THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Brian A. Burt, Ph.D., professor of dental public health in the School of Public Health and adjunct clinical professor in the School of Dentistry, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2005.

Professor Burt received his B.DSc. degree from the University of Western Australia in 1960, his M.P.H. degree from the University of Michigan in 1966, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of London in 1973. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1974 as a visiting associate professor of dental public health; he was appointed associate professor in 1976 and promoted to professor in 1981. He was appointed associate professor of dentistry in 1976 and promoted to professor in 1987. He became clinical professor of dentistry in 1989, adjunct professor in 1993, and adjunct clinical professor in 2001.

A leader in the field of dental public health, Professor Burt has made ground-breaking contributions, including several classic papers and a book, co-authored with Dr. Stephen Eklund, that is considered the basic text in the field. Professor Burt’s research has largely centered on identifying risk factors for caries and periodontal diseases and on prevention of these conditions at the community level. In particular, he has focused on the effectiveness of fluoride in retarding caries development both in public health and in dental practice. He is currently working with colleagues on a federally-funded project, the Detroit Center for Research on Oral Health Disparities. He was appointed director of the Program in Dental Public Health in 1983, and served as chair of the Department of Community Health Programs from 1985-95.

Professor Burt has received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Association of Public Health Dentistry and the H. Trendley Dean Distinguished Scientist Award from the International Association for Dental Research. He is the editor of Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology, and in 1997, he was named a Diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member for his dedicated service by naming Brian A. Burt professor emeritus of dental public health.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2005
Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Michael M. Chen, Ph.D., professor of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2005.

Professor Chen received his B.S. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1955 and his S.M. and Ph.D. degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1957 and 1961, respectively. He was an assistant professor at Yale University from 1963-69, associate professor at New York University from 1969-73, and professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 1973-91. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 1991.

As a scholar of unusual depth and range, Professor Chen seamlessly integrates the areas of thermo-fluid sciences—fluid mechanics, heat transfer, thermodynamics, applied mathematics, and numerical analysis—with a clarity of thinking that is amazing to his colleagues. He has applied his understanding of these physical sciences to such problems as melting, welding, radiation, optical devices, biological systems, blood flow, interaction of lasers with materials, development of scientific instruments, transport in fluidized beds, and porous media. Above all, he has investigated these diverse phenomena both experimentally and theoretically with equal ease. A first-rate scientist and original thinker, Professor Chen is completing a unique book on convection heat transfer that explains his methodology for formulating and solving physical problems, and he recently developed a revolutionary numerical method for solving two-phase moving boundary problems.

Professor Chen is the author of two other books, ten book chapters, and nearly two hundred other publications. From 1991-93 he served as the director of the Thermal Transport and Thermal Processing Program at the National Science Foundation. His honors include the prestigious ASME Heat Transfer Memorial Award and election as an ASME Fellow. Professor Chen is a kind and caring teacher whose advice is sought and valued by students and colleagues alike.

The Regents now salute this faculty member by naming Michael M. Chen professor emeritus of mechanical engineering.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2005
Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Robert L. Kyes, Ph.D., professor of German in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2005.

Professor Kyes received his A.B. degree from the University of Michigan in 1958, his A.M. degree from Brown University in 1959, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1964. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an instructor in 1962 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1964, associate professor in 1968, and professor in 1974.

Professor Kyes has achieved great distinction nationally and internationally as a scholar of Old Fränkisch and Old Saxon. He is a recognized and widely respected authority on the history of the Germanic languages and has authored, co-authored, or co-edited seven books and monographs concerning historical linguistics as it relates to the Germanic languages. His published articles and book reviews range impressively across topics as diverse as Dutch phonology, pedagogy, and language attitudes in sixteenth and seventeenth century Germany. He was the co-recipient of a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities for reconstructing the grammar of Proto-Germanic, a project of great value to the field of historical linguistics.

Within the classroom, Professor Kyes was recognized as an excellent teacher who taught rigorous courses on the history of the German language, German dialectology, and various Germanic languages. He served as the undergraduate concentration advisor from 1995-2002 and received the Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Concentration Advising in 1999. In appreciation for his dedicated instruction, his former graduate students published a Festschrift in his honor in 2000, and another of his former students established the endowed Mun-Kyes Fund to help support graduate student research in Germanic linguistics. Professor Kyes served as chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures from 1985-1995 and was a key architect of the department's embrace of radical interdisciplinarity, for which it has received national and international recognition.

The Regents salute this distinguished scholar by naming Robert L. Kyes professor emeritus of German.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2005