THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Shan R. Baker, M.D., professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2018.

Dr. Baker received his B.A. (1967) degree from Drake University and his M.D. (1971) and M.S. (1977) degrees from the University of Iowa. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army Reserves. He completed his straight surgery internship (1971-72) and general surgery residency (1972-73) at the University of California, San Diego as well as an otolaryngology and maxillofacial surgery residency (1973-77) at the University of Iowa.

Following his residency, Dr. Baker and Dr. Charles J. Krause formed the nidus of the only two full-time clinical faculty in the Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Michigan. As the faculty increased in numbers, Dr. Baker became chief of the Section of Head and Neck Surgery for the first 12 years of his career. He was an early pioneer in the clinical use of microvascular surgery and edited the first textbook on microvascular surgical reconstruction of the head and neck in 1981. He performed the first microvascular surgical case in the state of Michigan in 1978 and together with another colleague performed the first successful intraoral reconstruction using a microsurgical flap in 1976. He was the director of the first postgraduate course in microvascular surgery for otolaryngologists in the U.S. Dr. Baker transitioned from head and neck oncology to facial plastic and reconstructive surgery. He served as the first chief of the Section of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in the department from 1989-2012. He also served as the associate chair of the department from 1989-93. He established, with Dr. Krause, the Center for Facial Cosmetic Surgery in 1990 and served as the director until 2012. Dr. Baker received numerous honors and awards over his career, including a lifetime achievement award in medical education from the University of Michigan in 2012.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Shan R. Baker, professor emeritus of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery.

Requested by:

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

July 2018