

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

Adopted by the Regents
May 20, 2010

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 **John F. Devlin, Ph.D.**, associate professor of physics in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn, who died on April 23, 2010 at the age of 65.

Professor Devlin received his B.A. degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton in 1966, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Michigan State University in 1968 and 1970, respectively. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Groningen, The Netherlands, in 1972 and was a staff physicist at the Battelle-Columbus Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio from 1972-76. He joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as an assistant professor of physics in 1976, and was promoted to associate professor in 1982.

Professor Devlin's research focused on the structural properties of metals, the transport properties of liquid metals and alloys, and computational approaches to the electronic structure of metals. An outstanding teacher, he taught a full spectrum of physics courses, ranging from introductory level to upper division. Professor Devlin also demonstrated an abiding commitment to faculty governance and university affairs. He chaired the Department of Natural Sciences and the physics discipline within the Department of Natural Sciences, was chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Campus Affairs, and served on the Executive Committee of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters. He served as an advisor to physics students and chaired the Natural Sciences Scholarship Committee. In recognition of his teaching excellence and his commitment to students, he was twice awarded the UM-Dearborn Distinguished Teaching Award—in 1978 and 1987—and received the Michigan Association of Governing Boards Distinguished Faculty Award in 1986. He was a member of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, and the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

During his 34-year career at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Professor Devlin left a lasting mark on the institution through his generous spirit, innovative teaching style, and breadth of knowledge. As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we also extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Judy, and members of his family.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2010