THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Theresa M. Lee, Ph.D., professor of psychology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and research professor in the Reproductive Sciences Program, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2011.

Professor Lee received her B.S. degree from Indiana University in 1975 and her Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago in 1982. Following a postdoctoral fellowship and appointment as assistant research professor at the University of California, Berkeley from 1982-88, she joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1988, and was promoted to associate professor in 1994 and professor in 1999. She received an additional appointment as associate research scientist in 1996, and was promoted to research scientist (now research professor) in 1999.

Professor Lee’s research focuses on the areas of chronobiology and behavioral endocrinology. Her research reflects her unusually broad understanding of behavioral neuroscience, which was informed by both developmental and ecologically relevant models of brain and behavior. Professor Lee developed unique animal models that were used to study seasonal changes in maternal-offspring interactions, hibernation, circadian physiology, and behavior. Her unusual experimental skills have allowed her to develop novel ways of conceptualizing important biopsychological observations. Recognized as one of the most eminent researchers in biopsychology today, she was named a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science in 2009.

Professor Lee has provided noteworthy service to the University, most recently as chair of the Department of Psychology, a top-ranked department and one of the most academically diverse psychology departments in the world, from 2007-11. A dedicated teacher who has mentored many successful students, she received LSA’s Undergraduate Mentoring and Advising Award in 2003 and Rackham’s Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award in 2009.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and researcher by naming Theresa M. Lee professor emerita of psychology and research professor emerita.

Requested by:

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

December 2011