

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Donald R. Kinder, Ph.D., Philip E. Converse Distinguished University Professor of Political Science, professor of political science, and professor of psychology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and research professor in the Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2022.

Professor Kinder earned his B.A. (1969) degree in psychology at Stanford University and his Ph.D. (1975) degree in social psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles. He moved from Yale University to the University of Michigan in 1981 as an associate professor of political science and associate professor of psychology, and was promoted to professor of political science and professor of psychology in 1986. He was named the Philip E. Converse Collegiate Professor of Political Science (1996) and the Philip E. Converse Distinguished University Professor of Political Science (2014).

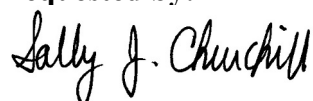
Professor Kinder is the most distinguished public opinion scholar of his generation. He places his arguments on firm psychological foundations and tethers his studies to the rich contours of political discourse as encountered by citizens in the “real world.” His work established that the way that politicians and journalists frame an issue can shape how people organize an understanding of an event in memory. Professor Kinder galvanized the rapid growth of the use of experimental methods in political science. He also advanced a new theory of contemporary prejudice that explained how a fusion of anti-black sentiment and conservative values forge what has come to be known as “racial resentment” and is understood to be one of the strongest and most consistent forces shaping American public opinion. Professor Kinder also reshaped understandings of how voters evaluate political candidates. He was the first scholar to demonstrate the importance of emotions in understanding political attitudes and voter decision-making.

Professor Kinder is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences. He delivered the Russel Lecture at the University of Michigan in 2022.

Professor Kinder chaired the Department of Political Science twice. He served as co-principal investigator for the National Election Studies from 1989 through 1996 and from 1999 through 2005.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher, researcher, and administrator by naming **Donald R. Kinder, Philip E. Converse Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Political Science, professor emeritus of political science, and research professor emeritus, Institute for Social Research.**

Requested by:



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

May 2022