

March 5-6, 2020

**ITEM 187-2701-R0320**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Information Systems upon Dr. Abbas Heiat, Montana State University Billings**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Abbas Heiat from the College of Business at Montana State University Billings, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Abbas Heiat received his BA in Business Administration from Tehran Business College in 1971, MBA with Honors from Oklahoma City University in 1975, and his Ph.D. in Systems Science from Portland State University in 1987. Dr. Heiat was appointed Assistant Professor of Information Systems at Montana State University Billings in 1987, Associate Professor in 1991 and Professor in 1994. He served at the College of Business, Montana State University Billings for 32 years.

Dr. Abbas Heiat developed and taught graduate level courses in Intelligent and Decision Support Systems, Modeling and Simulation, and Business Research Methods. He is one of the pioneers of online education in Management Information Systems at Montana State University Billings. Dr. Heiat co-developed and taught online courses in Management Information Systems, Operations Management, Business Intelligence and Data Mining, Supply Management, Advanced Data Base Programming, Web Design, Services and Relationship Marketing, Marketing Research. Dr. Abbas Heiat has published over fifty refereed articles and received numerous training and software development grants. He has also published course material on BASIC, DOS, LOTUS and WINDOWS. In addition, he has served on numerous college and university committees. Dr. Heiat was awarded 'Meritorious' each time he was evaluated by the Department and University Rank and Tenure Committees. Dr. Heiat has served as a consultant for Billings Clinic and as the Director of Information Technology for the Western Decision Sciences Institute since 2006. Dr. Heiat has also served as the Science and Technology Adviser at the United Nations Head Office in New York.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer on Dr. Abbas Heiat the rank of Professor Emeritus of Information Systems at Montana State University Billings and wishes him well for many years in the future.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None