

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Frank W. Thompson, Ph.D.**, lecturer IV in the Residential College in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active status on May 31, 2013.

Dr. Thompson received his B.A. (1964) degree from the University of Kansas and his A.M. (1968) and Ph.D. (1973) degrees from Harvard University. He taught philosophy as an assistant professor at Indiana University for five years. Dr. Thompson left academia in the mid-1970s and worked for several years as a social activist. Dr. Thompson later pursued his interests in economic and social change by studying economics and earning his second M.A. (1989) and Ph.D. (1998) degrees from the University of Michigan. In 1985, Dr. Thompson began working as a teaching assistant in the University of Michigan's Department of Economics and in 1990 was hired as a lecturer in both the Department of Economics and the Residential College where he continued to teach until his retirement.

Dr. Thompson's teaching and research centered in political economy and intergenerational justice. His courses focused on economic development, inequality, depletion of nonrenewable natural resources and philosophical questions arising in social science. Dr. Thompson acted as the head of the RC Social Science Program from 1996-2003 while serving on the economics department's Undergraduate Program Committee. In addition to teaching, he worked as an advisor for both the Economics and the RC Social Theory and Practice Programs. He was an active participant in the ongoing administration and curricular development of the Social Theory and Practice Program, contributing a valuable interdisciplinary perspective. He utilized his research experience to facilitate study abroad programs in Argentina, Cuba, and Germany, where he had prior experience. In 1998, he received an award from the Christopher Reynolds Foundation in support of his research in Cuba. Dr. Thompson continued his work abroad as a visiting professor at both Nagoya University in 2012 and Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2013. Dr. Thompson's articles have been published in both philosophy and economics journals. He served as a member of the editorial board for the *Review of Radical Political Economics* from 1986-2001 and for the *Lateinamerika Analysen* from 2002-09.

The Regents now salute this distinguished instructor, researcher, and social scientist by naming **Frank W. Thompson, lecturer IV emeritus of the Residential College**.

**Requested by:**



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

**March 2021**