THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Margaret F. Kahn, Ph.D., David M. French Professor and professor of political science in the University of Michigan-Flint College of Arts and Sciences, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2020.

Professor Kahn received her B.A. (1975) degree from Oberlin College and her M.A. (1976) and Ph.D. (1984) degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. She joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty as an assistant professor in 1984, was promoted to associate professor in 1989, and professor in 1998. She was named David M. French Professor in 2003.

Professor Kahn’s scholarly research explored the union movement, pay equity and labor and employment, and inequalities in public policy. For the last 20 years, her research focused on comparable worth/pay equity in Britain and the U.S., and on low-income earners, especially single mothers and their access to public benefits, employment, and postsecondary education. This effort led to multiple scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as co-authored and co-edited volumes. Professor Kahn taught courses in comparative politics, comparative social welfare and health policy, and gender and employment. She served as chair of the Department of Political Science and on the Executive Committee and Curriculum Committee of the College of Arts and Sciences. She received the University of Michigan Academic Women’s Caucus Sarah Goddard Power Award in 2000, the University of Michigan-Flint’s Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Senior Faculty Award in 2000, and the Dorothea Wyatt Award in 1991 and in 2015. She helped to establish the women’s and gender studies minor and the Women’s Educational Center, and in 2010 she co-founded the UM-Flint Common Read program. Professor Kahn participated in advocacy work with national women’s policy networks, the University of Michigan’s Center for the Education of Women, the Center for Civil Justice, and other Flint and Michigan non-profit organizations, and was a member of the American Sociological Association’s Committee for the Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and teacher by naming Margaret F. Kahn, David M. French Professor Emerita and professor emerita of political science.

Requested by:

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

May 2020