THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Regina Morantz-Sanchez, Ph.D., professor of history and professor of Judaic studies in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2015.

Regina Morantz-Sanchez received her B.A. (1965) degree from Barnard College and her M.A. (1966) and Ph.D. (1971) degrees from Columbia University. She served on the faculties of Queens College, C.W. Post College, the University of Kansas, Carleton College, and the University of California, Los Angeles. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor of history in 1994 and received an additional appointment of professor of Judaic studies in 2009.

Professor Morantz-Sanchez is a leading member of the scholarly cohort that created the fields of women’s and gender history. She published the pathbreaking essay “The Perils of Feminist History” one year after the inaugural Berkshire Conference on the History of Women in 1973. Her scholarship played a crucial role in bringing gender and women’s history into the history of medicine field, especially with Sympathy and Science: Women Physicians in American Medicine (1985). Her second major book, Conduct Unbecoming a Woman: Medicine on Trial in Turn of the Century Brooklyn (1999), used the extraordinary case of a female surgeon acquitted of manslaughter and malpractice charges in a sensational 1889 trial to explore broader tensions of gender, professionalism, and modernity in American cities. Professor Morantz-Sanchez taught undergraduate and graduate courses in gender and women’s history and United States history. Her signature and wide-ranging lecture course, “History of the Family,” brought the revisionist scholarship of gender and women’s history into the undergraduate classroom. Highlights of her extraordinary service record include chairing many search committees, dedicated mentoring of several generations of undergraduate and graduate students, and substantial contributions as a faculty associate in American Culture, Women’s Studies, and Judaic Studies. She received a number of honors including the University’s Excellence in Teaching Award (1998), the Institute for Research on Women and Gender’s Research Award (1999), and the Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award (2000).

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and teacher by naming Regina Morantz-Sanchez, professor emerita of history and professor emerita of Judaic studies.

Requested by:

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

December 2015