

January 7, 2014

**ITEM 162-1003-R0114**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Biology on Kerry Foresman, University of Montana**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Kerry Foresman 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.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Foresman was a cornerstone of the Division of Biological Sciences and Wildlife Biology faculty for nearly 30 years. His association with the University of Montana goes back even further to 1968 when he enrolled in the Wildlife Biology program. After graduating from UM with Honors in Zoology in 1971, he attended the University of Idaho in Moscow, where he received both Masters and Doctoral degrees, the latter in 1977. His doctoral dissertation was entitled "Ovarian control of implantation in the ferret (*Mustela furo*).” From 1977 to 1984, he held a postdoctoral position at the University of Tennessee, and was an Assistant Professor at the University of Rhode Island before joining UM’s Department of Zoology in 1984 as an Assistant Professor. He rose rapidly through the academic ranks to Professor, in which capacity he has served UM for over 20 years. He has mentored 20 students to graduate degrees, many of whom are now employed as faculty members or in important positions in state and federal agencies across the U.S.

Dr. Foresman’s 40 books and articles focus broadly on mammal biology, from patterns of distribution and descriptions of new species, to innovative results in developmental biology, the reintroduction of species, and disease biology. Dr. Foresman brought over 30 external grants to UM, totaling over one million dollars of funding. His courses in the study of mammals have educated an entire generation of wildlife biologists in Montana, while his course on development has been a rite of passage for thousands of biology majors. His comprehensive keys and field guides on the mammals of Montana have been standard reference works for over a decade, and a new edition "The Mammals of Montana", released in 2013, is widely acclaimed.

Dr. Foresman has given generously of his time in service to his profession and the University in many roles. He pioneered international collaborations with universities in Asia in the early 1990’s and has traveled to Bhutan four times over the past several years and worked in that country as part of his recent sabbatical, helping develop plans for a national museum and biological inventory system. Throughout his years at UM, he has been a passionate teacher and advocate for experiential learning.

The Wildlife Biology program is pleased to nominate Dr. Foresman for emeritus status.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

No Attachments