

Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences: Richard J. Douglass; Montana Tech of the University of Montana

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Richard J. Douglass from Montana Tech of the University of Montana, the faculty of the Department of Biological Sciences wish to thank him for his years of dedicated and valued service to the Department, The University, and the State of Montana and the field of Biology by recommending that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by The Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Professor Douglass received his B.S. and M.S. from The University of Utah in 1968 and 1970 respectively and his Ph.D. from Montana State University in 1973. He came to Montana Tech in 1983 as an adjunct assistant professor and became professor in 1993. Over his 29 years at Montana Tech he has made important contributions across its teaching, research and service missions.

Teaching has been an important part of his contribution. He has taught many courses during his tenure, including many in the years when there were very few Professors in the department. He will be fondly remembered by students for his Earth Day lectures, his advocacy of ecology-friendly life style, and for the special courses that featured rugged field trips to his favorite places. His teaching has been honored repeatedly. He was awarded the Coeur d'Alene Professor of the year in 1996, the Rose and Anna Busch Faculty Achievement Award for teaching in 1999, and also in 1999, he was the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and Council for Advancement and Support of Education Professor of the Year.

Dr. Douglass has excelled at research. He was the Acting Research Director of Montana Tech in 1986. His important, long-standing, extensive and international work with Hantavirus has earned him praise and brought notice to Montana Tech. His receipt of grants for the Hantavirus project exceeds \$3.7 million and has supported many undergraduates, graduates, and faculty. He has been honored for his research with the 1993 Merhson Award for Science from the Montana Academy of Science, a Lifetime Research Award from Montana Tech in 2003, and a Distinguished Researcher Award from Montana Tech in 2010.

Dr. Douglass will be well remembered as an early and effective supporter of the establishment of the Professional Registered Nursing Program at Montana Tech. He has also been active in promoting reclamation and native plant restoration in Montana.

Dr. Douglass served as Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences from 2000 to 2010. Before, during and since his tenure as Chair, Dr. Douglass has worked tirelessly to build the Department of Biological Sciences, and to expand the breadth and quality of course offerings, the quality of the facilities, and the number and diversity of the faculty. During his tenure the Department has grown from only teaching a few service courses for other departments to teaching a full offering in support of students pursuing professional health care, teaching, graduate study in cell and molecular biology and field biology.

For these and other contributions, the Faculty of the Montana Tech Department of Biological Sciences are proud to submit the name of Richard J. Douglass for consideration as Professor Emeritus.