

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

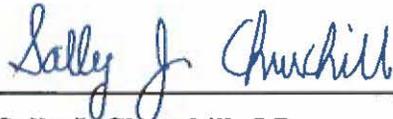
Douglas E. Van Houweling, Ph.D., professor of information in the School of Information, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2018.

Professor Van Houweling received his B.S. degree from Iowa State University in 1965 and his Ph.D. degree from Indiana University in 1974. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as the vice provost for information technology (1984-1995) and an adjunct professor (1985-1995). He was appointed a professor of information in 1996. He also served as the School of Information's associate dean for research and innovation from 2010-14.

Professor Van Houweling was serving as chief information officer at the University of Michigan and chairman of the board of the Michigan Educational Research Information Triad (MERIT), a statewide computing network in Michigan in 1987, when the National Science Foundation awarded MERIT the responsibility for the operation and management of the NSFnet national backbone—the foundation upon which the global internet was built. During MERIT's seven-year tenure, internet traffic and connectivity grew by more than 400% per year. When the NSFnet project began transitioning the internet backbone to commercial providers in 1992 more than 6,000 networks were connected, including one third of which were outside the United States. By 1994, networks in 94 countries were connected and the internet had become a global phenomenon. Professor Van Houweling was also chairman of the Board of Advanced Network and Services Corporation, a not-for-profit organization that enabled the transition of large-scale internet capabilities from the higher education and research realm to commercial reality. From 1997-2010, he served as the president and chief executive officer of Internet2, the national research and education network for the United States.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Douglas E. Van Houweling, professor emeritus of information.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2018