

# Montana Professional Engineers Hall of Fame

## **Lloyd Berg, Ph.D., P.E.**

Montana Professional License Number 892PE

- \* United States Army, 1936-1942; Worked for Gulf Research on tank fuel for World War II.
- \* Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania – B.S. Chemical Engineering, 1936  
Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana - Ph.D. Chemical Engineering, 1942
- \* Taught chemical engineering courses at University of Pittsburgh and University of Kansas.
- \* Hired by Montana State College (now Montana State University) in 1946, thus beginning a 54-year association with MSU. No other MSU instructor has ever served as long. He established the Chemical Engineering Department and served as Department Chairman until 1979.
- \* Worked as consultant for Conoco, Husky Oil (now Exxon), Phillips Petroleum, Champion International, Celanese Chemical Co., and the U.S. Department of Energy. He authored numerous articles in professional journals.
- \* Advocate for students. He supported women entering chemical engineering. During the 1970s the department set national records for numbers of women receiving chemical engineering degrees. He recruited scholarships for every freshman student. He encouraged donations of test and measurement equipment for chemical engineering lab classes. DOW Chemical and Union Carbide were among the major donors.
- \* During the 1980s and 1990s, he concentrated his research efforts in extractive and azeotropic distillation, a field in which he held more than 250 patents. Beginning in the 1970s, he teamed with MSU professors and students to research clean coal and the development of Magneto-Hydrodynamic (MHD) Energy Conversion. In the 1950s he developed a process for desulfurizing diesel fuel. The process was first demonstrated at Husky (now Exxon) Oil refinery in Billings.
- \* Mentor and supervisor for numerous graduate students and graduate research projects. One such student was Allan McDonald, the lead engineer at Morton-Thiokol in Ogden, Utah. Mr. McDonald was the highest ranking engineer to object to the launch of the ill-fated Shuttle Challenger in January 1986.
- \* He always expressed great appreciation for his luck at having a great job in a great community. He was an avid hiker and skier. He was instrumental in starting Little League and Babe Ruth youth baseball programs in Bozeman.

Inducted November 2, 2016

Presented by the Montana Society of Engineers  
A state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers

