

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents  
December 15, 2011

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Ronald F. Fleming, Ph.D.**, professor of nuclear engineering and radiological sciences in the College of Engineering, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2011.

Professor Fleming received his B.S. degree from the University of Washington in 1959, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan in 1961 and 1975, respectively. Between 1978 and 1989, he was employed by the National Bureau of Standards, as a staff physicist in the Center for Analytical Chemistry (1978-89) and a group leader in the Nuclear Methods Group (1984-1989). He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1989 as professor and director of the Michigan Memorial Phoenix Project in 1989.

While still a graduate student at Michigan, Professor Fleming became aware of the excitement around a new technique being developed called neutron depth profiling (NDP). Realizing that both the Bureau's reactor and its charge to support American industry were ideally matched to the unique capability of NDP, Professor Fleming proposed that a state-of-the-art NDP facility be built at the National Bureau of Standards [now the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)]. The facility came online in 1982. For this work, Professor Fleming and R. Gregory Downing were awarded the Bureau's Applied Research Award in 1986. As director of the Michigan Memorial Phoenix Project (MM-PP) from 1989-2000, Professor Fleming was responsible for both the scientific research supported by the MM-PP and the safe operation of the Ford Nuclear Reactor. After stepping down as the MM-PP director, Professor Fleming spent a sabbatical term at the 2 MW research reactor at the Technical University of Delft, the Netherlands, working in the nuclear analysis group. This has contributed to the ongoing NIST-Delft-Ann Arbor collaboration in neutron science.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Ronald F. Fleming professor emeritus of nuclear engineering and radiological sciences.**

**Requested by:**



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

**December 2011**