THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: **Report of Faculty Retirement**

Action Requested: **Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

Igor Dolgachev, Ph.D., professor of mathematics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status May 31, 2011.

Professor Dolgachev received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Moscow State University in 1966 and 1970, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1978, and was promoted to professor in 1982.

Professor Dolgachev's work combines the most modern techniques of algebraic geometry with an unparalleled knowledge of the classical literature. He has made fundamental contributions to many areas in the field, including the theory of algebraic surfaces and their automorphisms, the theory of singularities and vector bundles, and geometric invariant theory. In 1981, he introduced a class of algebraic surfaces now called Dolgachev surfaces that have become very important in topology. Well known for his expository writing, he has published four books and a forthcoming survey of classical algebraic geometry, and has written over 75 research papers with numerous collaborators. In 1998, he co-authored with Yi Hu a seminal paper on the phenomena surrounding the variation of polarizations in geometric invariant theory. In 2009, Professor Dolgachev and V. Iskovskikh completed the classification of all finite subgroups of the plane Cremona group. He has served on the editorial board of the *Michigan Mathematical Journal* for 13 years, including two years as managing editor, and is currently on the editorial boards of *Number Theory and Physics, Electronic Research Announcements (ERA)* and the *Journal Gokova Geometry Topology.*

Professor Dolgachev has played a central role in the intellectual life of the department over the last thirty years. He sponsored popular seminars in algebraic geometry and in physics and geometry, and energetically mentored 16 successful Ph.D. students and numerous postdocs in algebraic geometry. He has taught advanced graduate courses on many different topics, and his online lecture notes are widely used throughout the world.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and researcher by naming **Igor Dolgachev professor emeritus of mathematics.**

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University   **May 2011**