

September 17, 2015

**ITEM 168-1501-R0915**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Environmental Engineering Upon Dr. Rod James – Montana Tech of the University of Montana**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Rodney James from the faculty of Montana Tech of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedication and valued service to the institution and the Department of Environmental Engineering, and the state of Montana by recommending the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Rodney James earned his BS in Chemical Engineering in 1965, and PhD in 1973; both from the Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana.

He came to Montana Tech in 1978 as Assistant Professor and promoted to Associate Professor in 1981 and then promoted to full professor in 1987.

Dr. Rod James worked on small to very large projects in the U.S. related to Environmental issues. He worked on projects sponsored by Atlantic Richfield Company and obtained major funding to faculty and numerous graduate students for conducting research and earn their graduate degrees. His experience covered corporate and governmental projects. He worked on media specific, air, water, soils, and chemical process engineering. Rod also was instrumental in research projects related to process engineering in the metallurgical and materials engineering department at Montana Tech. He loved teaching and he has a passion for teaching students the complex engineering principles. Rod was an asset to the department in placing students for internship positions and landing graduates full time positions. He had an excellent network of alumni who always were willing to help the department in many ways.

Dr. James has assumed department head position and dean's position at the campus before he assumed responsibility to manage a major research project sponsored by ARCO on campus. He was a fearless leader and he never hesitated to make his point of view. He provided a unique mix of public service at the local, state and national levels. Rod has served on several boards, including the Montana Tech Faculty Senate.

Dr. James has an outstanding scholarly record as a professor and researcher. He was the recipient of several awards from the campus for his professional and scholarly contributions. Rod also has a patent that was assigned to Philips Petroleum Company. He served as president of professional societies and served in the executive boards.

Dr. James helped numerous students in their graduate thesis and research projects throughout his 37 years of career at Montana Tech.

Dr. James is a registered professional engineer in Montana and well-respected by professionals who worked with him on campus and off campus.

With this recommendation we thank Dr. Rod James for his 37 years of outstanding service to the Environmental Engineering Department at Montana Tech, to the campus, and to the State of Montana.

Congratulations to Rod and best wishes for the future.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None.