THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested:

Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Robert Zand, Ph.D., professor of biological chemistry in the Medical School, professor of macromolecular science and engineering in the College of Engineering, and research scientist and adjunct professor of biophysics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2012.

Professor Zand received his B.S. degree from the University of Missouri in 1951, his M.S. degree from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1953, and his Ph.D. degree from Brandeis University in 1961. From 1961-63, he completed post-doctoral training at Brandeis University and Harvard University. He joined the University of Michigan as an associate research biophysicist (now associate research scientist) in 1963 and was promoted to research scientist in 1986. He was appointed assistant professor of biological chemistry in 1968, and was promoted to associate professor in 1973, and professor in 1986. He received the additional appointments of professor of macromolecular science and engineering in 1992 and adjunct professor of biophysics in 2008.

Professor Zand's research focused on the investigation of a brain protein that was soluble in organic solvents. This research evolved into the study of a myelin basic protein, a brain protein, and its role in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis and the etiology of multiple sclerosis. In collaboration with Dr. Robert Levy, Professor Zand also studied the unnatural cyclic and bicyclic amino acids, the synthesis of semi-conducting synthetic polymers, and the stabilization of porcine heat valves. He authored and co-authored numerous research publications and book chapters, and presented at countless international meetings. Professor Zand taught biochemistry courses, served on thesis and departmental committees in biological chemistry, biochemistry, and macromolecular science and engineering, and held several elected positions in the scientific research society Sigma Xi.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and researcher for his dedicated service by naming Robert Zand, professor emeritus of biological chemistry, professor emeritus of macromolecular science and engineering, and research scientist emeritus.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2013