

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**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 **Charles Rogers Doering, Ph.D.**, Nicholas D. Kazarinoff Collegiate Professor of Complex Systems, Mathematics and Physics; director, Center for the Study of Complex Systems; professor of mathematics; professor of physics; and professor of complex systems in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Professor Doering died on May 15, 2021.

His untimely passing creates a deep sense of loss spanning diverse communities, while also reminding us all of the joy that emanates from a life well lived in the service of others and in the pursuit of knowledge.

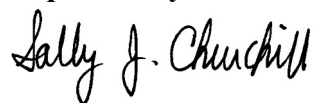
Professor Doering received his B.S. degree from Antioch College in 1977, his M.S. degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1978, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1985. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 1996. He served as the acting director (2013-14) and director (2015-21) of the Center for the Study of Complex Systems.

Professor Doering was a prominent polymath with a highly interdisciplinary research program—his work spanned stochastic dynamical systems and partial differential equations arising from applications across biology, chemistry, and physics. Much of Professor Doering's work focused on understanding some of the most foundational questions in applied mathematics and fluid dynamics and co-authoring one of the seminal books on the subject.

Professor Doering was also a dedicated educator and mentor at all levels and advised over 40 doctoral students and postdocs over the course of his career and served on the dissertation committees of over 60 additional students. In addition to Professor Doering's research and academic roles, he was a pillar of the UM community, and a true superfan of the UM football team. He attended nearly every game in his characteristic maize and blue suit—regalia so striking that it was featured in *The New York Times*. He had an irrepressible (and irreverent) spirit that made him nearly an institution unto himself.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife of 35 years, Paula, as well as his three children and three grandchildren.

**Requested by:**



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

February 2022