

January 5, 2021

ITEM 192-1502-R0121

Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Geological Engineering and Bureau of Mines and Geology on Larry Smith- Montana Technological University

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Larry N. Smith from the faculty of Montana Technological University, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the institution, the Department of Geological Engineering, The Bureau of Mines and Geology, 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.

EXPLANATION

Professor Larry N. Smith received his BS degree in Earth Science-Geology from University of California, Santa Cruz in 1977, his MS from University of New Mexico in 1983, and his PhD from University of New Mexico in 1988. After graduate school, Dr. Smith spent five years with Shell Exploration and Production in Houston, Texas. In 1993 Dr. Smith came to Montana Tech as an Assistant Research Geologist in the newly established Groundwater Assessment Program at the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology. In January 2009 he was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Geological Engineering Department. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2012, awarded tenure in 2014, and promoted to Professor in 2018. He served as department head from 2016 to 2020.

At Montana Tech, Dr. Smith taught sedimentology, petroleum geology, and field geology. He was hired during the most recent expansion of the Petroleum Engineering undergraduate program and taught large classes of geological, petroleum, and geophysical engineering students. During this time, in 2011 and 2014, he received two Rose and Anna Busch Faculty Achievement awards for teaching. He established and taught the first geographical information systems (GIS) class at the north campus and saw to it that an additional lower division course was established. Lower and upper division geology courses were typically well received by students.

Dr. Smith's research at Montana Tech has focused on hydrogeology and Quaternary geology of Montana. Dr. Smith has published 18 peer-reviewed journal papers or book chapters as well as numerous papers and maps through the MBMG in refereed proceedings volumes. The two most recent of his publications are 50-plus printed-page review papers on Montana's Quaternary and the state of knowledge of the Missoula and Bonneville floods in shaping the Channeled Scabland.

Dr. Smith's tenure at Montana Tech can be characterized as outstanding with significant service to the University and to the State for which he is to be commended. For these and numerous other contributions, the Department of Geological Engineering and the MBMG are pleased to nominate Dr. Larry N. Smith for the rank of Professor Emeritus of Geological Engineering and Bureau of Mines and Geology at Montana Technological University.

ATTACHMENTS

No Attachments