THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Michael B. Woodroofe, Ph.D., Leonard J. Savage Professor of Statistics, professor of
statistics, and professor of mathematics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will
retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2008.

Professor Woodroofe received his B.S. degree from Stanford University in 1962 and his
M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Oregon in 1964 and 1965, respectively. In 1965-66
he was a research associate at Stanford University and from 1966-68 he held a faculty
appointment at Carnegie Mellon University. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an
assistant professor of mathematics in 1968, and was promoted to associate professor of statistics
and mathematics in 1969 and professor of statistics and mathematics in 1973. He served as chair
of the Department of Statistics from 1977-83, and was appointed Leonard J. Savage Professor of

As an eminent scientist in both statistics and probability, Professor Woodroofe has made
pioneering contributions in nonparametric inference, biased sampling, isotonic inference, sequential
analysis, and statistics in astronomy, and his seminal work in sequential analysis and non-linear
renewal theory has influenced an entire generation of researchers. He has published more than 100
articles, a monograph, and a book, and has directed the dissertation work of 40 students.

Professor Woodroofe has served as editor of the Annals of Statistics (1992-94), advisory
editor of the Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference (JSPI), and associate editor of the
Annals of Statistics, the Annals of Probability, JSPI, and Sequential Analysis. He has been a
member of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics Council, has served on numerous federal
granting and advisory panels, and has lectured broadly at universities and national and
international conferences. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and an
elected member of the International Statistical Institute. In 2007, he was honored with the
Rackham Distinguished Graduate Mentoring Award. Professor Woodroofe’s enthusiasm,
dedication, and integrity have had a lasting influence on the numerous colleagues and students he
has worked with during his long and distinguished career.

The Regents now salute this faculty member by naming Michael B. Woodroofe
professor emeritus of statistics and professor emeritus of mathematics.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2008