

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Adopted by the
Regents
February 20, 2014

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Jessica Schwartz, Ph.D., professor of molecular and integrative physiology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2013.

Professor Schwartz received her B.A. degree from Vassar College in 1967 and her Ph.D. degree from Harvard University in 1974. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1979, and was promoted to associate professor in 1987, and professor in 1994.

Professor Schwartz is a highly regarded investigator of hormonal regulation of growth and metabolism. She studied the mechanisms of action of pituitary Growth Hormone (GH), a major regulator of normal statural growth and inducer of insulin resistance and diabetes. Her contributions span the molecular and cellular aspects of GH signaling and transcriptional regulation; computational and in vivo studies in animal models that dissect mechanisms for insulin resistance; and human endocrine, metabolic, and genetic studies of a short stature population in Papua New Guinea. Professor Schwartz's work identifying STAT family proteins as GH signaling molecules led to the landmark demonstration of the JAK-STAT signaling pathway between the GH receptor and the nucleus, and related GH signaling to that of cytokines mediating immune regulation. A gifted teacher and dedicated mentor, Professor Schwartz guided graduate student training and oversaw training grants programs that fostered a vibrant research community of faculty mentors and trainees. She served on the Physiology Graduate Committee, the Pharmacological Sciences Training Program, and as director of the Cellular and Molecular Biology Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Professor Schwartz received the University's Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Award in 2008.

The Regents now salute this distinguished researcher and educator by naming **Jessica Schwartz professor emerita of molecular and integrative physiology**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2014