

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Adopted by the
Regents
December 19, 2013

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Randolph M. Nesse, M.D., professor of psychiatry in the Medical School, professor of psychology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and research professor in the Institute for Social Research, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2013.

Dr. Nesse received his B.A. degree from Carleton College in 1970 and his M.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1974. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an instructor in 1977, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1979, associate professor in 1985, and professor in 1993. Prior to joining the faculty he completed his psychiatry residency (1974-77) and served as chief resident in the Department of Psychiatry (1976-77) at the University. In the Institute for Social Research he also served as a faculty research associate from 1996-2002, a senior research scientist from 2002-03, and a research professor since 2003. He received the additional appointment of professor of psychology in 2002.

An innovative psychiatrist, scholar, and leader, Dr. Nesse is best known for his research in the field of evolutionary medicine. His work explored the origins of senescence, the neuroendocrinology of anxiety, and the medical applications of evolutionary biology. Dr. Nesse, with George C. Williams, co-authored the article "The Dawn of Darwinian Medicine" in *The Quarterly Review of Biology* (1991) and the classic book *Why We Get Sick: The New Science of Darwinian Medicine* (1994). His collaborative research endeavors have sought to develop and promote new applications of evolution to medicine and public health. Dr. Nesse played an instrumental role in the establishment of the University's Evolution and Human Behavior Program and the Human Behavior and Evolution Society. Dr. Nesse served as the Society's second president from 1990-91 and chair of the publication committee from 1992-2005. He received three Teacher of the Year Awards from the Department of Psychiatry and was elected a fellow of the American Psychiatric Association in 2008.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar for his dedicated service by naming **Randolph M. Nesse professor emeritus of psychiatry, professor emeritus of psychology, and research professor emeritus.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2013