

January 7, 2014

ITEM 162-1004-R0114

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Geography on Jeffrey A. Gritzner, University of Montana.

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Jeffrey A. Gritzner from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its deep appreciation for his decades of dedicated and energetic 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

Jeffrey A. Gritzner earned his baccalaureate in Geography from the University of California at Berkeley in 1966, his MA degree in Geography at The University of Chicago in 1974, and his doctorate in Geography from The University of Chicago in 1986. His doctoral dissertation was on "The West African Sahel: Human Agency and Environmental Change." He served in various research and directorship capacities with Agricola du Tchad, the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council at the World Resources Institute, and the International Union of Conservation for Nature.

Dr. Gritzner came to the University of Montana in 1989 as Director of the Public Policy Research Institute. He served as a Visiting Professor of Geography from 1990-1995 and joined the Geography tenure-track faculty as an Associate Professor in 1995. For 24 years he built a reputation as a dedicated teacher and researcher with encyclopedic knowledge about historical geography, exploration and discovery, agricultural geography, environmental history, and the regional geographies of Central Asia, Southwest Asia, and Africa. Dr. Gritzner served the department as Associate Chair and as Chair. He also single-handedly launched and directed the Montana Geographic Alliance for over twenty years. In addition to his departmental service and active research, he served as the Director of the Crown of the Continent Program and Chairman of the Asian Studies Program. He was instrumental in expanding and strengthening curricular objectives for Asian Studies, and more specifically, Central and Southwest Asian Studies.

Dr. Gritzner provided over two decades of continuous service in a broad range of areas on campus, in the community, and for the state. He has been very active in national and international conferences, the development of the Earth Restoration Project, and he has mentored hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students in research and professional development. He received the University Distinguished Service to International Education Award in 2004 and was formally recognized for his leadership and service to the National Geographic Alliance Network of the National Geographic Society.

The Department of Geography is honored to recommend Professor Jeffrey A. Gritzner for Emeritus status.

ATTACHMENTS

No Attachments