

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

Adopted by the Regents
May 20, 2010

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

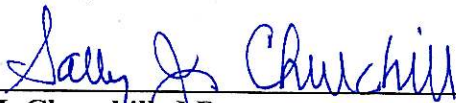
Beverly J. Rathcke, Ph.D., associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2010.

Professor Rathcke received her B.A. degree from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1967, her M.Sc. degree from the University of London, Imperial College of Science and Technology in 1968, and her Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1973. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1978 and was promoted to associate professor in 1985.

Professor Rathcke's research focused on plant-animal interactions in nature and on the consequences of pollination activity in plant reproductive strategies. Her work was instrumental in elucidating the way in which pollination reinforced the condition of androdioecy in white mangroves. Her research in the Bahamas revealed the impact of environmental changes, including those caused by hurricanes and introduced species, on the reproductive success and persistence of plants. A gifted teacher and devoted mentor, Professor Rathcke was the major professor for 28 Ph.D. students and served on more than 50 dissertation committees. Her regular seminar on plant-animal interactions was one of the most popular graduate seminars in the department for many years, providing a forum for graduate students from different laboratories to explore new ideas. She served on numerous departmental committees, chaired the graduate affairs committee (2001-02, 2003-08) and graduate admissions committee (2005-08), and was the inaugural associate chair for graduate studies in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (2005-08). She has been a role model for women in science and a champion for developing and encouraging all students interested in science careers. In 2008, she was recognized by receiving the Rackham Distinguished Graduate Mentoring Award.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Beverly J. Rathcke associate professor emerita of ecology and evolutionary biology.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2010