

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

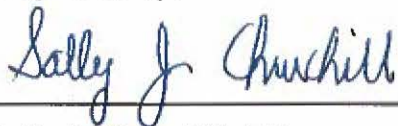
Paul E. Berry, Ph.D., professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and curator, Herbarium, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2018.

Professor Berry received his B.S. (1975) degree from Haverford College and his M.A. (1979) and Ph.D. (1980) degrees from Washington University, St. Louis. From 1980-88, he was at the Universidad Simón Bolívar in Caracas, Venezuela where he was promoted to associate professor and served as chair of the Departamento de Biología de Organismos from 1984-86. He was a curator at the Missouri Botanical Garden from 1989-97. He also held adjunct associate professor positions at both Washington University, St. Louis (1995-98) and the University of Missouri-St. Louis (1989-97). He served as an associate professor, professor, and herbarium director during his time at the University of Wisconsin from 1998-2005. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor, curator, and director of the University Herbarium in 2006. He also served as the interim director of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum from 2007-08.

Professor Berry is recognized internationally as a leader in the study of plant systematics and evolution. He worked worldwide on the evolution and diversification of some of the most difficult groups of plants, with a special interest in the systematics and biogeography of the largest genera of flowering plants. Professor Berry also extensively studied South American plants, and was an editor and prime mover for the multivolume *Flora of the Venezuelan Guayana*, an in-depth treatment of one of the most biodiverse areas of the world. As director of the University Herbarium, he focused on expanding and modernizing the gathering of digital data as well as its distribution to the research community and the public. Professor Berry was also a strong supporter of the Michigan Flora Project. In addition to serving on a number of editorial and grant review boards, he was president of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists from 2007-08.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Paul E. Berry, professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology and curator emeritus, Herbarium.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2018