

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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


Suellyn Scarnecchia, J.D., clinical professor of law in the Law School, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2019.

Professor Scarnecchia received her B.A. degree from Northwestern University in 1978 and her J.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1981. She was an associate and partner with McCroskey, Feldman, Cochrane & Brock, P.C. from 1981-87. Professor Scarnecchia held a number of appointments at the University of Michigan Law School, including clinical assistant professor of law, clinical professor of law, clinic coordinator, associate dean for clinical affairs, and associate dean for law school administration.

Professor Scarnecchia has taught courses in the Law School's Human Trafficking Clinic, Child Advocacy Law Clinic, and the Women and the Law Clinic since 1987. She also spent a decade in academic administrative roles, including serving as dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law from 2003-08. After leaving the University of New Mexico, she returned to the University of Michigan as vice president and general counsel in 2008. Her work as the university's top legal official helped guide the institution through a number of complex and challenging issues. The university commended her work in a regents resolution presented at the regents meeting in May 2012. Upon rejoining the Law School faculty, Professor Scarnecchia mainly taught in the Human Trafficking Clinic. In 2015, in addition to her duties in the Human Trafficking Clinic, she helped launch the new Veterans Legal Clinic. Professor Scarnecchia was one of the founders of the Michigan Poverty Law Program in 1997. This work led to an extensive 20-year commitment with legal services in a variety of leadership and administrative roles. She has been instrumental in expanding legal services to under-represented populations in Michigan. From 2017 until her retirement, Professor Scarnecchia served as the Law School's diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic plan coordinator. She also served as president of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Board in 1993.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and scholar by naming **Suellyn Scarnecchia, clinical professor emerita of law**.

Requested by:



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

May 2019