THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Regents Communication  

ACTION REQUEST

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

Willard L. Rodgers, Ph.D., research professor, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2008.

Professor Rodgers received his B.S. degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1962, his Ph.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1966 and his M.P.H. degree from the University of Michigan in 1981. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1969 as a study director in the Institute for Social Research and was promoted to senior study director in 1973. He was named associate research scientist in 1974, and was promoted to research scientist in 1990 and senior research scientist in 1997. In 2003 his title was changed to research professor. He has also served as an adjunct associate professor in biostatistics (1988-89) and in sociology (1992-2002).

Within the Institute for Social Research, Professor Rodgers’ research focused on social, cognitive, and economic issues of aging. Recently, he has turned his attention to behavioral and social responses to climate change. He has been a frequent contributor to academic journals and has published more than 75 articles and book chapters. From 2000-2007, he was co-principal investigator of the “Health and Retirement Study,” a multi-million dollar longitudinal research project funded by the National Institute on Aging, and in 2007 he became a member of its steering committee. He has served as a consultant for a variety of governmental and nongovernmental agencies and since 1994 has been an adjunct professor in the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland. He has served on numerous committees within the Survey Research Center, including the executive committee and the Senior Staff Advisory Committee.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming Willard L. Rodgers research professor emeritus.

Requested by:

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

September 2008