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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Item for Information

Subject: Henry Russel Lecturer for 2011

I am pleased to inform you that the Russel Awards Faculty Advisory Committee, chaired by Dean Janet A. Weiss, has selected Richard Janko, Gerald F. Else Collegiate Professor of Classical Studies, as the Henry Russel Lecturer for 2011. The Russel Lecture will be delivered by Professor Janko on March 8, 2011.

The Henry Russel Lectureship is the highest honor that the University bestows upon a senior member of its faculty. A description of the contributions of this extraordinary faculty member is attached.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Sue Coleman
President

July 2010

Attachment

Richard Janko

After receiving his Ph.D. in Classics from Trinity College, Cambridge in 1980, Professor Janko served as a Research Fellow at Trinity College until 1982, when he joined the faculty of Columbia University, where he advanced in rank to Associate Professor in 1985. In 1987 he became Professor of Classics at UCLA, until 1995 when he assumed the post of Professor of Greek in the University of London, University College, London. He came to the University of Michigan in 2002 as the Gerald F. Else Collegiate Professor of Classical Studies. At Michigan, he served as the Chair of the Department of Classical Studies for five years.

Professor Janko is recognized as one of the most distinguished living scholars of ancient Greek literature and culture. He is the author of numerous books, many of which are recognized as monumental works. For example, the volume he contributed to the Cambridge *Iliad* commentary is widely recognized as the best in the five-volume work done by four leading Homerists. He is also noted for his edition of Philodemus' *On Poems* Book 1, in which he made understandable the work of that poet and Epicurean philosopher by placing it in the context of the entire history of literary thought in antiquity. In addition, Professor Janko has been a prolific author of a range of books and articles making important contributions on a broad range of topics in Greek language and literature, and is a leading voice that has transformed discussions in the discipline and stimulated new thought.

He has served as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, as Director of the Crates Project (British Academy/Humanities Research Board Institutional Research Fellowship Program), as Co-Director of the Philodemus Translation Project (an NEH funded grant), and has served as visiting lecturer at Oberlin College and the *Scuola Normale Superiore* in Pisa. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Leverhulme Research Fellowship, and was a Fellow at the National Humanities Center. His volume on Philodemus won the Goodwin Award of Merit, the prestigious book prize of the American Philological Association. Professor Janko is also a member of the American Philosophical Society, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the winner of the Premio Theodor Mommsen.