THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Jeffrey A. Alexander, Ph.D., Richard Carl Jelinek Professor of Health Management and Policy and professor of health management and policy, School of Public Health, professor of organizational behavior and human resource management, Stephen M. Ross School of Business, and faculty associate, Survey Research Center, Institute of Social Research, retired from active faculty status on July 31, 2012.

Professor Alexander received his B.A. degree from the University of Texas in 1969, and his M.S., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University in 1976, 1978, and 1980, respectively. He was a senior researcher and assistant director at the Hospital Research and Educational Trust (1983-85), research associate at the Sisters of Mercy Health Care Corporation (1984-86), and faculty member at the University of Alabama (1986-88) before joining the University of Michigan School of Public Health faculty as an associate professor in 1988. He was promoted to professor and appointed faculty associate in the Survey Research Center in 1991, was appointed the Richard Carl Jelinek Professor of Health Management and Policy in 1994, and appointed professor of organizational behavior and human resources in 1999.

Professor Alexander’s research focused on issues dealing with organizational arrangements in the health care sector, with particular emphasis on their environmental determinants and contributions to comparative performance. A leading empirical researcher in the area of health care governance, he studied how organizational environments shape organizational structure, process, and effectiveness. His papers, “Patterns of Decision Making in Multihospital Systems” and “Models of Governance in Multihospital Systems: Implications for Hospital and System-Level Decision Making,” were the first to define, and account for, variation in decision making in authority relations between headquarters and hospitals in multihospital systems. Professor Alexander has authored over 255 peer-reviewed journal articles, was editor of Medical Care Research and Review for seven years, and served on the editorial boards of numerous other journals. He served the School of Public Health as acting senior associate dean for academic affairs (1997-98), acting dean (2001), and senior associate dean for academic affairs (2000-03). He received the school’s Excellence in Research Award in 2007.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Jeffrey A. Alexander professor emeritus of health management and policy and professor emeritus of organizational behavior and human resource management.

Requested by:

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

September 2012