

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

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

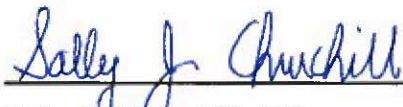
**David J. Fink, M.D.**, Robert W. Brear Professor of Neurology, professor of neurology, and chair of the Department of Neurology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2019.

Dr. Fink received his B.A. (1970) degree from Yale College and his M.D. (1974) degree from Harvard Medical School. He completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston (1974-76), a postdoctoral fellowship in the Laboratory of Neurochemistry at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda (1976-79), and a residency in neurology at the University of California, San Francisco (1979-82). Dr. Fink was board certified in internal medicine in 1977 and neurology in 1984. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1982, and was promoted to associate professor in 1988. He then served as a visiting professor (1994-95) and professor (1995-2004) at the University of Pittsburgh. He returned to Michigan as the Robert W. Brear Professor of Neurology and chair of the Department of Neurology in 2004.

Throughout his tenure at Michigan, Dr. Fink demonstrated exemplary commitment to the tripartite mission of clinical care, research, and teaching. He provided superb care to patients at the University Hospital and the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. As a teacher, he was awarded the Status Pedagogicus Award for excellence in teaching. His research focused on the development and use of herpes simplex-based viral vectors for the treatment of diseases of the peripheral nervous system. This work was funded by the NIH, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and several private foundations continuously for 35 years. He published more than 150 articles in peer-reviewed journals and was a co-inventor on five issued patents. He served on the board of the American Neurological Association, on the board and as president of the Association of University Professors of Neurology, and on the board and as vice chair of the United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties. He was awarded the Paul W. Magnuson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Rehabilitation Research by the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2014.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **David J. Fink, professor emeritus of neurology**.

**Requested by:**



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

**June 2019**