

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## *Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents  
September 19, 2013

### ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

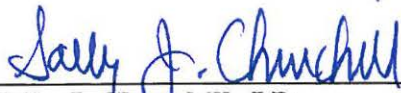
**Thomas E. Powers, M.A.**, Johanna Meijer Magoon Principal Archivist and archivist in the Bentley Historical Library, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2012.

Mr. Powers received his B.A. (1963) and M.A. (1964) degrees from Wayne State University, and his A.M.L.S. (1968) degree from the University of Michigan. He joined the University of Michigan as a research assistant in 1968, and was promoted to assistant archivist in 1968, associate archivist in 1970, and archivist in 1975. He was named the first Johanna Meijer Magoon Principal Archivist in 2011.

Mr. Powers oversaw the acquisition, processing, and cataloguing of more than 24,000 linear feet of historical material that has been added to the collections. His stewardship of the collection has led to the acquisition of the papers of every Michigan governor since Governor G. Mennen Williams. Mr. Powers provided guidance to each governor on the selection of materials for the archives and orchestrated the arrangement and description of these collections. His innovative methods and expertise in collection management were documented in a widely read journal article co-authored by Mark Greene and Dennis Meissner. Mr. Powers embraced new and transformative technologies, managed the digital conversion of the card catalog, and oversaw the conversion of finding aids to Encoded Archival Description (EAD). He was a dedicated teacher and mentor of graduate students, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in the archival field.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Thomas E. Powers archivist emeritus**.

**Requested by:**



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**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**September 2013**