THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

James J. White, J.D., Robert A. Sullivan Professor of Law and professor of law in the Law School, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2014.

Professor White received his B.A. degree from Amherst College in 1956 and his J.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1962. From 1962-64, he worked in the Los Angeles office of the law firm Latham & Watkins. Professor White joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1964, and was promoted to associate professor in 1967, and professor in 1969. He served as associate dean of the Law School from 1978-81.

Professor White is one of the nation’s preeminent scholars and teachers of commercial law. He authored and co-authored numerous books and scholarly publications including the multivolume, 6th edition Handbook of the Law Under the Uniform Commercial Code (2012). This seminal handbook, co-authored with Robert S. Summers and Robert A. Hillman, is considered to be the most widely recognized treatise on commercial law. Professor White also co-authored, with Bruce W. Frier, a leading contracts case book entitled The Modern Law of Contracts (2012). He served as the reporter for the Revision of Article 5 of the Uniform Commercial Code, a commissioner for the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, and as a member of the American Law Institute. He received the Law School’s L. Hart Wright Award for Excellence in Teaching (2001-02) and the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers’ Homer Kripke Achievement Award (2002).

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and scholar by naming James J. White Robert A. Sullivan Professor Emeritus of Law and professor emeritus of law.

Requested by:

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

May 2014