THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Kirk J. Brower, M.D., professor of psychiatry in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on January 3, 2023.

Dr. Brower graduated from UCLA (Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa) in 1976 with a B.A. degree in psychobiology and UC Irvine Medical School (Alpha Omega Alpha) in 1981 with an M.D. degree. He completed a residency in psychiatry at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute in 1985. He joined the faculty at the University of Michigan as an instructor in 1986, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1989, associate professor with tenure in 1994, and professor of psychiatry with tenure in 2008.

He started as the clinical director of the newly established UM Alcohol Program. In 1991, he became the executive director of Chelsea Arbor Addiction Treatment Center. In 2006, he co-founded the University of Michigan Addiction Treatment Services (UMATS) in the Department of Psychiatry and served as its executive director until 2017. He also founded the ACGME-accredited addiction psychiatry fellowship program in 1997, which he directed until 2017. He was primary mentor to 15 clinical fellows who graduated from the program.

Dr. Brower was principal investigator (PI) on K24, R01, and R21 grants from the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (1999-2012) to study the genetics of relapse to alcohol dependence and the diagnosis and treatment of insomnia in alcohol-dependent patients. He trained 13 fellows as part of an ongoing T32 training grant (Multidisciplinary Alcoholism Research Training Program) and served as its PI from 2009-2014. Finally, he was a co-investigator on two Fogarty International Center training grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (2006-2014) and mentored seven clinical research fellows from Latvia, Poland, and Ukraine.

For the past eight years, Dr. Brower involved himself in administrative activities, first as the psychiatric consultant to the Office of Clinical Affairs (2014-2019), and most recently as the inaugural chief wellness officer of the Medical School and faculty director of the Wellness Office for University of Michigan Health from 2019 to 2022.

Dr. Brower is a distinguished life fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a life fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine. He has published more than 135 peer-reviewed articles, 40 book chapters, and co-edited the book, Physician Mental Health and Well-Being: Research and Practice in 2017.

The Regents now salute this distinguished psychiatrist for his service to the University of Michigan by naming Kirk J. Brower, professor emeritus of psychiatry.

Requested by:

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

February 2023