

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Mary C. Kelley, Ph.D., Ruth Bordin Collegiate Professor of History, American Culture and Women's and Gender Studies, professor of history, professor of American culture, and professor of women's and gender studies in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2023, and has made a profound impact on the profession.

Professor Kelley attended Mount Holyoke College, earning a Bachelor of Arts in 1965, followed by a Master of Arts from NYU in 1970, and a Doctorate from the University of Iowa in 1974. She held faculty positions at the City University of New York, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and Dartmouth College where she rose through the ranks to become the John Sloan Dickey Third Century Professor in the Social Sciences (1990-96), and the Mary Brinsmead Wheelock Professor of History (1997-2002) before being appointed at the University of Michigan in 2002.

Professor Kelley has contributed to the study of the history of the book through an interdisciplinary approach to comprehending the role of literature in shaping civic life. She is the author of *Learning to Stand and Speak: Women, Education, and Public Life* (2006), *Private Woman, Public Stage: Literary Domesticity in Nineteenth-Century America* (2002), and *The Limits of Sisterhood: The Beecher Sisters on Women's Rights and Women's Sphere* (1988), among other books; the editor of *The Portable Margaret Fuller* (1994); and a coeditor of *An Extensive Republic: Print, Culture, and Society in the New Nation* (2010). She served as the president of the Society of American Historians (2017), the Society of Historians of Early American Republic (2006), and the American Studies Association (1999). She held prominent roles in the American Antiquarian Society, among other organizations, and served on several editorial boards, from the *Journal of the Early Republic* to *William and Mary Quarterly*, and *The Journal of American History*. Elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2014, she has also been a highly valued mentor of generations of graduate students.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and teacher by naming **Mary C. Kelley, Ruth Bordin Collegiate Professor Emerita of History, American Culture and Women's and Gender studies, professor emerita of history, professor emerita of American culture, and professor emerita of women's and gender studies.**

Requested by:



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

May 2023