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 Gerard M. Faeth, the Arthur B. Modine Distinguished University Professor of Aerospace Engineering, professor of aerospace engineering, and professor of mechanical engineering. Professor Faeth died at the age of 68 on January 24, 2005.

Professor Faeth earned his B.M.E. degree from Union College in Schenectady, New York, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from The Pennsylvania State University. In recognition of his distinguished career at The Pennsylvania State University, he was named professor emeritus of mechanical engineering in 1985. Professor Faeth was internationally recognized for his diverse and lasting contributions to aerospace and mechanical engineering. His career, characterized by its excellence and originality, focused on the study of homogeneous and heterogeneous combustion processes, pollutant emissions from flames, the properties of soot in flames, fire suppression, spray breakup phenomena, and turbulent forced and natural convection processes. His research was significant to both researchers and practicing engineers and crossed several disciplines including physics, chemistry, and aerospace and mechanical engineering. His ability to bridge disciplines was illustrated by his election to the rank of Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Physical Society. He was also a member and national associate for the National Academy of Engineering, served on the board of directors for the Combustion Institute, and was a principal investigator for projects supported by the Office of Naval Research, the National Science Foundation, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the Army Research Office, NASA, the U.S. Department of Commerce National Agency, and other governmental and private entities. His work included several combustion experiments at microgravity conditions aboard NASA space shuttle missions and space station facilities. Professor Faeth supervised more than 50 graduate students, including 32 post doctoral graduates; gave invited lectures worldwide; served as editor of numerous professional journals; and authored and co-authored over 500 journal articles and papers.

Professor Faeth, known as Jerry to his many friends and colleagues, also contributed much to the communities in which he maintained homes--Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Eagles Mere, Pennsylvania--through years of public service. As we mourn the loss of this distinguished scientist and teacher, we also extend our condolences to his wife and companion of 45 years, Mary Ann Kordich Faeth; daughter Christine Faeth and grandson Jonathon Joseph Faeth; daughter Lorraine Faeth and grandsons Matthew Lewis and Erik Samuel Clouser; daughter Elinor Dano, son-in-law Antonio Dano and grandchildren Kristin Marie, Leah Faeth and Antonio Donald Dano; and brother Henry J. Faeth and sister-in-law M. Carole Kordich.

Requested by:

Marvin Krislov
acting as Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2005