

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Ruth E. Dunkle, Ph.D., Wilbur J. Cohen Collegiate Professor of Social Work and professor of social work, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2021.

Professor Dunkle received her B.S. (1969), M.S.W. (1973), and her Ph.D. (1978) degrees from Syracuse University. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1986, and was promoted to professor in 1990.

Professor Dunkle's research, teaching, and clinical practice focused on gerontology. From 1988-2012, Professor Dunkle served as a project co-director of the National Institute on Aging training program, "Social Research Training on Applied Issues of Aging," with Professor Berit Ingersoll-Dayton. She also served as director of the Geriatric Fellowship Program. Professor Dunkle wrote a book on the oldest old, which examines the oldest old's future time perspectives and their coping strategies in dealing with the changes in their physical and psychological functioning, and which identifies relevant service delivery strategies for improving the quality of their lives. Professor Dunkle served in many leadership roles at the school, including associate dean for education and academic affairs from 1987-91, director of the Joint Doctoral Program in Social Work and Social Sciences from 1996-2001, and associate dean for faculty affairs from 2010-17. She contributed significantly to the school's recruitment efforts for both students and faculty and provided excellent leadership to the community and to the profession.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Ruth E. Dunkle, Wilbur J. Cohen Collegiate Professor Emerita of Social Work and professor emerita of social work.**

Requested by:



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

May 2021