

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

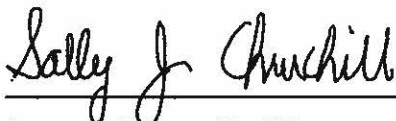
**Alan Robert Tait, Ph.D.**, professor of anesthesiology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on November 30, 2018.

Dr. Tait received his B.Sc. degree from the University of London in 1972 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1986. His University of Michigan career began in 1977, during which he held a number of appointments, including research assistant I, research associate II, research investigator, and assistant research scientist. He was appointed assistant professor in 1988, and was promoted to associate professor in 1993, and professor in 2004. He was awarded the Department of Anesthesiology Endowed Professor of Clinical Research in 2004.

Dr. Tait's research, with the support of the National Institutes of Health and other funding agencies, made a major impact on the perioperative care of children world-wide. His work examining the effects of anesthesia on outcomes in children with risk factors including URI, obesity, ADHD, and sleep-disordered breathing identified a number of strategies to optimize anesthetic management of these vulnerable groups. This work remains widely cited at national and international meetings, in textbooks, and in practice guidelines. Dr. Tait's research related to adult, parental, and child understanding of informed consent for research and medical care achieved recognition among medical ethicists and scholars worldwide. This work yielded novel strategies to improve the communication of informed consent, thereby ensuring that the legal and ethical rights of patients and research participants are protected. Implementation of these communication strategies by students, medical interns, and faculty was one of Dr. Tait's most notable legacies at the University of Michigan and beyond. As chair of the Research Committee of the Society for Pediatric Anesthesia, Dr. Tait promoted the academic careers of UM anesthesiologists as well as at academic settings nationally and abroad. In addition to his personal academic accomplishments, Dr. Tait served as a research mentor to a multitude of undergraduate and graduate students and many of the clinical faculty within the Department of Anesthesiology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Alan Robert Tait, professor emeritus of anesthesiology**.

**Requested by:**



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**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**December 2018**