Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Ovide F. Pomerleau, Ph.D., professor of psychology in the Medical School, will retire from active faculty status on April 30, 2009.

Professor Pomerleau received his B.A. degree from Bowdoin College in 1962 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University in 1965 and 1969, respectively. He was a faculty member at Temple University from 1969-72, and at the University of Pennsylvania from 1972-78. In 1979 he was appointed professor of psychology in psychiatry at the University of Connecticut, where he served as director of the University of Connecticut Behavioral Medicine Program and chief of psychology, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, in Newington, Connecticut. Professor Pomerleau joined the University of Michigan Department of Psychiatry faculty in 1985 as professor of psychology and director of the Behavioral Medicine Clinics and the Nicotine Research Program.

Professor Pomerleau has been principal investigator on 38 funded research projects, and his bibliography includes 115 peer-reviewed articles and three books on substance abuse and behavioral medicine. His early investigations involved clinical process studies on alcohol abuse and smoking. Subsequently, his research interests shifted to underlying mechanisms and his laboratory was the first to carry out systematic explorations of nicotine’s pituitary hormone effects. Later studies examined key subjective and physiological manifestations of nicotine’s neuroregulatory effects. He also conducted critical investigations on individual differences in sensitivity to nicotine, setting the stage for his current research on smoking-risk phenotypes and genotypes.

Professor Pomerleau is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, the Society of Behavioral Medicine, and the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research. In 1994 he became the founding president of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, and in 2004 that organization awarded him the Ove Ferno Award for Outstanding Clinical Research.

The Regents salute this distinguished scholar by naming Ovide F. Pomerleau professor emeritus of psychology.

Requested by:

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

April 2009