August 23, 2010

To the Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences:

It gives me great pleasure to announce that one of your colleagues has received the highest honor the university can bestow upon a member of the faculty, the title of Distinguished University Professor. After an extensive nomination and selection process that involved evaluation at both the college and university level, Cynthia M. Beall has emerged as one of the individuals we will recognize this week at Convocation.

Distinguished University Professors are individuals who have made exceptional contributions in the areas of teaching, research and service. Professor Beall has an extraordinary ability to explain complex subjects in terms that are not only accessible but also compelling. Her enthusiasm for her subject is as palpable as it is contagious; her work has spanned both academic journals and popular press such as National Geographic.

Professor Beall’s research regarding human adaptations to high altitude is nothing short of groundbreaking, and has influenced legions of other scholars in a broad range of fields. She is a member of the National Academy of Science, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the 2009 recipient of the Franz Boas Distinguished Achievement Award from the Human Biology Association.

As impressive as Professor Beall’s teaching and research has been, she also has found time to provide remarkable service to the university. Most recently she has served on the Faculty Senate and its executive committee, and was an active participant in the campus’ 2008-2009 observance of the Year of Darwin. In this work as in all other endeavors, Professor Beall has brought impressive energy, a keen, inquisitive mind, and a sincere interest in finding the approach best suited to advancing the university.

We are honored to count among our faculty an individual of such worldwide stature and campus engagement, and delighted to have this opportunity to demonstrate the university’s regard. Please join me in congratulating Professor Beall.

Sincerely,

Barbara R. Snyder
President

BRS/jcv