

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Adopted by the Regents

February 19, 2009

Subject: Report of Faculty Death
Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of **David L. Wigston**, professor of biology at the University of Michigan-Flint, who died on December 30, 2008, at the age of 65.

Born in London, England, Professor Wigston received his B.S. degree in botany in 1965 and his Ph.D. degree in forest ecology in 1972, both from the University of Exeter, United Kingdom. Prior to his appointment at the University of Michigan-Flint, he served in several professorships and chair/department head positions in the United Kingdom, Papua New Guinea, Australia, and the United States. He joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty in 1996 as director of research and professor of biology and served as director of research until June 30, 2002. During his term as director of research, Professor Wigston also served concurrently as acting dean of graduate programs and research from 1998-2002, and director of the Master's of Public Administration Program from 1999-2001.

Professor Wigston brought to the University of Michigan-Flint a distinguished record of scholarship, teaching, and service. He taught in two departments: biology and earth and resource science. As director of research, he used his vast experience to foster a wide variety of faculty development opportunities for both junior and senior faculty, and hosted some of the first "Meeting of Minds" conferences on the Flint campus. He also served on the chancellor's leadership team and on faculty and administrative committees, in addition to consulting with governmental agencies and community groups. His honors include appointments as Eminent Visiting Ecologist at Michigan State University, Eminent Guest Lecturer in Biology at the University of Toronto, and Bell Fellow of the American Forest History Society.

As we recognize the contributions of Professor David L. Wigston as a scholar and teacher, we also mourn his loss and send condolences to his wife, Sarah. He will be missed by his students, colleagues, and friends at the University of Michigan-Flint.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2009