THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Death

Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of Noreen M. Clark, Ph.D., Myron E. Wegman Distinguished University Professor of Public Health, professor of health behavior and health education in the School of Public Health, and professor of pediatrics and communicable diseases in the Medical School. Professor Clark died after a brief illness on November 23, 2013.

Professor Clark received her B.S. degree from the University of Utah in 1965, and her M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University in 1972, 1975, and 1976, respectively. From 1973-81 she served on the faculty of Columbia University. Professor Clark joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1981 and was promoted to professor in 1985. She was named Marshall H. Becker Collegiate Professor of Public Health from 1995-2005 and Myron E. Wegman Distinguished University Professor of Public Health in 2006. She served as chair of the Department of Health Behavior and Health Education from 1987-1995 and as dean of the School of Public Health from 1995-2005.

An internationally recognized expert in the management of chronic disease, Professor Clark conducted numerous large-scale studies aimed at identifying and developing systems, policies, and programs that would promote health, prevent illness, and enable individuals to manage disease. Her studies documented the efficacy and impact of patient and provider educational interventions on the reduction of asthma hospitalizations, heart-related hospitalizations, and medical emergencies. Her international field work explored interventions in China, Kenya, and the Philippines. Professor Clark’s research findings led to the development and dissemination of model programs that have positively impacted the health of over a million adults and children nationally and internationally. She founded and served as the director of the Center for Managing Chronic Disease since 2006. She was a dedicated and inspiring mentor to her countless students, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in academia, government, and industry. Professor Clark cared deeply about and sought to improve health and promote health equity for all communities and individuals.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we also extend our heartfelt condolences to her husband George, her son Alex, and her many loving relatives and friends.

Requested by:

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

December 2013