THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Emily L. Spinelli, Ph.D., professor of Spanish in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2007.

Professor Spinelli received her B.A. degree from Indiana University in 1964, and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from The Ohio State University in 1967 and 1971, respectively. Between 1971-75 she taught at Columbus School for Girls, Macomb County and Henry Ford Community Colleges, and Wayne State University. She joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as an adjunct lecturer in 1975 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1982, associate professor in 1988, and professor in 1992. She also served as chair of the Department of Humanities from 1992-98.

Professor Spinelli taught courses at all levels in Spanish language, literature, language of business, and culture and civilization, as well as foreign language methodology. She served as coordinator of the Spanish Program and the Teacher Preparation Program in World Languages, and as director of the International Studies Program, and chaired numerous campus task forces and committees. Professor Spinelli is the author of several Spanish textbooks and many articles in scholarly journals, and served six years as editor of Foreign Language Annals. She has been a frequent speaker and workshop presenter throughout the United States. She has served as president of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and president of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, and has received numerous awards, including the prestigious Florence Steiner Award (Post-Secondary) for Leadership in Foreign Language Education.

The Regents now salute this faculty member by naming Emily L. Spinelli professor emerita of Spanish.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

October 2007