

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Donald J. Bord, Ph.D., professor of physics in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters (CASL), University of Michigan-Dearborn, retired from active faculty status on December 30, 2016.

Professor Bord earned his B.A. degree from Hamilton College in 1970, his M.Sc. degree from Clarkson University in 1972, and his Ph.D. degree from Dartmouth College in 1976. He joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as an associate professor in 1984, and was promoted to professor in 1992.

Professor Bord applied spectroscopy to assess heavy and rare-earth element abundances in stars whose compositions are markedly different from the sun. He conducted *ab initio* quantum mechanical computations of energy levels and transition probabilities for lanthanide and actinide for use in producing synthetic stellar spectra. Professor Bord published numerous articles in a number of leading journals, including the *American Journal of Physics*, *The Astrophysical Journal*, *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, *The Astronomical Journal*, the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, *The Physics Teacher*, and *Sky and Telescope*. He authored a successful introductory physics textbook entitled *Inquiry into Physics* (2016, 8th edition). Professor Bord played an instrumental role in the development of the astronomy minor, served as the principal investigator for a \$200,000 National Science Foundation grant, and led the successful initiative to construct a 0.4-m telescope observatory on campus. Professor Bord held a number of key leadership roles, including chair of the physics discipline (1986-89, 2000-05), chair of the Department of Natural Sciences (1990-93, 2011-14), associate dean for enrollment management and curriculum of the CASL (2005-07), interim dean of CASL (1999), interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs (2008-09), and associate provost (2009-11), and interim chair of the Department of Health and Human Services (2016). He received the University's Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award in 2003.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Donald J. Bord, professor emeritus of physics**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

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