

November 21-22, 2008

ITEM 141-2801-R1108

**Title of Professor Emeritus of Chemistry: Robert Christeck; MSU-Northern**

**THAT:**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Robert Christeck from the faculty of Montana State University – Northern, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the University, the College of Education, Arts & Sciences, and Nursing, 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:**

Dr. Robert Christeck has taught at Montana State University – Northern since 1977 and retired upon completion of summer session 2008.

Dr. Christeck has been an integral part of the Science department since joining it as an Associate Professor in 1977. He served as the advisor to students who come to MSU-Northern for pre-pharmacy classes in order to transfer to the University of Montana. His hands-on approach to learning chemistry is legendary. For years he has demonstrated the fun of chemistry by presenting his “Chem Magic Show” for area grade school students. He often has at least two shows scheduled during the last month of school and often into the summer. During his tenure at MSU-N, Dr. Christeck has taught the inorganic and organic chemistry sequence lectures and laboratories. The last eight years he has taken on teaching physics lecture and laboratory. His depth of knowledge in chemistry and physics is truly amazing. He has worked extensively with Ft. Belknap Tribal College, especially in their water lab where he helped them develop protocols for testing of cyanide and arsenic in water and soil.

Dr. Christeck has been active in serving the campus community by serving on a variety of committees. He served for many terms on the faculty academic senate including a term as senate president.

Dr. Christeck has mentored numerous graduate and undergraduate students. It is through his efforts that MSU-N even had a general science option in the Masters of Education. Because of these efforts, Dr. Christeck was awarded the Golden “N” award in 1996, this is the highest honor bestowed by students at Northern. His willingness to collaborate with the area science teachers is well known and he was called upon often for advice on chemistry demonstrations and integrating technology and chemistry.