THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Ruth J. Person, Ph.D., professor of management in the School of Management (SOM), University of Michigan-Flint, retired from active faculty status on January 4, 2024.

Professor Person received her B.A. degree in 1967 from Gettysburg College, her M.S. degree in 1974 from George Washington University, and her Ph.D. degree in 1980 from the University of Michigan. She joined the Catholic University of America as an assistant professor and was later tenured and promoted to associate professor in 1985. In 1986, she served as dean of the College of Library Sciences at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. In 1988, she moved to University of Missouri-St. Louis as associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. In 1993, she became vice president for academic affairs at Ashland University. In 1995, she served in the same capacity at Angelo State University until 1999, when she moved to Indiana University Kokomo to serve as chancellor until 2008. In 2008, she accepted the position as chancellor at University of Michigan-Flint. She served as chancellor for six years before returning to her role as professor of management for the nine years prior to retirement.

Professor Person’s research focused on library sciences, personnel management, management development programs, and leadership. She published in journals such as the College & Research Libraries, Community & Junior College Libraries, and Advances in Library Administration and Organization. She taught courses on management, personnel management, and college learning resources throughout her career. She also served as a trustee of the Biglari Foundation since 2016.

As chancellor, she oversaw development of significant new academic programs at the doctoral, master’s and bachelor’s levels; created early colleges for high school students; received the Carnegie Engaged Campus designation; and helped the University of Michigan-Flint be recognized as Michigan’s fastest growing university.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Ruth J. Person, professor emerita of management.

Requested by:

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

March 2024