ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Richard O. Lempert, J.D., Ph.D., Eric Stein Distinguished University Professor of Law and Sociology and professor of law, Law School, professor of sociology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and faculty associate, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2008.

Professor Lempert received his A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1964 and his J.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan in 1968 and 1971, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1968, and was promoted to associate professor in 1972 and professor in 1974. He was appointed professor of sociology in 1985.

Known for his interdisciplinary scholarship in the law and social sciences, Professor Lempert’s work has been published regularly in the nation’s leading journals in law and other disciplines. His scholarship, which is continually cited for its fresh ideas and rigorous analyses, has included studies on capital punishment, research design, normative behavior, dispute settlement, juries, DNA technology and evidence, and the administrative and sociological dynamics of housing evictions. Professor Lempert is widely recognized for his role in establishing modern law and society as an academic field, and he was a founding member of the Law and Society Association, an interdisciplinary organization drawing together legal scholars, social scientists, and others interested in the “social embeddedness” of the law.

Professor Lempert was acting chair, and then chair, of the Department of Sociology from 1993-98, and he was a founding director of the Program in Life Sciences, Values, and Society. He was appointed the Francis A. Allen Collegiate Professor of Law in 1990 and was named the Eric Stein Distinguished University Professor of Law and Sociology in 2001. He has been elected a fellow in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and was awarded the Kalven Prize by the Law and Society Association in recognition of outstanding scholarship and a lifetime of scholarly achievement.

The Regents now salute this accomplished faculty member for his dedicated service by naming Richard O. Lempert Eric Stein Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Law and Sociology, professor emeritus of law, and professor emeritus of sociology.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2008