May 17-18, 2023

ITEM 206-1502-R0523

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering on Dr. Avimanyu Das; Montana Technological University

THAT

On behalf of the faculty of the Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department, it is my pleasure to nominate Dr. Avimanyu Das to receive the honor of the rank of Professor Emeritus. Dr. Das dedicated the final seven years of his career in service to the of Metallurgical & Materials Engineering Department, Montana Technological University (Montana Tech), and the Butte Community. During his time at Montana Tech, he made a significant impact on the university, and we believe that conferring the rank of Professor Emeritus upon him is a fitting recognition of his contributions.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Das (he prefers to be called "Das") joined the Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Department as a visiting faculty in 2015, bringing his extensive academic and industrial background. From the start, Das made significant contributions and rapidly became popular among our students as well as our faculty and staff. He demonstrated his range by teaching several courses, including Particulate Systems Labs I and 11, Particulate Processing Design, Senior Design I and II, Physical Chemistry of Iron and Steelmaking, and Computational Techniques for Process Engineers, among others. Das's mastery in the lab and classroom was second to none; his course rankings were the highest in the Department, averaging 4.8 to 4.9 on a scale of 1 to 5.

Das was involved in various research projects that led to ten publications and enabled continuation of five research projects. He wrote nine proposals, including two naming himself as the Principal Investigator. Das was the advisor and thesis chair for four MS students and was instrumental in assisting other graduate students (two PhD and six MS) in Dr. Young's research group perform their research and graduate. His contributions were always innovative and successful, focusing mainly on critical materials and mining sustainability. He developed processes to recycle plastics by gravity separation and flotation, to enhance platinum recovery from slag, to remove iron from slag for making better proppant, and to use garnet-free tailings as a sand for making concrete. In recognition of his success in teaching and research, Das was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 2018.

Throughout his earlier career, Das made significant contributions to the field of metallurgical engineering through teaching, research, and innovation. Das earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Metallurgical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology- Kanpur. He concluded his education by earning a Ph.D. in Metallurgical Engineering at the University of Utah, graduating in 1994 with a PhD in Metallurgical Engineering. Das began his career as a researcher with the Tata Research Development and Design Center in Pune (India), developing software for process engineering applications. He subsequently took a faculty position with Indian School of Mines (ISM) in Dhanbad where he taught courses in mineral processing and extractive metallurgy for over four years. Later, he transferred to the National Institute of Technology (NIT) in Durgapur, where he continued teaching and research. During his tenure at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research's National Metallurgical Lab (CSIR-NML) from 2004 to 2015, he became well-known, earning numerous awards for his outstanding contributions, including Best In-House Research Project, IIME Best Paper Presented and Published, and Leadership

Program Merit Scholar, among others. Additionally, he served on critical one-year positions such as the Project Review Committee Domain Expert for the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment

Council (TIFAC), scouting for the Government of India {2014) to find innovative technologies, commercialize indigenous technologies, and invest in companies commercializing the technologies. Given his outstanding contributions to the Department of Metallurgical & Materials Engineering, Montana Tech, and the broader community, we highly recommend Dr. Avimanyu Das for the honor of Professor Emeritus. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of students and faculty at Montana Tech.

ATTACHMENTS

None