

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**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 **Narasimhamurthi Natarajan, Ph.D.**, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn. Professor Natarajan died on January 30, 2016.

Professor Natarajan received his B.Tech. (1974) degree from the Indian Institute of Technology and his M.S. (1978) and Ph.D. (1979) degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. He served on the faculties of Washington University in St. Louis (1979-81) and the University of Michigan (1981-87). Professor Natarajan was vice president of Omnex International Inc. in Ann Arbor from 1987-88. He joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as an associate professor in 1988.

An extraordinary engineer, scholar, and educator, Professor Natarajan inspired a generation of engineering students. He was actively involved in the success and intellectual vitality of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He oversaw the development of the undergraduate robotics degree program curriculum, the revitalization of existing courses, and the establishment of several computer labs. A gifted teacher and devoted mentor, Professor Natarajan was committed to his students' personal and professional growth. He also played an instrumental role in the founding of the UM-Dearborn Intelligent Systems Club. This club has provided countless students with innovative and experiential learning opportunities by designing, building, and programming robots for regional and national competitions. Professor Natarajan will be remembered for his wealth of knowledge, sense of humor, and generosity of spirit.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we extended our heartfelt condolences to his wife Lalitha, his children Priya and Vijay, and his many loving relatives and friends.

**Requested by:**



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**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**March 2016**