THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Timothy R. B. Johnson, M.D., Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, Medical School, and professor of women’s and gender studies, College of Literature, Science and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2023.

Dr. Johnson received his M.D. degree in 1975 from the University of Virginia School of Medicine and completed an obgyn residency at the University of Michigan Hospitals in 1979. He then completed his maternal-fetal medicine fellowship from The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1981. After service in the U.S. Air Force, he rejoined the Johns Hopkins faculty to eventually become director of the division of maternal fetal medicine. Dr. Johnson was recruited in 1993 to be professor and chair of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Michigan Medical School. He was chair through 2017 and the Bates Professor of the Diseases of Women and Children from 1993-2018. He was research professor for the Center for Human Growth and Development from 1993-2020 and professor of women’s and gender studies at the College of Literature, Science and the Arts since 1995.

Dr. Johnson’s commitment to international education and academic partnerships has paved the way for global learning programs across campus. His work has led to the training and retention of over 240 OBGYN physicians in Ghana, collaborative publications, student exchanges, and a program in Ethiopia. His framework of sustained academic partnership has made U-M a role-model and international education leader in Africa.

Dr. Johnson has authored over three hundred fifty articles, chapters, and books and was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the Distinguished Merit Award from the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics. He is past president of the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics and received their lifetime achievement award. He is also past editor of the International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics and elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2003.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and physician by naming Timothy R. B. Johnson, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus, professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology, and professor emeritus of women’s and gender studies.

Requested by:

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

February 2024