

**ITEM 150-2002-R0311**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Associate Professor Emeritus of Nursing on Sharon Hovey;  
Montana State University-Bozeman**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Sharon Hovey from Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for her service to the University, the Montana University System and the people of the State of Montana.

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**EXPLANATION**

Professor Hovey had a long and distinguished career in the College of Nursing. She began her full-time employment at MSU on the tenure track as an assistant professor in 1979 after ten previous years of part-time employment in the College. She was tenured as an Associate Professor in 1985. Ms. Hovey earned a bachelor of science in nursing (1969) and a master's in nursing (1975) with both degrees being from MSU.

As an administrator in the College, Professor Hovey was a visionary and dedicated leader. She provided supportive mentorship to other faculty especially in the areas of teaching and professional role development. She maintained active professional certification in both perinatal and advanced administrative nursing and held the expectation that all faculty members should maintain clinical competency in their academic role. Her mentorship also extended to students, as she was always seeking scholarship and support for exceptional students. She led in the establishment of community partnerships resulting in multiple contracts for nurse-managed clinical and faculty practice sites that also offered access for both undergraduate and graduate student learning and community service. During the university consolidation process in Montana in the 1990's, she was a collaborative leader in the campus relocation to MSU Great Falls and worked diligently to assure general education prerequisites courses were available locally to place bound pre-nursing students.

Ms. Hovey was a committed teacher during her years at MSU being especially focused on quality student outcomes. She was nominated by students at three different times (1983, 1991, and 1992) for the Excellence in Teaching Awards sponsored by the MSU Alumni and Bozeman Chamber of Commerce. She received the Excellence in Nursing Education Award sponsored by the Montana Nurses Association (2001). As an academic, she collaborated on multiple scholarly presentations at the national and international levels that focused on the scholarship of teaching. Her teaching expertise was further evidenced in the College by her leadership in ongoing curriculum development throughout her service.

She has been employed as a legal nurse consultant in private practice (1994-2009). Her expertise in the area of education has been recognized as she has served as an educational consultant for the Montana Nurses Association (2005-2006) and for the Montana State Board of Nursing (2006-2008). She has maintained memberships in the American Nurses Association and Sigma Theta Tau international.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Sharon Hovey the rank of Associate Professor Emeritus of Nursing at Montana State University, and wishes her well for many years in the future.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

No attachments