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 Ananthakrishnan Aiyer, Ph.D., associate professor of anthropology, program director, and chair of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice in the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Michigan-Flint. Professor Aiyer died on March 20, 2015.

Professor Aiyer received his B.A. degree from St. Xavier’s College in 1989, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Temple University in 1993 and 2004, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty as a lecturer in 2000, and was promoted to assistant professor in 2004, and associate professor in 2008.

An inspiring and accomplished teacher, Professor Aiyer researched the international political economy; Latin America; South Asia; crime, corruption, and capitalism; resources and environmental politics; and cultural studies. He edited, with his undergraduate students, the notable book Telling Our Stories: Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement in Flint published in 2007. Professor Aiyer authored a number of influential journal articles in the leading scholarly publications and was a frequent invited speaker at national and international symposia. He was a valued student advisor, respected leader in his department, and served many years as chair of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice and director of the International and Global Studies Program. Professor Aiyer expanded course offerings in the anthropology program, developed interdisciplinary learning opportunities, and attracted new student majors. He designed and taught numerous new courses including Cultures of South Asia, Third World Cultures Through Film, Terror and Violence, and Seminar on Contemporary Global Issues.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife Jennifer and his many loving relatives and friends.

Requested by:

[Signature]

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

Adopted by the Regents
April 16, 2015