THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Mary Sue Coleman, Ph.D., president of the University of Michigan, professor of chemistry in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and professor of biological chemistry in the Medical School, will retire from active faculty status on July 13, 2014.

President Coleman received her B.A. degree from Grinnell College in 1965 and her Ph.D. degree from the University of North Carolina in 1969. She served postdoctoral fellowships at the University of North Carolina (1969-70), the University of Texas at Austin (1970-71), and the University of Kentucky (1971-72), prior to serving as an instructor and research associate at the University of Kentucky (1972-75). She became assistant professor in 1975, associate professor in 1980, and full professor in 1985.

President Coleman began her career in higher education administration in 1980 as acting director of basic research at the L.P. Markey Cancer Center at the University of Kentucky, prior to being named associate director for research (1983-90). In 1990 she was named associate provost and dean of research at the University of North Carolina, and then vice chancellor for graduate studies and research (1992-93). She was provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of New Mexico (1993-95) and president of the University of Iowa (1995-2002).

Named the University’s 13th president in 2002, she is highly respected for her leadership during the state’s most challenging economic era since the Depression. She has been a powerful voice for diversity in higher education and the value of global teaching and research opportunities. Her presidency has been marked by a deep commitment to sustainability, residential life, interdisciplinary scholarship, innovation and creativity, and economic development and collaboration.

The Regents now salute this exemplary leader by naming Mary Sue Coleman president emerita of the University of Michigan, professor emerita of chemistry, and professor emerita of biological chemistry.

Requested by:

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

June 2014