Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Josef M. Miller, Ph.D., professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2013.

Professor Miller received his B.A. degree from the University of California, Berkeley in 1961 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Washington in 1965. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship (1965-67) and was appointed assistant professor (1967-68) at the University of Michigan. He joined the University of Washington faculty as an assistant professor in 1968, and was promoted to associate professor in 1972, and professor in 1976. He returned to the University of Michigan as a professor in 1984 and was named the Lynn and Ruth Townsend Professor of Communicative Disorders from 1996-2005. He received an additional appointment of professor at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden in 1999.

A leading authority on hearing sciences, Professor Miller studied the neuroscience of the auditory system, cochlear prosthesis, blood flow to the inner ear, prevention of noise induced deafness, and the prevention of degeneration and promotion of regrowth of the auditory nerve. In addition, he researched novel stem cell strategies to rebuild and replace the sensorineural epithelium of the inner ear. Professor Miller has published over 240 peer-reviewed articles, authored 50 book chapters, and edited two books. He led major research teams funded by the National Institutes of Health Program Project and established innovative training programs for graduate students and medical residents. Professor Miller developed collaborative research programs between the United States and Europe to study tissue engineering of the inner ear. From 1984-99, he served as director of the Kresge Hearing Research Institute and director of research for the Department of Otolaryngology. Professor Miller received honorary M.D. degrees from the University of Göteborg in Sweden (1987) and the University of Turku in Finland (1995), the University of Michigan Regents’ Award for Distinguished Public Service (1993), the Presidential Citation from the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (1997), and the Gold Medal Honor Award from the Prosper Ménière Society (2001).

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming Josef M. Miller professor emeritus of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery.

Requested by:

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

July 2013