

January 14, 2026

**ITEM 222-1503-R0126**

**Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Environmental Engineering on Kumar Ganesan; Montana Technological University**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Kumar Ganesan 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 Environmental Engineering, and the state of Montana by requesting the rank of Professor Emeritus in the Department of Environmental Engineering be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of Higher Education.

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**EXPLANATION**

Professor Ganesan began his career at Montana Tech in 1983 as an Assistant Professor of Environmental Engineering and became a full Professor in 1992. In 1996, he was appointed Department Head, a position he held for 29 years. He holds a BS in Civil Engineering and an MSc in Public Health Engineering from India. Prior to joining Montana Tech, he worked as a Scientist at NEERI, a leading Environmental Engineering Research Institute in India, for six years. He earned his doctoral degree in 1981 from Washington State University (WSU), Pullman, Washington, and subsequently worked for a research consulting company before moving to Montana Tech.

During his tenure at Montana Tech, Dr. Ganesan received numerous accolades, including multiple faculty achievement awards, the distinguished researcher award, the lifetime distinguished researcher award, and Montana Tech's Mentor of the Decade award for his exceptional mentorship of graduate students. He is a long-standing member of the Air and Waste Management Association (AWMA), an international professional organization, where he served as president of the Regional Organization (AWMA-PNWIS) and received the Robert Stockman Distinguished Award for his contributions to Air Pollution Engineering. He is currently a Board of Director of AWMA and holds the title of "Fellow" within the organization. In 2011, AWMA honored him with the Lyman Ripperton Environmental Educator Award for inspiring students to excel professionally and socially while teaching with enthusiasm, humor, humility, and pride.

Dr. Ganesan has also received faculty fellowships from US AID, US DOE, and AAAS/US EPA. In 1999, he founded the Center for Environmental Remediation and Assessment (CERA) and served as Director of the Montana US EPA-EPSCoR program. He initiated an NSF-EPSCoR-funded Biomedical Engineering initiative, collaborating with cardiac surgeons from the International Heart Institute (IHI) in Missoula, Montana, which led to five graduate students completing research on heart valves. Additionally, he served as an ABET Accreditation program evaluator for over a decade. He served as the Director of the MPEM online degree program at Montana Tech from its inception in 1998 until 2022.

Dr. Ganesan has an extensive portfolio of technical publications, conference presentations, technical reports, and has authored and co-authored five books.

Dr. Ganesan'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 Environmental Engineering is honored to nominate Dr. Kumar Ganesan for the rank of Professor Emeritus of Environmental Engineering at Montana Technological University.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None