THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Martin B. Zimmerman, Ph.D., Ford Motor Company Clinical Professor of Business Administration and clinical professor of business administration in the Stephen M. Ross School of Business, retired from active faculty status on December 30, 2016.

Professor Zimmerman received his A.B. degree from Dartmouth College in 1967 and his Ph.D. degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1975. He served on the faculties of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Michigan prior to joining the Ford Motor Company in 1987. He held a number of key positions at the Ford Motor Company, including chief economist; executive director, governmental relations and corporate economics; vice president, governmental affairs; and group vice president, corporate affairs. Professor Zimmerman also served as a senior staff economist for energy, environment and transportation on the President’s Council of Economic Advisors at the White House and as a member of the Panel of Economic Advisers to the Congressional Budget Office. He returned to the University of Michigan faculty full time as a clinical professor of business administration in 2005.

Professor Zimmerman’s remarkable career has spanned notable positions in academia, business, and government. His research explored a number of topics, including energy policy, government regulation of business, and economic developments in the automotive industry. A gifted teacher and dedicated mentor, Professor Zimmerman leveraged his unique insights to create dynamic learning environments characterized by an ideal mix of theory and practice. His courses examined macroeconomics and public policy issues with a special emphasis on understanding the contemporary global economy, the interaction between government policy and business, and the development of integrated corporate strategies. Professor Zimmerman also played an instrumental role in the MBA Multidisciplinary Action Projects course that afforded student teams the opportunity to address pressing business challenges for major corporations, startups, and nonprofits across the globe. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the National Bureau of Economic Research since 1999 and has served as chairman since 2014.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Martin B. Zimmerman, Ford Motor Company Clinical Professor Emeritus of Business Administration and clinical professor emeritus of business administration.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2017