THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Thomas E. Carey, Ph.D., Distinguished Research Scientist, professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, and professor of pharmacology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on September 1, 2019.

Professor Carey received his B.S. degree from Saint Lawrence University in Canton, New York in 1967 and his Ph.D. degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo in Buffalo, New York in 1973. After active duty for training in the U.S. Army Reserves’ Medical Service Corps, he completed a postdoctoral fellowship focusing on melanoma immunology and serology at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Institute with Dr. Lloyd Old from 1973-76. Professor Carey joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant research scientist in 1978, and was promoted to associate research scientist in 1986, research scientist in 1992, and senior research scientist in 1997. Professor Carey was appointed professor of otolaryngology (now otolaryngology-head and neck surgery) in 2000 and professor of pharmacology in 2003. He served as chair of the Department of Oral Medicine, Pathology, and Oncology in the School of Dentistry from 2001-06.

Professor Carey performed transformative research in the field of head and neck oncology. He received continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health to support this research. Professor Carey’s work studied the genetic factors that modify squamous cell cancer response to treatment and the role HPV plays in head and neck cancer. He helped transform head and neck cancer research by developing over 100 head and neck cancer cell lines. In addition to his cancer research, Professor Carey’s hearing research at the Kresge Hearing Research Institute discovered, characterized, and cloned a gene that encodes an inner ear antigen called choline transporter-like protein 2 (CTL2) that is the target of antibody induced hearing loss. He was named a Distinguished Research Scientist in 1999.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Thomas E. Carey, Distinguished Research Scientist Emeritus, professor emeritus of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, and professor emeritus of pharmacology.

Requested by:

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

September 2019