THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Judy V. Rosenthal, Ph.D., professor of anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Michigan-Flint, will retire from active faculty status on June 30, 2011.

Professor Rosenthal attended the University of Paris VIII, where she received her Licence (1977) and Maîtrise (1981) degrees, and Cornell University, where she received her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in 1989 and 1993, respectively. She joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty as an assistant professor in 1993, and was promoted to associate professor in 1999 and professor in 2007.

A nationally and internationally recognized scholar of Togolese and Ghanaian spirit possession cultures, Professor Rosenthal is the author of Possession, Ecstasy, and Law in Ewe Voodoo, an ethnography based on her research in West Africa, along with numerous book chapters. She is a much admired and passionate teacher, who encourages students to excel as intellectuals, explore other cultures, learn other languages, read social theory, and love the pursuit of different kinds of knowledge. Professor Rosenthal was coordinator of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program from 2000-2004, chaired the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice from 2001-2002, and was a driving force in the creation of the Master of Arts in Social Science program on the Flint campus. In 2001, she received the Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Senior Faculty Award, given to a faculty member whose scholarship is widely recognized nationally and internationally.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Judy V. Rosenthal professor emerita of anthropology.

Requested by:

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

June 2011