

**ITEM 148-2003-R0710**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Earth Science on William W. Locke III;  
Montana State University-Bozeman**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of William W. Locke III 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.

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**EXPLANATION**

William W. Locke III received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in geology from Dartmouth College in 1970. From 1970-1973, he served as a topographer in the U.S. Army. After his service, he pursued his graduate education and, in 1976, was awarded a Master of Science Degree in geology from the University of Colorado, Boulder. In 1980, he received his Ph.D. in geology from the University of Colorado, Boulder. After completing his Ph.D., Dr. Locke worked as a research scientist in Rocky Mountain National Park. He then started his teaching career at Williams College. In 1982, he moved to Bozeman to teach Geology in the Earth Sciences Department at Montana State University (MSU). He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1987 and to Professor in 1993. While at MSU, he directed 16 Master of Science students and continues to direct one Master of Science student and one Ph.D. student. Four of his Master's students went on to earn Ph.D. Degrees. Dr. Locke is well known for his groundbreaking work on lichenometry as a technique for assessing the age of landscapes throughout the world. He studied the Quaternary history of Cape Dyer on Baffin Island in the North West Territories. He and his students performed widely-cited work on the deformation of shorelines along Yellowstone Lake. His geologic work has spanned many aspects of geomorphology and Quaternary geology including obsidian hydration rind dating of outwash from Yellowstone National Park, assessment of glacial climates in southwest Montana, the use of hornblende weathering to date geologic materials, the distribution of snow in the Bridger Mountains, soil development of geomorphic surfaces on the Cedar Creek Fan near Ennis Montana, the development of terraces below Hebgen Reservoir following the 1959 earthquake, bed load transport and sediment storage from Yellowstone Park to the mouth of the Mississippi, landslide in Montana, and the development of headwater streams. He directed 34 research grants which included support from funding sources ranging from the National Science Foundation to Earth Watch. He won the Charles and Nora Wiley Award for Meritorious Research from Montana State University.

While at MSU, Dr. Locke taught over 6,000 students in a diversity of courses. He has shared his expertise with students at every level from Faculty to introductory students. He is an excellent advisor and can often be found helping visiting prospective students and orientation students during both the summer and the academic year.

Dr. Locke has also worked diligently on service ranging from journal and proposal review to professional meeting facilitation, field trips and guidebook preparation. He has also served on numerous University committees.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon William W. Locke III the rank of Professor Emeritus of Earth Science at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.