THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Marc Perlin, Ph.D., professor of naval architecture and marine engineering, director academic program, Marine Hydrodynamic Laboratories, Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, and professor of mechanical engineering, College of Engineering, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2016.

Professor Perlin received his B.S. (1974) degree from Drexel University, his M.C.E. (1978) degree from University of Delaware, and Ph.D. (1989) degree from the University of Florida. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1989, and was promoted to associate professor in 1995, and professor in 2004. He held an additional appointment in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and served as director of the Marine Hydrodynamics Laboratory.

Professor Perlin’s research focused primarily on two areas of fluid dynamics: free-surface flows and friction drag reduction. His work explored fundamental physical insight into nonlinear wave-wave interactions of surface gravity-capillary and gravity water waves. Since this earlier work, Professor Perlin re-focused his efforts to those of breaking waves, which resulted in the seminal paper on this subject in the Annual Review of Fluid Mechanics. In the latter half of his tenure at the University of Michigan, Professor Perlin and colleagues studied several methodologies to inhibit friction drag on surface and sub-surface vessels. This research culminated in his authorship of the influential text Mitigation of Hydrodynamic Resistance: Methods to Reduce Hydrodynamic Drag (2015). Professor Perlin taught 22 distinct classes during his time at the University of Michigan, which accounts for more than half of the naval architecture and marine engineering curriculum. Perhaps his most influential teaching contributions are those of the department’s senior capstone laboratory courses, which he has taught for more than ten years.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Marc Perlin, professor emeritus of naval architecture and marine engineering and professor emeritus of mechanical engineering.

Requested by:

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

December 2016