THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Margaret L. Hedstrom, Ph.D., Robert M. Warner Collegiate Professor of Information and professor of information in the School of Information and faculty associate in the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2021.

Professor Hedstrom received her B.A. (1975) degree from Grinnell College. She received her M.A. (1977) in library and information studies, her M.A. (1979) in history, and her Ph.D. (1988) degrees from the University of Wisconsin. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1995, and was promoted to professor in 2010. Professor Hedstrom also served as a faculty associate in the Institute for Social Research. Prior to joining the University of Michigan, Professor Hedstrom was the director of the Special Media Records Project (1985-87) and the chief of the State Records Advisory Service (1987-95) at the New York State Archives and Records Administration.

Professor Hedstrom’s major research focused on the management and preservation of electronic records. She published 45 journal and conference articles and these have been widely cited. In 1992, Professor Hedstrom was elected as a fellow of the Society of American Archivists. She also received the W. Kaye Lamb Prize in 1994 from the Association of Canadian Archivists. Professor Hedstrom’s early work focused on guiding archivists in their transition from paper to electronic records. In particular, she was a leader in formulating frameworks to help archivists understand the social, historical, and technological context of electronic recordkeeping so that they could influence the design and deployment of subsequent electronic records systems. Professor Hedstrom was also instrumental during this period in making the papers and records of the South African liberation movement available online. More recently, Professor Hedstrom focused on the challenges of open data, or the policies and mechanisms that enable effective data sharing in the natural and social sciences. Specifically, Professor Hedstrom directed the large-scale National Science Foundation-funded Sustainable Environment through Actionable Data (SEAD) Project. SEAD aimed to make it easier to capture, archive, and federate data, including data collected across many heterogeneous projects.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Margaret L. Hedstrom, professor emerita of information.

Requested by:

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

May 2021