

March 7-8, 2019

**ITEM 182-2702-R0319****Request for authorization to confer the title of Dean Emerita of Education upon Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Montana State University Billings**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Mary Susan E. Fishbaugh from Montana State University Billings, 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**

Dr. Mary Susan E. Fishbaugh began her education career at the elementary and secondary school level in Indiana and Texas as both a teacher and an administrator.

She started the second half of her career in 1990 at MSU Billings when it was Eastern Montana College. In 1990 Dr. Fishbaugh was the Coordinator of Project Rural—a federally funded grant project focused on preparation of teachers for rural Montana. During her leadership from 1992 – 2018 she held positions as Assistant Professor, Department of Special Education and Reading; Director of Professional Practices, COE Field Experience and Accreditation Office; Chair of the Department of Special Education, Counseling, Reading, and Early Childhood; Full Professor; 2005 Interim Dean, COE; Dean, COE; Director, Office of Graduate Studies; Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Since 1997, Dr. Fishbaugh has played crucial roles in CAEP (previously NCATE), Montana Board of Public Education, and NWCCU accreditation efforts as part of the program/institution being reviewed and as off-site and on-site reviewer. Her roles from 1997 to present include: NCATE Coordinator and author of the institutional self-study; Chair of the COC Diversity Committee; Co-coordinator of the NWCCU institutional self-study; Dean, working with the full participation of COE faculty for the NCATE/Board of Public Education review of educator preparation and individual programs; Coordinator of the state Board of Publication Program Reviews; On-site reviewer for nine of the 10 Educator Preparation Programs in Montana.

Dr. Fishbaugh has served her professional community at the local, state, and national levels. Using her skills on the Billings Catholic Schools (BCS) Board; Montana Council of Deans of Education (MCDE), serving several terms as co-chair; American Council of Rural Special Education, serving on the organization board, several terms as board chair and historian; Teacher Education Council of State Colleges and Universities (TECSCU—affiliated with ASCU and AACTE) serving several terms on the organizational board.

For these, and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer the upon Dr. Mary Susan E. Fishbaugh the rank of Dean Emerita of Education at Montana State University and wisher her well for many years in the future.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None