

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

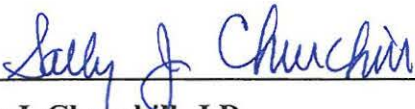
**William L. Smith, Ph.D.**, professor of biological chemistry in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2015.

Professor Smith received his B.A. degree from the University of Colorado in 1967 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1971. He served on the faculty of Michigan State University from 1975-2003. Professor Smith joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor of biological chemistry, the Minor J. Coon Collegiate Professor of Biological Chemistry, and chair of the Department of Biological Chemistry in 2003.

Professor Smith studied signal transduction, eicosanoid metabolism and function, lipids and lipid mediators, and essential fatty acid metabolism and nutrition. His research explored the role of nutritionally essential fatty acids, prostaglandins and cyclooxygenases in inflammation, thrombosis, and colon cancer. Professor Smith has a notable history of successfully securing research funding, published numerous articles in the leading journals, and was a frequent invited speaker at national symposia. He served on the editorial boards of several prestigious journals, including the *Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics*, *Biochimica Biophysica Acta*, *Hypertension*, the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, and *Prostaglandins*. A gifted teacher and dedicated mentor, Professor Smith taught undergraduate biochemistry courses, served on several thesis committees, and was a research adviser to countless graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. He is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the Bayer Corporation's Senior Aspirin Award (1997), the State of Michigan Scientist of the Year Award (2004), and the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology's William C. Rose Award (2006).

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and researcher for his dedicated service by naming **William L. Smith, professor emeritus of biological chemistry**.

**Requested by:**



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

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**February 2016**