

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the  
Regents  
June 18, 2015

ACTION REQUEST

**Subject:** Report of Faculty Retirement

**Action Requested:** Adoption of Retirement Memoir

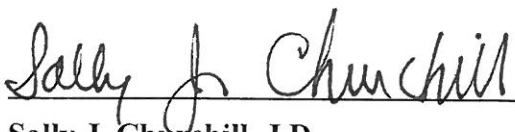
**Thylias Moss, M.A.**, professor of English language and literature in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, and professor of art and design in the Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, retired from active faculty status on April 3, 2015.

Professor Moss received her A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1981 and her M.A. degree from the University of New Hampshire in 1983. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor of English in 1993, and was promoted to associate professor in 1994, and professor in 1998. She held an additional appointment in the Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design since 2006.

A celebrated poet, playwright, essayist, and filmmaker, Professor Moss conjured an evocative sense of place and community in her work, articulating the subtle rhythms of daily life and moments of heightened reality. Professor Moss' books of poetry include *Hosiery Seams on a Bowlegged Woman* (1983), *Pyramid of Bone* (1989), *At Redbones* (1990), *Rainbow Remnants in Rock Bottom Ghetto Sky* (1991), *Small Congregations: New and Selected Poems* (1993), *Last Chance for the Tarzan Holler* (1998), and *Tokyo Butter* (2006). She authored the children's book, *I Want to Be* (1993), as well as a book of stories entitled *Somewhere Else Right Now* (1996), and a memoir, *Tale of a Sky Blue Dress* (1998). Her book-length narrative in verse, *Slave Moth*, was published in 2004. More recently, Professor Moss' scholarship has explored Limited Fork Poetics a maker-based platform for understanding interacting language systems, including poetry, as complex adaptive or dynamic systems. She has received numerous honors including fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

The Regents now salute this distinguished poet and scholar by naming **Thylias Moss, professor emerita of English language and literature and professor emerita of art and design.**

**Requested by:**



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

June 2015