

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Victor Lieberman, Ph.D., Raoul Wallenberg Distinguished University Professor of History and professor of history in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2025.

Professor Lieberman received a Ph.D. in Southeast Asian history from the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London in 1976. He joined the University of Michigan as an assistant professor of history in 1984, was promoted to associate professor in 1985, and was made professor in 1991.

Professor Lieberman is probably the most distinguished scholar working in the English language on the history of southeast Asia. His first book, *Burmese Administrative Cycles*, won the “best book” award of the Association for Asian Studies in 1987. In 2004 and in 2009 he brought out *Strange Parallels*, a magisterial two-volume (and 1,500 page) study of southeast Asia seen in relation to Europe, Japan and the wider world. Both books were widely acclaimed: Volume 1 won the “best book” prize of the World History Association; when Volume 2 was published, a reviewer in the *American Historical Review* called it “the most important work of history produced so far this century.” Professor Lieberman was a committed and innovative teacher: his History 244, “History of the Arab Israeli Conflict”, boasted the largest enrollments in the Department of History; and in 2011 he brought out *The Hundred Year Struggle for Israel and Palestine*, a collection of essays and documents arising out of his signature course. In 2014, he was given the Golden Apple Award by U-M students.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and teacher by naming **Victor Lieberman, Raoul Wallenberg Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of History and professor emeritus of history**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

February 2026