

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

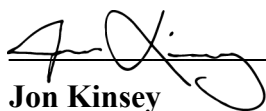
Jeffrey L. Curtis, M.D., professor of internal medicine in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on January 31, 2026.

Dr. Curtis earned his M.D. from Georgetown University School of Medicine in 1977. He completed internship (1978), residency (1981), and a clinical immunology fellowship (1983) at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. He was a pulmonary research fellow (1983-1984) at the Cardiovascular Research Institute of the University of California, San Francisco, before completing his clinical fellowship in 1985 at the University of California, San Francisco, where he was appointed as an assistant research immunologist (1985-1988) and an assistant professor in residence (1988-1990). He was appointed as an assistant professor in internal medicine at the University of Michigan (1990-1996), then advanced to associate professor in internal medicine (1996-2002), and then became a professor in internal medicine (2002-present). Additionally, he served as an attending physician (1985-1988) and staff physician (1988-1990) at the San Francisco VA Medical Center, and as a staff physician (1990-present) at the Department of Veterans Affairs Health System.

Dr. Curtis is a prominent expert on pulmonary immunity and chronic lung diseases, recognized for his pioneering research on the immunopathogenesis and treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). His work explores the regulation of lung leukocytes, efferocytosis and its immunological consequences, and the complex interactions between lung innate immune cells and the lung microbiome, using both advanced experimental techniques and unique human clinical samples. Dr. Curtis directs studies utilizing specialized flow cytometry to analyze lung immune responses in both murine models and human subjects, with a special emphasis on COPD and difficult-to-control asthma. His clinical expertise, combined with collaborations across the Program in Biomedical Sciences labs, supports innovative investigations into how lung immunity develops and reacts to environmental exposures such as tobacco smoke and indoor air pollution. Through his dedication to translational research and graduate education, Dr. Curtis is committed to advancing understanding of lung immune mechanisms and improving outcomes for patients with chronic respiratory diseases. Dr. Curtis has received various honors and awards throughout his career, including the Roger Grekin Award in 2017 and the John B. Barnwell Award for Clinical Science Research in 2019. Dr. Curtis is a member of numerous professional societies, including the American Thoracic Society, American Association of Immunologists, and the American Federation for Medical Research.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Jeffrey L. Curtis, professor emeritus of internal medicine**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

March 2026