

March 13, 2025

ITEM 217-2702-R0325

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Psychology upon Dr. Michael Havens; Montana State University Billings

THAT

Upon the retirement of Dr. Michael Havens from the faculty of Montana State University Billings, the faculty of the Department of Psychology extends its appreciation for his years of dedication and meritorious service to the University, city of Billings, and state of Montana. In recognition of his selfless service, we recommend that the rank of Professor Emeritus of Psychology be conferred on Dr. Michael Havens by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Havens earned his Ph.D. in 1985 from the University of Wyoming. Between 1985 and 1987 he was a National Institutes of Health (NIH) postdoctoral fellow at Rutgers University. Dr. Havens served as a visiting assistant professor at the University of Wyoming from 1987 to 1996, teaching and researching under a NIH RO1 Grant that he maintained for nine years. Dr. Havens began teaching at MSU Billings in 1996, was awarded tenure in 1999, and promoted to the rank of Full Professor of Psychology in 2006. He served as department chair from 1997 to 2016.

Dr. Havens' research focuses on the neurochemical and hormonal influences on behavior. He has been published more than 30 times in peer-reviewed journals. He has received several grants while at MSU Billings and he has served as advisor for many master's theses in the Department of Psychology and other departments. Dr. Havens has developed and taught multiple courses for his department and received high evaluation scores from students for his teaching. He has also helped many students publish their research and attend professional conferences.

While serving as department chair, Dr. Havens led the development of the graduate program which allowed students to pursue master's degrees in psychology for the first time at MSU Billings. Currently, there are many of his former graduate students working in clinics and other settings in Billings and throughout Montana.

In addition to his 19 years of service as department chair, Dr. Havens has served as chair of the General Education Committee, co-chair of the Institutional Review Board, and several times on the University Graduate Committee. He has also served on two committees for the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. Dr. Havens has consulted many times on research projects with area clinics and hospitals. He was honored by receiving the Winston and Helen Cox Fellowship Award in 1999.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer upon Dr. Michael Havens the rank of Professor Emeritus of Psychology, Montana State University Billings and wishes him well for many years into the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None