THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Jeffrey W. Pearson, B.A., M.S.L.S., senior associate librarian in the University Library, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2021.

Mr. Pearson obtained his B.A. (1975) and M.S.L.S. (1988) degrees from Wayne State University. Mr. Pearson’s career began as a reference librarian at Wayne State University where he quickly advanced as a media librarian and collections librarian before coming to the University of Michigan in 2000. From 2000 until his retirement, Mr. Pearson was the media librarian in the University Library.

Active in several national professional associations, Mr. Pearson’s involvement included the American Library Association’s (ALA) Video Roundtable where he was a longstanding active member, chair of the Communications Subcommittee (2010-11), and also a member of the Notable Videos Subcommittee, which reviewed and recommended outstanding films (2006-09, 2015-16). Mr. Pearson also participated in the annual National Media Market & Conference as an invited judge for the Best in Show Committee, highlighting his expertise in film and documentaries.

Mr. Pearson’s notable contributions to the University of Michigan include directing the media streaming services at the University Library, in particular transforming this service from a physical, media-based service to a digital streaming service to reflect pedagogical advances on campus. From 2016-20, he provided intellectual property guidance to the Michigan Sustainability Cases. Demonstrating his commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, he was elected to the University Library Diversity Council from 2005-07 and 2010-13, and he was elected to the Librarians’ Forum Board from 2008-20. In his time at U-M, he also contributed to university teaching priorities. Mr. Pearson partnered with campus units to support faculty and media streaming, teaching many workshops over the years on integrating media into the curriculum. He played a pivotal role in the U-M Library joining the Academic Libraries Video Trust to preserve media. He was a generous colleague who always kept service excellence to faculty, staff, and students paramount.

The Regents now salute this distinguished librarian for his dedicated service by naming Jeffrey W. Pearson, senior associate librarian emeritus.

Requested by:

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

February 2022