THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Alfred Franzblau, M.D., professor of occupational medicine in the School of Public Health, associate professor of internal medicine in the Medical School, and associate research scientist, Center for Ergonomics in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2022.

Professor Franzblau earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in mathematics from Northwestern University (1975), his M.S. degree in mathematics from Stanford University (1978), and his M.D. degree from the University of California, San Diego (1983). He completed residency training in internal medicine at the University of Washington (1986), where he was also a chief resident. He subsequently completed residency training in occupational medicine (1988) and a fellowship in environmental epidemiology (1989) at The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. He is board certified in both internal medicine and occupational medicine. Professor Franzblau was appointed assistant professor of occupational medicine in the Department of Environmental and Industrial Health (now the Department of Environmental Health Sciences) in 1989. He was promoted to associate professor of occupational medicine in 1996, and professor of occupational medicine in 2003. He held secondary appointments in the University of Michigan Medical School, Division of General Internal Medicine, and also the College of Engineering, Department of Industrial and Operations Engineering.

His professional activities while at the University of Michigan have included research, didactic and clinical teaching, the practice of clinical occupational medicine, and numerous service and administrative activities within the School of Public Health, the university, and nationally. During his tenure as the director of the occupational medicine residency program (1995-2003) more than 40 physicians completed academic and/or clinical residency training in occupational medicine. He mentored students as chair, co-chair or as a member of numerous doctoral committees. He served as co-chair of the University of Michigan IRB Health (2003-06), and associate chair of the Department of Environmental Health Sciences (2004-05). He served as associate dean for research for the School of Public Health (2011-13), and vice provost for academic and budgetary affairs for the University of Michigan (2013-15). He has been a scientific peer-reviewer for dozens of scientific journals, and a scientific advisor and/or reviewer for a number of federal agencies (USEPA, NIOSH, ATSDR, FDA), and other organizations (NAS, IOM, UAW-GM Occupational Health Advisory Board).

Professor Franzblau’s clinical and research interests, and expertise, have focused on a number of domains of occupational and environmental health, including assessing exposure to, and/or adverse health effects from, toxic chemicals (e.g., PCBs, dioxins, furans, methanol), metals (e.g., arsenic, mercury, lead), respiratory toxins (e.g., asbestos, silica, metal working fluids), and occupational musculoskeletal disorders (e.g., carpal tunnel syndrome, knee osteoarthritis). He has published over 150 scientific articles, book chapters, and other scientific writings, and his scholarly publications have been cited over 7,400 times. Five of his papers have been cited for excellence and/or as ‘best paper of the year’ by the relevant journal or professional society.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Alfred Franzblau, professor emeritus of occupational medicine.

Requested by:

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

May 2022

Adopted by the Regents
May 19, 2022