

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents  
May 19, 2011

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Robert L. Culver, M.M.**, professor of music (music education) in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2011.

Professor Culver received his B.M. degree from the University of Oregon in 1959, and his M.M. degree from the University of Rochester in 1965. From 1966-77, he served on the faculty of The Ohio State University. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1977, and was promoted to professor in 1989.

Professor Culver was a tireless and effective advocate for string education in the public schools. Working with prominent members of the Michigan chapter of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA), he helped craft the program, "Services for Strings," which was adopted by all thirteen state colleges and universities with music training programs. Professor Culver became the special outreach chair for Michigan ASTA and developed school string programs, string camps, summer string teacher workshops, and feasibility studies which led directly to the creation of new string programs in public schools. He was a long-time faculty member at national and international string workshops and has been a clinician, all state orchestra conductor, and consultant throughout the United States and abroad.

Professor Culver was president-elect, president, and past president of ASTA from 1986-92. He developed the American String Workshop and was artistic director of the Banff International Festival of Youth Orchestras. His extensive involvement in the string community led to the recruitment and placement of graduate students and the creation of 20 new string programs throughout Michigan. His publications include a widely used evaluation program for non-musician administrators, *The Master Teacher Profile*, and five articles in the *American String Teacher* journal. In 2010, Professor Culver received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Michigan Chapter of the American String Teachers Association.

The Regents now salute this generous teacher for his numerous contributions by naming **Robert L. Culver professor emeritus of music (music education)**.

**Requested by:**



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2011