

March 8-9, 2018

ITEM 178-2003-R0318**Request for authorization to confer the title of Professor Emeritus of Nursing upon Dr. Donna Williams, Montana State University**

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Donna Williams from the College of Nursing at Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for her service to the University, the Montana University System, and the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Donna Williams was a first-generation college student and received her Ph.D. in Physiology from the University of Arizona in 1991 and was tenured with Montana State University in 2011. Dr. Williams served as the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education in the College of Nursing from 2007- 2017.

Dr. Williams has an extensive publication record in prestigious journals in her field as well as an exceptional record of individual research and support of student research. Dr. Williams worked to support over 100 DNP graduates serving Montana and beyond. She worked to build broader and stronger research portfolios within the College of Nursing in an effort to support larger grant submissions.

As a capillary physiologist her research supported a number of key hypotheses regarding control of capillary function and the mechanism that triggers blood vessels to leak when fluid forces change which could provide insight into the prevention of cardiovascular disease.

Dr. Williams has won many distinguished awards including the Zeta Upsilon Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society Friend of Nursing Award; Excellence in Research Award; and Verna Rhodes International Travel Award. In addition she has served as Principle Investigator or Co-Principle Investigator on a number awards from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Williams has been the invited speaker at the President-Elect Symposium, Microbiology Society as well as the Keynote Address, Graduate Research Exhibition, The Pennsylvania State University.

In addition to contributions within her college, Dr. Williams served on the National American Heart Association Student Section and Editorial Board. On a university level, Dr. Williams served on MSU Statistical Consultant Advisory Council; Interdisciplinary Research Committees; Health Sciences Advisory Instructional Review Board as well as numerous College and University level Search Committees.

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

ATTACHMENTS

None