THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Death
Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of Kemp B. Cease, M.D., M.B.A., associate professor of internal medicine in the Medical School. Dr. Cease died on July 28, 2019.

Dr. Cease received his B.S. degree from North Carolina State University in 1977, his M.D. degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 1981, and his M.B.A. degree from the University of Michigan in 1999. He completed his internship (1981-84) at the University of Michigan, his laboratory fellowship (1984-87) at the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health, and his clinical fellowship (1987-90) at the University of Michigan. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1987, and was promoted to associate professor in 1994. Dr. Cease held concurrent appointments in the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. He also held a number of key leadership positions, including the U-M Division of Hematology and Oncology’s associate chief for education and career development and director of the fellowship program from 1991-96, the U-M Division of Hematology and Oncology’s associate chief of veterans affairs from 1994-2019, the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System’s chief of the Hematology and Oncology Section from 1994-2019, and the U-M Department of Internal Medicine’s associate chair of business development from 1996-2002.

Dr. Cease was a well-respected educator and scholar as well as an incredible friend and colleague. His research explored a number of areas, including molecularly targeted vaccines for Bacillus anthracis and Staphylococcus aureus; molecularly targeted immunoncontraceptive vaccines; Alzheimer’s disease vaccine therapeutics; and immunotherapeutics and vaccines for cancer. Dr. Cease published numerous journal articles and book chapters covering vaccine development. Over the course of his long career, he participated in several prestigious professional societies, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society for Clinical Oncology, the American Society of Hematology, the American Society for Microbiology, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He helped develop two patents and had two additional patents pending. Dr. Cease will be remembered for the profound impact he had on generations of students, fellows, and colleagues.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, relatives, and friends.

Requested by:

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

September 2019