

March 10-11, 2022

**ITEM 199-2004-R0322**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Regents Professor Emeritus of Ecology upon Dr. John Priscu; Montana State University**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Regents Professor John Priscu from the faculty of Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of Montana.

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**EXPLANATION**

Regents Professor John Priscu has served the Department of Land Resources & Environmental Sciences, the College of Agriculture, MSU and the State of Montana with innovation and distinction. During his 38 years at MSU, Dr. Priscu has made significant and lasting contributions in teaching, research, outreach and service.

Dr. Priscu has had a highly productive career, including high-quality instruction ranging from freshman to graduate levels and service at local to international levels. His research into the biogeochemistry and microbiology of icy environments has led to 250 peer-reviewed, highly-cited journal articles, and his presentation of more than 300 scientific talks with students and postdocs, as well as 100 invited seminars around the globe, accentuate the significant impacts made as an influential scientist. Dr. Priscu has had a consistent record of acquiring grant support from national and international agencies totaling almost \$60 million in funding during his years at MSU. International collaborations to study the geobiology of ice in Greenland, Antarctica, the northern coast of Alaska, and the icy worlds in the outer solar system, allowed exceptional hands-on experiences for his graduate students.

Dr. Priscu has been involved with many informal education projects that have also brought acclaim to MSU, such as development of workshops and films, and appearances on and in public media of the highest caliber. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science as well as the Society for Advancing Earth and Space Science. Professor Priscu's awards include the Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research by the Scientific Committee on Antarctica Research, E.O. Wilson's Biodiversity and Technology Pioneer Award, and MSU's own Charles & Nora Wiley Award for Meritorious Research.

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

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None.