

March 13, 2025

ITEM 217-2002-R0325

Request for Authorization to Award an Honorary Doctorate to Morton H. Meyerson; Montana State University

THAT

In recognition of many career achievements and the distinction brought to the Montana University System, the Board of Regents grants Montana State University the authority to confer an Honorary Doctor of Business to Morton H. Meyerson.

EXPLANATION

Morton H. Meyerson received a BA ('61) in economics and philosophy from UT Austin and in 2005, was a recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. After college, Morton became an officer in the Army serving two years of active duty and six years in the active reserves, where he focused on computers.

Mr. Meyerson is a respected entrepreneur, business leader, philanthropist, humanist and proud American. In addition to his remarkable success in business he has influenced modern American history with his role in the H. Ross Perot presidential campaign. He is an avid supporter of the arts, most notably with the Dallas Symphony Center being named in his honor. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences as a fellow in 2007. He is a tireless advocate for the land grant mission-investing in scholarships to advance a better future for youth, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Mr. Meyerson chairs the Morton H. Meyerson Family Tzedakah Funds. Morton and his family firmly believe in the Jewish philosophy of "Tzedakah" and they pursue projects through the David Nathan Meyerson Foundation and the Marlene Nathan Meyerson Family Foundation. These foundations primarily support small non-profit organizations with low administrative expenses and "change agent" leaders who are passionate, competent, and kind.

Morton H. Meyerson is both a highly successful and distinguished business leader and a dedicated philanthropist. His notable business career includes, amongst other leadership roles, serving as President of Electronic Data Systems (EDS), a groundbreaking and innovative systems consulting enterprise that was later acquired by General Motors. At GM, Mort subsequently held the position of Chief Technology Officer. In addition, Mort served as CEO of duPont Glore Forgan, a prominent Wall Street brokerage firm. His contributions to the business world were recognized with his induction into the Texas Business Hall of Fame in 2021.

During his years living in our beloved Treasure State, he provided the impetus, networks, investment, and mentorship in support of the MSU Hilleman Scholars program. Not only did he provide the first scholarship funds for the program - he actively gave his time, selflessly mentoring students and staff to achieve the program ideals. Mr. Meyerson provided hundreds of hours of consultation, mentoring, support, and championing of the program without regard for notice or acclaim. While his scholarship funds were an important catalyst, it was his mentorship and belief in the program that generated many of the results that are visible today.

For these and other extraordinary contributions, the Board of Regents is pleased to confer an Honorary Doctor of Business at Montana State University upon Morton H. Meyerson and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Letter of Nomination from President Cruzado