

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Adopted by the Regents

May 14, 2009

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir


G. Joseph Vining, J.D., Harry Burns Hutchins Collegiate Professor of Law and professor of law, Law School, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2009.

Professor Vining received a B.A. degree from Yale University in 1959, B.A. and M.A. degrees from Cambridge University in 1961 and 1970, respectively, and a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1964. Between 1964 and 1969, he worked in private practice and served with the Department of Justice and with the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1969 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 1972 and professor in 1974. He was appointed Harry Burns Hutchins Collegiate Professor of Law in 1985.

Professor Vining's scholarship cuts across disciplinary boundaries. He is one of the most original thinkers on the Law School faculty, reexamining matters regarded as axiomatic in law, science, and literature. Professor Vining has published four books, most recently, *The Song Sparrow and the Child: Claims of Science and Humanity* in 2004. His work explores the nature of persons in law and in science, the role of religion in human life, and the ties between humans and other beings. He teaches primarily legal philosophy and corporate law, but in the last few years he has developed courses on human experimentation and on animal rights. Professor Vining also taught at Cambridge University and was a resident fellow at the Rockefeller Foundation in Bellagio in 1997. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Law Institute.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member for his long and dedicated service by naming **G. Joseph Vining Harry Burns Hutchins Collegiate Professor Emeritus of Law and professor emeritus of law.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2009