

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Linda N. Groat, Ph.D.**, professor of architecture in the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2025.

Professor Groat earned her B.A. in History from the Connecticut College for Women in 1968, an M.A.T. (Master of Arts in Teaching) in History from Yale University in 1969, an M.F.A. in Design from the California Institute of the Arts in 1972, an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Environmental Psychology from the University of Surrey (England) in 1979 and 1985, respectively. She began her academic career as an assistant professor in the Department of Architecture at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee in 1980 and was promoted to associate professor in 1986. She joined the College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan as an associate professor of architecture in 1987 and was promoted to professor of architecture in 1999. She served as associate dean for academic programs and administration from 1987 to 1992. From 2001 through 2015, she held an additional appointment as professor of women’s studies at the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts at the University of Michigan.

Professor Groat is a widely acclaimed scholar whose pioneering work in design and research methods, environmental meaning, empirical aesthetics, place theory, gender and minority issues in architectural education, and participatory design has profoundly shaped contemporary design studies. As co-author of *Architectural Research Methods* (2013) and co-editor of *Games in Architecture and Urban Planning* (2019), she has enriched the field’s intellectual foundations while championing a vibrant research culture and advancing doctoral pedagogy. Her distinguished record of leadership has been recognized with the Architectural Research Centers Consortium’s James Haecker Award (2018) and, most recently, designation as a Distinguished Professor in the 2023 Architectural Education Awards hosted by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

The Regents now salute this distinguished professor by naming **Linda N. Groat, professor emerita of architecture**.

**Requested by:**



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**Jon Kinsey**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2026