Helen A. Baghdoyan, Ph.D., professor of anesthesiology, professor of pharmacology, and professor of psychiatry in the Medical School, will retire from active faculty status on April 30, 2014.

Professor Baghdoyan received her A.B. degree from Eisenhower College in 1974 and her Ph.D. degree from the University of Connecticut in 1980. At Harvard Medical School, she completed a postdoctoral fellowship funded by a National Institutes of Health’s National Research Service Award (1980-83), and served as an instructor (1984-87) and assistant professor (1987). She joined The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine faculty as an assistant professor in 1987, and was promoted to associate professor in 1993, and professor in 1998. Professor Baghdoyan joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor of anesthesiology and professor of pharmacology in 1999, and received an additional appointment of professor of psychiatry in 2000.

A pioneering and internationally renowned scientist, Professor Baghdoyan studied the neurochemical mechanisms and brain regions that regulate behavioral states such as sleep, wakefulness, and anesthesia. She has a notable history of successfully securing research grants, published numerous articles in the leading peer-reviewed journals, and was a frequent invited speaker. Since 2004, Professor Baghdoyan has held a National Institute of Mental Health Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award that provides superior investigators with long-term and stable funding. She authored twenty-five book chapters including “The Neurochemistry of Sleep and Wakefulness” in Basic Neurochemistry: Principles of Molecular, Cellular, and Medical Neurobiology (2012). A gifted mentor and dedicated teacher, Professor Baghdoyan directed multiple pharmacology Ph.D. theses and co-developed the University’s first comprehensive course on sleep. In recognition of her many achievements she received the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research’s Distinguished Clinical and Translational Research Mentor Award in 2013.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Helen A. Baghdoyan professor emerita of anesthesiology, professor emerita of pharmacology, and professor emerita of psychiatry.

Requested by:

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

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