

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

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

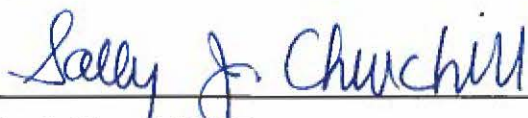
**Paul R. Lichter, M.D., M.S.**, professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on January 31, 2018.

Dr. Lichter received his B.A. (1960), M.D. (1964), and M.S. (1968) degrees from the University of Michigan. He completed an internal medicine internship (1964-65) at the Presbyterian Medical Center, an ophthalmology residency (1965-68) at the University of Michigan, and a glaucoma fellowship (1968-69) at the University of California, San Francisco. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1971, and was promoted to associate professor in 1975, and professor in 1978. Starting with seven faculty and ten staff members in 1978, Dr. Lichter grew the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences 12-fold in faculty and 30-fold in staff before stepping down as chair in 2012. As the founding director, he played an instrumental leadership role in the success and construction of the W.K. Kellogg Eye Center, dedicated in 1985, and later the Brehm Tower, dedicated in 2010.

An internationally renowned ophthalmologist, Dr. Lichter is a leader in the field of glaucoma research. His early work, supported by two National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 grants, studied the side effects of carbonic anhydrase inhibitors used to treat glaucoma. Dr. Lichter led the NIH-sponsored Collaborative Initial Glaucoma Treatment Study conducted at 14 medical centers across the country. The study concluded that patients with more advanced disease at the time of diagnosis fared better with initial surgery compared to initial medication therapy, a finding that continues to influence contemporary approaches to treating glaucoma. Additionally, Dr. Lichter played a critical role in collaborations that identified glaucoma-related genetic mutations in juvenile glaucoma, Nail-Patella Syndrome, and genome-wide association studies. He published more than 200 peer-reviewed articles, 75 editorials, 60 abstracts, 20 book chapters, one book, and has delivered over 40 named lectures. Dr. Lichter served as president of many national and international organizations, including the Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis, the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Ophthalmological Society, the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology, and the Pan American Association of Ophthalmology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Paul R. Lichter, professor emeritus of ophthalmology and visual sciences.**

**Requested by:**



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Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2018