

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Ronald A. Nussbaum, Ph.D., professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and curator, Museum of Zoology, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2015.

Professor Nussbaum received his B.S. degree from the University of Idaho in 1967, his M.S. degree from Central Washington University in 1968, and his Ph.D. degree from Oregon State University in 1972. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor and assistant curator in 1974, and was promoted to associate professor and associate curator in 1980, and professor and curator in 1990. He served as director of the University's E.S. George Reserve from 1982-2006.

Professor Nussbaum's research explored the systematics, evolution, and ecology of amphibians and reptiles. His field research and curatorial activities focused on biodiversity surveys and conservation issues of disappearing habitats in the Pacific Northwest, the Seychelles Archipelago, and more recently Madagascar. Professor Nussbaum also studied the evolution of parental care, parental investment, demography, and life history strategies. His explorations have led to the addition of more than 36,000 amphibian and reptile specimens and records to the Museum of Zoology's collections. He has a notable history of successfully securing research funding, authored over 180 widely cited publications, and was a frequent invited presenter at numerous national symposia. Professor Nussbaum's courses included the biology of amphibians and reptiles, the animal physiology section of introductory biology, and a first-year seminar on evolution. He served on a number of committees including the E.S. George Reserve Advisory Committee, the Graduate Student Evaluations Committee, the Museum Executive Committee, the Promotions and Merit Committee, and the University Committee on the Use and Care of Animals.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Ronald A. Nussbaum, professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology and curator emeritus.**

Requested by:



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

December 2015