September 19 – 20, 2012

ITEM 156-2007-R0912
Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Mathematics upon Richard C. Swanson;
Montana State University-Bozeman

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Richard C. Swanson 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

Dr. Richard Swanson received his B.A. in Mathematics in 1970 at the University of Colorado and his Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1976 at the University of California – Santa Cruz. After a position at the University of Missouri, he joined the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Montana State University as an Associate Professor of Mathematics in September, 1982. He was promoted to Professor of Mathematics in 1988 and has been on the faculty at MSU for 30 years.

Dr. Swanson has been involved in the mathematics program at both the undergraduate and graduate levels during his career. He was a member of what is now an internationally known research group at MSU in dynamical systems. He chaired one Ph.D. committee and served on dozens of M.S. committees.

In the past several years, Dr. Swanson has played an instrumental role in the Core 2.0 curriculum, teaching on more than one occasion University Seminars for both freshman and for students more advanced in their programs. In the Department of Mathematical Sciences he was instrumental in introducing calculus reform into the curriculum at MSU and has invested much time and energy in supervising our freshman calculus sequence.

Beginning in 1993, he was a Co-PI on a five-year NSF - EPSCoR grant for the Montana Group for Nonlinear Science. In addition, his research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Institute for Nonlinear Science in France, and the Center for Mathematical Research in Spain. During his career, Dr. Swanson has published 36 papers in ergodic theory, global analysis, and dynamical systems. He has presented his research numerous times at universities and conferences in the U.S. and abroad. He was a visiting Professor at both the University of Nice and the University of Barcelona.

In summary, Richard Swanson has served Montana State University well by combining his knowledge of mathematics with his skills in research and teaching as a means to increase understanding of mathematics. He continues to be actively involved in communicating this knowledge and remains a great asset to the university and the state of Montana.

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