THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Mary K. Vardigan, M.A., assistant director, director of collection delivery, and archivist in the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on November 30, 2015.

Ms. Vardigan received her B.A. (1971) degree from the University of Michigan and her M.A. (1975) degree from Eastern Michigan University. She joined the University of Michigan in 1985. Ms. Vardigan held a number of positions, including assistant editor, senior technical writer, editor, executive editor, and director of communications. She was appointed archivist in 2000, and served as the assistant director of the ICPSR and director of collection delivery from 2004-15.

Ms. Vardigan was a leader in the fields of data preservation and curation. She played an instrumental role in the transition of ICPSR publications from print to the web. This multifaceted undertaking involved the development of standards for the citation of data and the linking of data with research publications. As the assistant director of the ICPSR, Ms. Vardigan provided oversight for a number of areas, including metadata, website development, membership and marketing, and user support. She was actively involved in several international projects related to data stewardship. Ms. Vardigan helped establish the Data Documentation Initiative, a metadata standard currently used in over 80 countries around the world. She served as the director of this initiative for 12 years. Ms. Vardigan also served as chair of the Data Seal of Approval Board, which governed a repository certification mechanism used internationally by over 60 organizations.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Mary K. Vardigan, archivist emerita.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill

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

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