THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Melita C. Schaum, Ph.D., professor of English literature in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn, retired from active faculty status on April 30, 2014.

Professor Schaum received her B.A. degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1978, her M.A. degree from Stanford University in 1980, and her Ph.D. degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1984. She joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as an assistant professor in 1984, and was promoted to associate professor in 1989, and professor in 1996.

Professor Schaum’s scholarly work explored modern literature and culture, critical theory, gender studies, and creative nonfiction. She is a leading authority on the modern American poet Wallace Stevens and on the critical reception of his work. Professor Schaum authored and edited numerous scholarly publications and books including Wallace Stevens and the Critical Schools (1988), Wallace Stevens and the Feminine (1993), and A Sinner of Memory: Essays (2004). An outstanding teacher, she had the unique ability to integrate her research at the frontiers of literary scholarship into successful undergraduate courses. Professor Schaum is the recipient of numerous honors including the Elizabeth Agee Prize for American Literary Studies (1988), the Charles Angoff Award for Fiction (1998), the Dorothy Churchill Cappon Award in Creative Nonfiction (2002), the Thomas J. Hruska Memorial Prize in Nonfiction (2005), and the Orlando Prize in Nonfiction (2010).

The Regents now salute this dedicated teacher and accomplished scholar for her service by naming Melita C. Schaum professor emerita of English literature.

Requested by:

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