

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Charles R. Eisendrath, M.A.**, associate professor of communication studies in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on June 30, 2017.


Professor Eisendrath led an effort to create a leading entity in American journalism for the University of Michigan. Wallace House includes the Knight-Wallace Fellowships, which he transformed and equipped with permanent financial support, and the Livingston Awards for Young Journalists, the largest all-media, general reporting prizes in the country, which he designed and directed for 35 years. He also secured the spacious Arts and Crafts structure, itself, a gift from Mike Wallace, the famous CBS newsman and 1939 graduate.

Professor Eisendrath received his B.A. (1962) degree from Yale University and his M.A. (1965) degree from the University of Michigan. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1976 after a distinguished career as a *Time* correspondent in Washington, London and Paris and bureau chief in Buenos Aires. He directed the graduate program in journalism from 1977-85, when he transferred to what was then the Journalists in Residence program within the department. Chairing the Board for Student Publications, he led a successful effort to put *The Michigan Daily* on sustainable financial footing. He received the University's Faculty Recognition Award in 1979.

In 1986, Professor Eisendrath was named director of the Journalists in Residence, then a Department of Communication's program dependent upon operating funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. He secured a name change to Michigan Journalism Fellows to reflect its University status and began an endowment drive that took it from zero to a self-supporting status at \$58 million. Professor Eisendrath's work with Mike Wallace on the fellowships and awards re-established the alum's links with the University, and led to endowment gifts matched by the Knight Foundation and a name change to the Knight-Wallace Fellows at Michigan in 2002.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Charles R. Eisendrath, associate professor emeritus of communication studies.**

**Requested by:**



**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**June 2017**