

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Anthony H. Francis, Ph.D.**, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and professor of chemistry in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2015.

Professor Francis received his B.S. degree from Yale University in 1964 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1969. He served on the faculties of the University of California, Berkeley (1971-72) and the University of Illinois, Chicago (1972-75). He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1975, and was promoted to associate professor in 1977, and professor in 1986. He was named the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in 1996.

Professor Francis' research interests focused on energy transport, charge transport and electronic relaxation processes in semiconductors and organic materials. He developed methods to probe the chemical and physical behavior of these materials by examining their interactions with electromagnetic radiation in the visible, ultraviolet, and infrared or microwave regions of the spectrum. These methods included the novel application of microsecond duration heat pulses to measure charge transport and electronic relaxation in low temperature materials. Professor Francis' research on semi-conducting solids with layered crystal structures has technological applications in battery electrodes, and thermoelectric and electrochromic devices. He directed the research of 27 Ph.D. students, 18 undergraduate students, seven visiting scholars, and six post-doctoral students. Professor Francis held numerous key leadership positions including LSA associate dean for research, computing & facilities (1997-2000), LSA associate dean for research & graduate studies (2000-2001), associate vice president for research (2002-03), LSA associate dean for budget (2004-09), and LSA associate dean for special projects (2009-12). His efforts have improved the administration of research activities, expanded the research facilities, and enhanced the depth and breadth of the University's research enterprise.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher, scholar, and administrator by naming **Anthony H. Francis, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus and professor emeritus of chemistry.**

**Requested by:**



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

**December 2015**