

November 21-22, 2024

**ITEM 215-1013-R1124**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Integrative Physiology and Athletic Training on Clarence “Gene” Burns; University of Montana**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Clarence “Gene” Burns from the faculty of The University of Montana, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his 33 years of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Clarence “Gene” Burns was a member of the Health and Human Performance Department at The University of Montana for 33 years. Burns joined the department as a tenure-track, Assistant Professor in the fall of 1987. He is a former Department Chairman and a recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Advisor and Most Inspirational Teacher awards. He was also recognized by the Harvard Graduate School of Education for educating others and inspiring them in the pursuit of their goals. During his UM tenure, Dr. Burns specialized in the history of physical education, ethics of health and human performance, the mind/body relationship, and higher education issues. He was a longtime member of UM’s Graduate Council and Faculty Senate. In addition to serving as President of the Northern Rocky Mountain Educational Research Association, Dr. Burns was Editor of the Montana Journal for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance and Chairman of UM’s Center for Teaching Excellence.

While Dr. Burns retired in 2019, his scholarly efforts continued with the most recent completion of a published book titled “The University of Montana: A History Through the Lens of Physical Culture, PE, Health, Athletics, and Recreation 1897-2019: The Evolution of a Department.” This impressive, comprehensive collection of the department’s history is a treasure to past, present, and future faculty, staff, and students.

During Dr. Burn’s tenure at the University of Montana, Dr. Burns has consistently demonstrated exemplary leadership, scholarly excellence, and dedication to the Department. He has been a mentor and role model to many, guiding both colleagues and students with generosity and insight. Dr. Burns has been a driving force behind the evolution of our curriculum and programming, always striving to foster a culture of excellence and collaboration.

The School of Integrative Physiology & Athletic Training is pleased to nominate Professor Burns for emeritus status.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None