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 Gerard Voland, Ph.D., professor of engineering in the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Michigan-Flint. Professor Voland died on February 2, 2016.

Professor Voland received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1971 and 1973, respectively. He received his Ph.D. degree from Tufts University in 1989. He held faculty and administrative positions at Northeastern University (1977-99), the Illinois Institute of Technology (1999-2003), and Indiana University – Purdue University Fort Wayne (2003-10). He joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty as a professor of engineering and provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs in 2010.

An exceptional leader, scholar, and teacher, Professor Voland was dedicated to experiential learning, community engagement, consensus building, and faculty governance. He authored a number of noteworthy books, including Control Systems Modeling and Analysis (1986), Modern Engineering Graphics and Design (1987), and Engineering by Design (2004). Professor Voland’s extensive list of publications includes many peer-reviewed articles in the leading scholarly journals and a weekly column in Fort Wayne’s largest daily newspaper The Journal Gazette. A gifted instructor and mentor, he strongly believed in nurturing learning environments that promoted student academic achievement. He played an instrumental role in the creation of the Student Success Center; the relocation of the School of Management to the Riverfront Center; and the establishment of the Neff Center, a partnership between the Beecher Community Schools and UM-Flint designed to enrich both the University and the community through place-based education, research, and student services. Professor Voland will be remembered for his unwavering integrity, generosity of spirit, and keen sense of humor.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife Margaret, his sons Nicholas, Alex, and Paul, and his many loving relatives and friends.

Requested by:

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

April 2016