THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Alan D. Krisch, Ph.D., professor of physics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2009.

Professor Krisch received his B.A. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1960 and his Ph.D. degree from Cornell University in 1964. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1964, and was promoted to associate professor in 1966 and professor in 1968.

In his early studies, Professor Krisch conducted experiments that revealed the internal structure of the proton, sparking a high level of attention that only became resolved when proton constituents, quarks, were ultimately identified. More recently, he has focused on spin effects in high energy collisions. While the role of the spin quantum number in particle collisions remains a mystery, many advances over the past few decades derive explicitly from the work of Professor Krisch’s Spin Physics Center. The center led the development of the world’s first high energy polarized proton beams, permitting experimenters for the first time to study how the relative orientation of target and beam proton spins at high energies affected scattering probabilities. His research program has spanned several laboratories in the United States, the former Soviet Union, Japan, and Germany.

In addition to leading the University of Michigan Spin Physics Center, Professor Krisch has served on the University Research Opportunities Program Advisory Committee and on numerous scholarship and symposium committees. He has supervised 35 doctoral students and more than 40 postdoctoral research fellows, many of whom have become leaders in their own specialties. Among Professor Krisch’s honors are a Guggenheim Fellowship and election as a Fellow of the American Physical Society. He has served on national research panels for the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation, and has helped organize countless international research symposia.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scientist by naming Alan D. Krisch professor emeritus of physics.

Requested by:

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

May 2009