

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

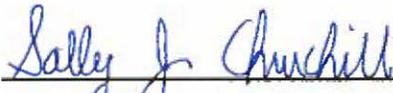
Leigh A. Woods, Ph.D., professor of theatre and drama in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2019.

Professor Woods received his B.A. (1970) degree from Harvard College, his M.F.A. (1972) degree from Columbia University, and his Ph.D. (1979) degree from the University of California, Berkeley. He served as an assistant professor (1980-86) and associate professor (1986-87) at Indiana University. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1987, and was promoted to professor in 1996.

As a scholar, Professor Woods wrote extensively about performance and the history of acting in *Garrick Claims the Stage: Acting as Social Emblem in Eighteenth-Century England* (1984), *On Playing Shakespeare: Advice and Commentary from Actors and Actresses of the Past* (1991), *Public Selves, Political Stages: Interviews with Icelandic Women in Government and Theatre* (1997) with Agústa Gunnarsdóttir, and *Transatlantic Stage Stars in Vaudeville and Variety* (2006). He co-edited *Playing to the Camera: Film Actors Discuss Their Craft* (1999) and his articles have appeared in a range of journals. As a member of the Actors' Equity Association, Professor Woods performed over 100 roles onstage, including the American premieres of plays by George W.S. Trow, Heiner Müller, and Wendy Wasserstein. In the fall of 2018, he played Charley in the University Musical Society/Theatre & Drama staged reading of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* (1949) starring Alec Baldwin in the Power Center at the University of Michigan. Professor Woods served for many years as the head of graduate studies and the head of theatre studies in the Department of Theatre & Drama. He taught numerous courses at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. His service to the University of Michigan has included nearly 30 years as an assistant chief marshal. Within the school, he served multiple terms on the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee and the Faculty Council for Graduate Studies.

The Regents now salute this distinguished artist and teacher by naming **Leigh A. Woods, professor emeritus of theatre and drama**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2019