

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir


Philip J. Hanlon, Ph.D., provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, Office of the President, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, Donald J. Lewis Collegiate Professor of Mathematics, and professor of mathematics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2013.

Professor Hanlon received his A.B. degree from Dartmouth College in 1977 and his Ph.D. degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1981. He served on the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1981-83) prior to completing a Bantrell Research Fellowship in mathematics at the California Institute of Technology (1983-86). Professor Hanlon joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1986 and was promoted to professor in 1990. He was named Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in 1992 and Donald J. Lewis Collegiate Professor of Mathematics in 2000.

An exceptional teacher, scholar, and leader, Professor Hanlon held three key administrative positions including associate dean for planning and finance in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (2001-04), vice provost for academic and budgetary affairs (2004-10), and provost and executive vice president for academic affairs (2010-13). His strategic and unrelenting budgetary focus on core academic and research enterprises has enabled the University to weather unprecedented financial challenges. Under his leadership the University began a measured exploration of evolving educational technologies, entrepreneurial opportunities, and innovative learning programs. Professor Hanlon is a leading authority on algebraic combinatorics and discrete probability with special expertise in the fields of bioinformatics and theoretical computer science. A gifted teacher and dedicated mentor, he developed novel mathematics courses, supervised sixteen Ph.D. dissertations, and founded a thriving summer program for high achieving high school students. Professor Hanlon received numerous honors for his work including the Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship (1986-88), National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award (1987-92), Henry Russel Award (1990), and John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship (1992).

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher, researcher, and administrator by naming **Philip J. Hanlon provost emeritus and executive vice president emeritus for academic affairs, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus, and professor emeritus of mathematics.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

April 2013