

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

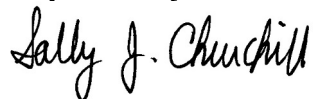
**Alex F. Bielajew, Ph.D.**, professor of nuclear engineering and radiological sciences in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2021.

Professor Bielajew obtained his B.Sc. degree in physics from McGill University in 1978. He was awarded the prestigious Canadian Centennial Postgraduate Scholarship and graduated from Stanford University in 1982 with a Ph.D. degree in theoretical physics. Upon graduation, Professor Bielajew joined the Division of Physics at the National Research Council of Canada (NRCC). During his 15 years there, he developed and managed the well-known EGS (Electron Gamma Shower Monte Carlo code) software package used by researchers worldwide to simulate radiation interactions. His PRESTA algorithm, used for simulating electron transport, became a Citation Classic paper, a significant achievement in physics. Professor Bielajew joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 1997.

During a productive professional career, he published numerous papers on fundamental radiation dosimetry that laid the foundation for worldwide standards for radiation instrument calibration. The algorithms and computer codes he produced have been incorporated into nearly every commercial and research cancer therapy dose prediction, providing results that have benefited the lives of those patients. Beyond conducting research, Professor Bielajew was a gifted educator and taught nearly 6,000 students at all levels during his teaching tenure. He chaired the department's Undergraduate Program and advocated tirelessly on behalf of students to provide educational opportunities and successful outcomes.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Alex F. Bielajew, professor emeritus of nuclear engineering and radiological sciences**.

**Requested by:**



---

**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2022