

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents

May 17, 2007

## ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**William R. Kuhn, Ph.D.**, professor of atmospheric science in the College of Engineering, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2007.


Professor Kuhn received his B.S. degree from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, in 1961, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Colorado in 1966, and completed a post-graduate fellowship at the University of Colorado in 1967. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1967 as an assistant professor of meteorology (now atmospheric science), and was promoted to associate professor in 1971 and professor in 1978.

Early in his career, Professor Kuhn's research focused on the radiative properties of Earth's upper atmosphere. In the early seventies, he was one of the participants in the Climatic Impact Assessment Program, which evaluated the potential effect on the climate of supersonic transports. Later, he studied how photochemistry influences the composition of Jupiter's atmosphere, the climate of Mars early in its geologic history, and how the Martian environment would affect, and be influenced by, terrestrial organisms. More recently, his research has been devoted to studies of Earth's climate dating back four billion years, and the current effects of changes in the amount of non-radiative gases in the atmosphere on temperature and the latitudinal temperature gradient.

Professor Kuhn served as chair of the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Space Sciences from 1980-90. His dedication as a teacher was recognized with the College of Engineering's Excellence in Teaching Award in 1993 and the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Space Sciences Teaching Award in 2002. Since 2003 he has actively participated in a complete restructuring of the department's undergraduate courses and degree requirements. He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Geophysical Union, the Astronomical Society, and the Planetary Society, and was a reviewer for the National Research Council post-doctoral fellowship from 2001-05.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **William R. Kuhn professor emeritus of atmospheric science.**

**Requested by:**

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

May 2007