

May 22-23, 2019

ITEM 183-1501-R0519

Request for authorization to confer the title of Professor Emeritus of Geological Engineering on Diane Wolfgram - Montana Technological University

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Diane Wolfgram from the faculty of Montana Technological University, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for her 27 years of dedicated and valued service to the university, the Department of Geological Engineering, and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Diane Wolfgram earned her B.S. degree in Geological Engineering, with Honors, from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in 1962 and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Geology from the University of California, Berkeley in 1974 and 1977, respectively. Her doctoral dissertation "Wall Rock Alteration and the Localization of Gold in the Homestake Mine, Lead, South Dakota" is credited with adding twenty years to the life of the Homestake Mine, the largest private employer in the State of South Dakota at that time.

Diane was employed as a petroleum engineer by Shell Oil Company from June 1962 to June 1963, when she entered on active duty as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. She was promoted to 1st Lieutenant a year later and to the rank of Captain in July 1966. Diane served two non-consecutive tours of duty in the Republic of Vietnam and was awarded two Bronze Star Medals for Meritorious Service and the Air Medal and Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious Achievement in that combat theater. After resigning her commission in December 1969, she was employed by engineering consulting firms in the San Francisco Bay Area before embarking on graduate studies at Berkeley in January 1971.

Diane joined Anaconda Copper Mining Company's Butte Operations as a mine geologist in 1978, where she was involved in the Deep Butte exploration drilling program. She was transferred to the Stillwater Platinum Group Metal underground exploration project in 1980, and a year later was placed in-charge of all geologic aspects of it. When responsibility for the project was transferred to Anaconda's mine development group, Diane was reassigned to Anaconda's Corporate Office in Denver, where she and a group of former Stillwater exploration geologists conceived and organized a unique and successful Precious Metals Exploration Task Force. In late 1985, Diane left the Anaconda Company (which was dissolved by ARCO 6 months later) to form her own consulting firm in partnership with another former Stillwater exploration project geologist. In the ensuing seven years, Diane and her partner worked, for the most part, under contract to Stillwater Mining Company, but also conducted gold exploration in northern Nevada.

Diane joined the faculty of Montana Tech as an Assistant Professor of Geological Engineering in January 1992 and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 1994. In 1996, she was appointed to the position of Head of the Department of Geological Engineering and promoted to full Professor with tenure in 1999. Her teaching duties included courses focused on the formation and identification of minerals and rocks, the characterization and formation of geologic structures, the practice of mining geology, geologic field mapping and the geological engineering senior design course. Diane was appointed to the position of

Head of the Department of Mining Engineering, currently with Geological Engineering, in 2006 and remained in both until 2009.

Diane served on Montana Tech's Faculty Senate from 1992-1994 and chaired it from 1994-1996. While on the Senate she co-authored the founding documents for the Collegiate/Tenure and Promotion Evaluation Committee, which she subsequently served on and chaired (2010-2012). While on the Research Advisory Council (1992-1994) Diane perceived the need for and co-authored the documents that led to the establishment of competitive Research Seed Grants for newly hired faculty. She chaired the NWASC Accreditation Self-Study Steering Committee from 1998-2000 and served on Montana Tech's Strategic Planning Council from 1998-2011 and on the Graduate Council from 1996-2009. Diane also served on Montana Tech's Honorary Doctorate Degree Committee from 2008-2010 and chaired it from 2010-2011.

Diane served as an Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET Program Evaluator from 1996-2011 and was the principal author of the revised criteria for geological engineering programs accredited under ABET 2000 criteria. She subsequently chaired the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration's Ad Hoc Committee on ABET Criteria for Geological Engineering Programs (2002-2004), which resulted in only one minor change. She served on and chaired the Society of Economic Geologists (SEG) Student Affairs Committee; paving the way for reduced dues for Student Members that led to significant increases in their membership in this global professional organization. She also served on (2001) and chaired (2002) SME's Committee on Committees, whose members are selected annually by the society's President-Elect to formulate the membership of a number of standing committees; including the Distinguished Lecturer Committee, the Lindgren Award Committee, and the Thayer Lindsley Visiting Lecturer Committee. Diane organized and Co-Chaired the McLaughlin Symposium of Mining Geology which took place during the Geological Society of America's Cordilleran Section Centennial Meeting at the University of California, Berkeley in 1999, which was followed by a reception for the presenters at the Faculty Club courtesy of the Phoebe A. Hearst Endowment for Mining Geology.

Diane is the co-author of two publications and six abstracts, all related to platinum group mineralization in the J-M Reef of the Stillwater Complex, and one Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology open-file map of the Elkhorn Mountains volcanics north of the Golden Sunlight mine. She is also the author of 15 unpublished documents and the co-author of 5 more in the Anaconda Geological Document Collection that is available to the public at the Western History Center of the University of Wyoming in Laramie. These documents are in the range of 10-50 pages, but two are greater than 50 pages, and one is a large geologic map. Other documents remain in the private sector because they pertain to mining properties that Anaconda sold to other interests.

Diane is licensed as a Professional Geologist in California and as a Professional Engineer (Mining and Mineral Processing) in Montana. She is a Fellow of the Society of Economic Geologists, a Senior Member of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, a Senior Member of the Geological Society of America, and the Founding Governor of Link 178 of the Order of the Engineer at Montana Tech.

Based on her accomplishments in teaching, research and service, the Geological Engineering Department of Montana Tech is pleased to nominate Professor Diane Wolfgram as Professor Emeritus of Geological Engineering at Montana Tech together with all the rights, privileges, and honors thereto appertaining.

ATTACHMENTS

No Attachments