

May 28-29, 2009

ITEM 143-2004-R0509

**Professor Emeritus of Architecture: Peter Kommers;
Montana State University-Bozeman**

THAT:

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Peter Kommers from the faculty of Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION:

Peter Kommers, AIA, FAAR, joined the faculty at Montana State University as a visiting assistant professor in 1979 and in 1985 he became a full-time tenure-track faculty member in the School of Architecture. He received the rank of Full Professor in 1990. Prior to joining the MSU faculty, he had received international recognition as the recipient of the Rome Prize in Architecture from the American Academy in Rome—awarded to one architect in the United States each year. Throughout his academic career Professor Kommers gained recognition as an outstanding designer receiving numerous design awards for his projects—including the MCAIA Honor Award for the Northern Cheyenne Heritage Center, the MCAIA Merit Award for the Willow House, the MCAIA Award for Design Excellence and Governor's Citation for Design of the Metcalf Building. His design ability and exploration has been further recognized through a series of painting exhibitions at local and regional galleries and exhibitions as well as in a national book publication on architectural drawing.

Within the School of Architecture, Mr. Kommers demonstrated an excellence in teaching architectural design and architectural graphics. His expertise in these areas coupled with his ability to guide all of his students to a consistently high level of accomplishments contributed to the strong reputation the Architecture program enjoys today. His students received national recognition for their work for architectural design and graphics. As a result, Montana State University became the new national headquarters for the Design Communication Association—an organization of the top architectural graphics educators in the world. Professor Kommers' teaching excellence was recognized through numerous teaching awards, most recently a special university commendation from the MSU Teaching Learning Committee.

Over the last four years, Peter worked to establish the School of Architecture Rome Studio program which is the School's

first study abroad program to utilize a permanent studio environment.

Professor Kommers also made significant contributions to the general University environment, serving as both a representative and chair of the MSU Faculty Council. He also served as chair of the University Governance Council and the Accreditation Steering Committee. As one of the School of Architecture's longest serving faculty members, Peter Kommers has contributed immensely to the School of Architecture's national reputation for excellence.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Peter Kommers the rank of Professor Emeritus of Architecture at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.