

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

Adopted by the
Regents
May 15, 2014

ACTION REQUEST

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

Marilyn Mason, Sac.Mus.D., professor of music (organ) and university organist in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2014.

Professor Mason received her B.Mus. (1946) and M.Mus. (1947) degrees from the University of Michigan, her Certificate de Musique (1948) from the École de Musique, Fontainebleau, France, and her Sac.Mus.D. degree from the Union Theological Seminary (1954). She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an instructor of music in 1947, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1954, associate professor in 1961, and professor in 1965. She was appointed university organist in 1976. She has served as chair (1961-2011) and co-chair (2011-13) of the Department of Organ.

Professor Mason is a gifted performer, dedicated adjudicator, and exceptional teacher. Her extensive and global performances include being the first American woman organist to perform in Westminster Abbey, the first woman organist to play in Latin America, and the first American organist to perform in Egypt. Professor Mason has commissioned and premiered 75 new organ compositions to date. In her role as University Organist, Professor Mason has performed at honors convocations, university presidential inaugurations, and memorials for heads of state. Professor Mason generously shared her expertise with the campus community and championed the installation of the Marilyn Mason Organ in the Blanche Anderson Moore Hall. The University's 47th Conference on Organ Music was dedicated to Professor Mason and the profound impact she has made on generations of students. She is the recipient of numerous accolades including an honorary Doctor of Music from the University of Nebraska in 1987, the New York chapter of the American Guild of Organists' Performer of the Year in 1988, the School of Music, Theatre & Dance's Harold Haugh Award in 2011, and was recognized by the National Council of the American Guild of Organists for her distinguished career and remarkable accomplishments in 2009.

The Regents now salute this legendary organists and renowned teacher for her sixty-seven years of service by naming **Marilyn Mason professor emerita of music (organ) and university organist emerita.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2014