riverside in 1980/1982 and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Medicinal and Organic Chemistry at Harvard University from 1983-1984 as well as at the University of California Berkeley from 1983-1985. After holding Assistant and Associate Professor positions at Loyola University from 1985-1994, he joined the faculty at UM in 1994 as an Associate, then Full, Professor in the Department of Chemistry before moving to the Skaggs School of Pharmacy as Full Professor of Medicinal Chemistry in 1998. Dr. Thompson had a distinguished, productive tenure while at UM until his retirement in December 2021.

As faculty, Dr. Thompson distinguished himself in teaching, research and professional service. He principally taught Medicinal Chemistry, and Pharmacology/Toxicology, but contributed to other courses in the pharmacy program including Integrated Studies, Pharmaceutics, and Pharmaceutical Sciences Laboratory. He was also very active in graduate education, developing and teaching in courses for various graduate programs in the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences and developing the Medicinal Chemistry graduate program. Dr. Thompson received the John Ruffatto Award in 2010 for bringing entrepreneurial experiences to the classroom. He was named Teacher of the Month three times (2011, 2012, and 2013) as well as Teacher of the Year in Pharmaceutical Sciences by Pharmacy students in 2016.

Dr. Thompson's research focuses on synthesis and in vivo biodistribution of novel positron emission tomography (PET) ligands; the elucidation, identification, and quantification of protein-reactive organophosphate adducts; and the development of pharmacophores, particularly glutamate transporters and receptors. A review of his CV (attached) shows his many achievements that acknowledge his substantial contributions to the UM and the field of chemistry and drug development. During his career, he has published over 120 papers and 7 book chapters, along with a book. Dr. Thompson has filed 5 patents through UM as well as his company, ATERIS Technologies. As Director of the University of Montana portion of the State of Montana NSF EPSCOR project from 2000 to 2008, Dr. Thompson brought in over \$13,500,000 in funding to support infrastructure development. His total grant funding over the course of his career is over \$37,300,000, not including awards as a mentor or to his students. Dr. Thompson has presented his research over 25 times at local, national, and international venues, thereby advancing the

University's research mission. Dr. Thompson also made an exceptional contribution to UM through training student scientists and mentoring of undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral trainees in research in his laboratory at UM in addition to mentoring visiting and research scientists, most notably by serving on 50 thesis committees at UM. Dr. Thompson was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in February 2013.

During his tenure at UM, Dr. Thompson also served in several important capacities, including as the Director of the Mass Spectrometry and Proteomics Core Facility and Director for the UM Core Laboratory for Neuromolecular Production. Dr. Thompson also served on a number of committees at the University, in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy, the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Center for Structural and Functional Neuroscience. In the community, he was a founder of the spectrUM Discovery Area and served as co-Director or on the Board of Directors from 2007-2018.

Overall, the University of Montana has been well served by having Dr. Thompson as a faculty member during an exceptional career. The Skaggs School of Pharmacy is well respected both regionally and nationally, principally because the dedication and hard work by faculty such as Dr. Thompson. He is well respected by his peers, UM students, and the University community at-large. The Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences is pleased to enthusiastically nominate Professor Charles M. Thompson for emeritus status.

ATTACHMENTS

None