

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**


**Lawrence S. Root, Ph.D.**, professor of social work in the School of Social Work, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2017.

Professor Root received his A.B. (1968) degree from Haverford College, his M.S.S. (1971) degree from Bryn Mawr College, and his Ph.D. (1980) from the University of Chicago. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1978, and was promoted to associate professor in 1984, and professor in 1992. He served as director of the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations (ILIR) from 1993-2008.

Professor Root's research and practice explored the intersection of employment and social welfare issues. He directed programs and published in the areas of fringe benefits and social policy, employee assistance programs, aging and work, work-family flexibility, employment issues of low-income individuals, and international labor. Professor Root has a notable record of successfully securing research funding from both governmental and private sector sources. As director of the ILIR, he worked extensively with union-management joint programs and collaboratively developed a number of innovative programs on topics such as urban entrepreneurship and labor and global change. Professor Root served on the 2002 Presidential Search Advisory Committee and chaired the President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights, which addressed sweatshop conditions in the production of goods licensed by the University of Michigan. More recently, his international work focused on developing labor-management committees in Chinese companies and developing methods for assessing labor standards as a part of trade agreements. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus by the Bryn Mawr's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research in 2016.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Lawrence S. Root, professor emeritus of social work**.

**Requested by:**



**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**May 2017**