

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Laurence A. Goldstein, Ph.D.**, professor of English language and literature in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2017.

Professor Goldstein received his B.A. (1965) degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and his Ph.D. (1970) degree from Brown University. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1970, and was promoted to associate professor in 1977, and professor in 1985.

Professor Goldstein began his teaching and scholarly life as a specialist in British Romanticism and became in the course of his career one of the nation's indispensable experts on twentieth-century poetry and fiction. During a remarkable thirty-two year tenure as editor of *The Michigan Quarterly Review*, he expanded the University's literary journal into a forum for cultural, creative, and interdisciplinary inquiry of the broadest dimensions. He oversaw the transformative expansion of the journal's graphic and visual formats, commissioned work by leading intellectuals and artists, including Nobel and Pulitzer prize-winners, and launched the careers of many writers who went on to subsequent fame. Professor Goldstein generously invited colleagues to edit special issues of the journal and trained scores of assistant editors in the art and discipline of literary judgment. He was legendary for his working methods: personally reading every unsolicited submission received by the journal and writing detailed, rigorous letters of encouragement and critique even to authors whose work he felt obliged to reject.

Professor Goldstein is himself an accomplished poet as well as a scholar, editor, and literary critic. His four volumes of poetry include *Altamira* (1978), *The Three Gardens* (1987), *Cold Reading* (1995), and *A Room in California* (2005). His critical monographs include *Ruins and Empire: The Evolution of a Theme in Augustan and Romantic Literature* (1977), *The Flying Machine and Modern Literature* (1986), *The American Poet at the Movies: A Critical History* (1994), and *Poetry Los Angeles: Reading the Essential Poems of the City* (2014). Throughout forty-five years of daunting productivity, Professor Goldstein continued to teach a full rota of courses in the Department of English and served with alacrity on advisory and governance committees of every stripe.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and researcher by naming **Laurence A. Goldstein, professor emeritus of English language and literature.**

**Requested by:**



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

**May 2017**