

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Approved by the Regents
May 16, 2013

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

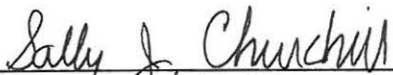
Richard Abel, Ph.D., Robert Altman Collegiate Professor of Film Studies and professor of international film and media in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2013.

Richard Abel received his B.A. degree from Utah State University in 1963, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Southern California in 1965 and 1970, respectively. From 1970-2002, he served on the faculty of Drake University. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as the Robert Altman Collegiate Professor of Film Studies and professor of international film and media in 2002.

A leading figure of early cinema studies, Professor Abel possessed a unique dual expertise in both French and American film culture. His critical monographs and 2-volume sourcebook of early critical and theoretical writings opened the world of silent French cinema to English-speaking scholars. He also studied the circulation of French cinema in the U.S. before focusing on the relationship between American film and print culture. He served as editor of the *Encyclopedia of Early Cinema* (2005) and the forthcoming *Critical Concepts in Media and Cultural Studies: Early Cinema* (2013). He received the prestigious Theatre Library Association Award for best book in film (1985, 1995, and 2005), the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for College Teachers (1983 and 2001), a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation fellowship (1993), and a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2011). He served as president of the Society for Cinema Studies from 1987-89.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Richard Abel professor emeritus of international film and media.**

Requested by:



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

May 2013