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

Jerome O. Nriagu, Ph.D., D.Sc., professor of environmental chemistry in the School of Public Health, and research professor in the Center for Human Growth and Development, will retire from active faculty status on July 31, 2013.

Professor Nriagu received his B.Sc. degree from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria in 1965, his M.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1967, his Ph.D. degree from the University of Toronto in 1970, and the first meritorious D.Sc. degree ever awarded by the University of Ibadan in 1987. He served as a research scientist with the Federal Canadian Department of the Environment (1972-93) and as an adjunct professor at the University of Waterloo (1985-95, 2000-05). He was awarded the University of Michigan’s King-Chavez-Parks Visiting Professorship in 1992, joined the faculty as an associate professor in 1993, and was promoted to professor in 1997. He received an additional appointment as research scientist (now research professor) in 1996. Professor Nriagu has also had long-standing affiliations with the Center for Great Lakes and Aquatic Sciences and the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies.

An internationally recognized scholar, Professor Nriagu’s research and teaching focused on metals in natural and contaminated environments; environmental justice and the disproportionate exposure of communities to environmental pollutants; and environmental health problems in developing countries. He has authored, coauthored, and edited 30 books and 300 peer-reviewed journal articles. Professor Nriagu served as the editor-in-chief for the Encyclopedia of Environmental Health published in 2011 and the journals Science of the Total Environment and Global Health Perspectives. He served as director of the Environmental Health Sciences Program (1996-2005) and as director of the Environmental Quality and Health Program (2010-13). Professor Nriagu received numerous awards for his work including the Royal Society of Canada’s Miroslaw Romanowski Medal (1999), a Fulbright Senior Fellowship (2002), the School of Public Health’s Excellence in Research Award (2004), and the Alexander von Humboldt Distinguished Research Award (2009). He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1992.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Jerome O. Nriagu professor emeritus of environmental chemistry and research professor emeritus.

Requested by:

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

July 2013