

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

Adopted by the Regents

January 22, 2009

**Subject: Report of Faculty Death**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement**

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of **Frank E. Filisko**, professor of materials and metallurgical engineering and professor of macromolecular science and engineering, who died on November 11, 2008 at the age of 66.

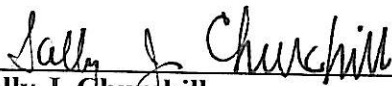
Professor Filisko received his B.A. degree from Colgate University in 1964, his M.S. degree from Purdue University in 1966, and his Ph.D. degree from Case Western Reserve University in 1969. He joined the University of Michigan School of Engineering faculty in what is now the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering as an assistant professor in 1970, and was promoted to associate professor in 1976 and professor in 1983. He was also active in the Macromolecular Science and Engineering Program (MSE) since its founding in 1978, and served as its acting director from 1987-93.

Professor Filisko loved teaching and loved research and taught a broad range of courses. He excelled at teaching the introductory MSE and he also taught courses on polymers and kinetics, a senior design course, and a junior-level lab. His courses in applied polymer processing and biomaterials were very popular with students in both the materials science and engineering and biomedical engineering departments. Professor Filisko also had a long and productive association with the Department of Biologic and Materials Science in the School of Dentistry.

In his research, Professor Filisko believed that as a mentor he would be most successful when he worked alongside his students, experiencing their successes and setbacks. His research focused on thermodynamic measurements on polymers early in his career, and then turned to electrorheological fluids (fluids that change their flow properties, especially viscosity, in the presence of electric fields), an area for which he received international acclaim.

Professor Filisko will be greatly missed by faculty, students, and staff in the College of Engineering. As we mourn the loss of this valued faculty member, the Regents express their condolences to his wife, Doris, his children, friends, and colleagues.

**Requested by:**



Sally J. Churchill

Vice President and Secretary of the University

January 2009