

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

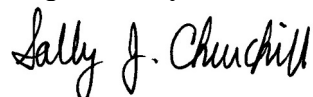
Jonathan Smith, Ph.D., professor of English in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn, retired from active faculty status on April 30, 2023.

Professor Smith received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Rice University in 1984 and his Master of Arts, Masters of Philosophy, and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University in 1985, 1988, and 1990, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as an assistant professor in 1991, and was promoted to associate professor in 1997, and professor in 2005. In 2002, he was the Jack Williamson Visiting Professor in Science and the Humanities (and endowed chair) at Eastern New Mexico University. He became the Dearborn campus's ninth William E. Stirton Professor, the campus's highest faculty honor, in 2012.

Professor Smith's undergraduate training in both English literature and chemical engineering led to his interdisciplinary research in the literature and science of nineteenth-century Great Britain. His first book, *Fact and Feeling: Baconian Science and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination* (1994), argued for the methodological congruity of literature and science in the period, while his second, *Charles Darwin and Victorian Visual Culture* (2006), broke new ground in its analysis of the illustrations in Darwin's books and the impact of Darwin on fine art and popular visual culture. The 2008 recipient of the Dearborn campus's Distinguished Research Award, Professor Smith has also co-edited two volumes of primary source material, one for *Victorian Science and Literature* (2011) and another forthcoming for *Nineteenth-Century Science and Visual Culture in Great Britain*. A rigorous and innovative teacher, Professor Smith taught a wide array of undergraduate courses, was an early adopter of online pedagogies, and mentored numerous students in research projects. From 2002-2005, he led a team from the Dearborn campus and The Henry Ford that developed a National Endowment for the Humanities-funded website on *The Automobile in American Life and Society*. Professor Smith was also deeply engaged in shared governance and academic administration, serving on numerous departmental, college, campus, and university committees, as associate dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters (2006-2009), as chair of the Department of Literature, Philosophy, and the Arts (2011-2016), and as chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences (2016-2022).

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Jonathan Smith, professor emeritus of English**.

Requested by:



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

March 2023