THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

John W. Hagen, Ph.D., professor of psychology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and research professor, Center for Human Growth and Development, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2009.

Professor Hagen received his B.A. degree from the University of Minnesota in 1962 and his Ph.D. degree from Stanford University in 1965. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor of psychology in 1965, and was promoted to associate professor in 1969 and professor in 1973. He was appointed research scientist in the Center for Human Growth and Development in 1974.

Professor Hagen’s work on the development of attention and incidental memory has had a major influence on scholarly work in cognitive development. His early work focused on individual differences, and he began applying the learning strategies model to children with mental retardation, chronic illnesses, and learning disabilities. Later, he branched into new areas, including children in foster care and positive development in college students. His work has helped to clarify and refine circumstances and interventions that have led to facilitating development in children and youth.

An innovative and outstanding teacher, Professor Hagen developed numerous new courses, including two that were among the first to offer practical field experience to undergraduate students. Professor Hagen has served on over 100 doctoral dissertation committees and chaired thirty of them. He was director of the Center for Human Growth and Development from 1982-93 and of the Reading and Learning Skills Center from 1985-95. Within the psychology department, he chaired the Developmental Psychology Program (1970-83, 1995-99) and Student Academic Affairs (2007-09). He has served on numerous University committees and been active in state and national professional associations, including 18 years of service as executive director of the Society for Research in Child Development (1989-2007).

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming John W. Hagen professor emeritus of psychology and research professor emeritus.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2009