THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

L. Rowell Huesmann, Ph.D., Amos N. Tversky Collegiate Professor of Communication Studies and Psychology, professor of communication and media, and professor of psychology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and research professor in the Research Center for Group Dynamics within the Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2020.

Professor Huesmann received his B.S. (1964) degree from the University of Michigan, his M.S. (1967) degree from Carnegie Institute of Technology, and his Ph.D. (1969) degree from Carnegie Mellon University. He served as a lecturer (1968-69), assistant professor (1969-73), and associate professor (1973) at Yale University. He served as an associate professor (1973-79), professor (1979-1992), and department chair (1987-90) at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 1992.

Professor Huesmann was a preeminent scholar in the psychological foundations of aggressive behavior and, in particular, understanding how observations of others behaving violently influences the development of a youth’s aggressive and violent behavior and produces a contagion of violence. Over the past 50 years, he authored more than 100 widely cited scientific articles. He was the editor of the international journal Aggressive Behavior and the 2005 recipient of the American Psychological Association’s award for Distinguished Lifetime Contributions to Media Psychology and the 2014 recipient of the International Society for Research on Aggression’s J. Paul Scott Award for Distinguished Lifetime Contributions to Aggression Research. He testified frequently before Congress and directed several national committees examining the causes of violence. He was a member of the USA National Academy of Science’s Institute of Medicine’s Forum on Global Violence Prevention from 2010-15. He was a past president of the International Society for Research on Aggression and a life member of Clare Hall College, Cambridge University. Professor Huesmann served as director of the Research Center for Group Dynamics at U-M’s ISR (2006-12) and acting chair of the Department of Communication Studies (1993-94).

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and teacher by naming L. Rowell Huesmann, Amos N. Tversky Collegiate Professor Emeritus of Communication Studies and Psychology, professor emeritus of communication and media, professor emeritus of psychology, and research professor emeritus, Research Center for Group Dynamics.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2020

Adopted by the Regents
May 21, 2020