THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Michael P. MacDonald, Ph.D., professor of history in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on July 1, 2015.

Professor MacDonald received his B.A. degree from Reed College in 1968, his M.A. degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1970, and his Ph.D. degree from Stanford University in 1979. He served on the faculty of Reed College (1975-77) and the University of Wisconsin (1977-88). He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 1988.

Professor MacDonald’s research focused on the social and cultural history of early modern Britain, the history of the mind, and popular religious and magical beliefs. He authored, co-authored, and edited a number of notable works including Mystical Bedlam: Madness, Anxiety, and Healing in Seventeenth-Century England (1981), Sleepless Souls: Suicide in Early Modern England (1990), and Witchcraft and Hysteria in Elizabethan London: Edward Jorden and the Mary Glover Case (1991). He served on the editorial boards of the History of Psychiatry, the Journal of Modern History, and the Social History of Medicine. A gifted instructor and dedicated mentor, Professor MacDonald taught courses on early modern Europe; British history; and magic, religion and science in early modern England. He is the recipient of numerous honors including fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Humanities Center. Professor MacDonald received the North American Conference on British Studies’ Walter D. Love Prize for the best journal article in the field of British studies in 1987.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and researcher by naming Michael P. MacDonald, professor emeritus of history.

Requested by:

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

Adopted by the Regents
September 17, 2015