THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Michael J. Longo, Ph.D., professor of physics in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2008.

Professor Longo received his B.S. degree from La Salle College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1956, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1956 and 1961, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1962, and was promoted to associate professor in 1965 and professor in 1968.

Professor Longo’s research has focused on experimental elementary particle physics at high-energy particle accelerators. His thesis research in nuclear cross sections of hadrons was carried out at the Bevatron of the Lawrence Berkeley Radiation Laboratory under the direction of his thesis advisor, Professor Burton J. Moyer. At the University of Michigan, he and his colleagues worked on experiments at the Brookhaven Cosmotron and Alternating Gradient Synchrotron, the Berkeley Bevatron, and the Argonne Zero Gradient Synchrotron, initially on proton and neutron strong interaction cross sections, elastic scattering, and related physics. He continued extensive experiments on hadron interactions at the 400 GeV synchrotron at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, including neutron physics, and employing a hadron calorimeter for the first time at an accelerator. Later he became involved in Fermilab experiments on muon production, charm physics, and other diverse physics topics, in collaboration with colleagues from Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ohio. After participating in the L3 experiment at the CERN laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland, he returned to the Fermilab where most recently, he has taken part in the Main Injector Particle Production experiment and the HyperCP Collaboration, which has produced significant new results in the field of hyperon physics.

Professor Longo has taught a variety of undergraduate physics courses and has authored two books, Fundamentals of Elementary Particle Physics and Physics Laboratory Experiments. He has chaired 14 doctoral thesis committees and has mentored undergraduate physics students, including those in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and research physicist by naming Michael J. Longo professor emeritus of physics.

Requested by:

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

December 2008