

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

David Lam, Ph.D., professor of economics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and research professor in the Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2023.

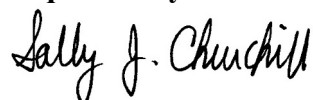
Professor Lam earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Fort Lewis College in 1976, his Master of Arts degree in Latin American studies from the University of Texas in 1978, and his Master of Arts degree in demography and Doctorate in economics from the University of California, Berkeley in 1982 and 1983, respectively. He joined the faculty at the University of Michigan as an assistant professor of economics in 1983 and was promoted through the ranks to professor of economics and research professor in the Population Studies Center (PSC) in 1996. He served as the director of PSC from 1994-2003 and 2008-2010. He served as chair of the Department of Economics from 2014-2015. He served as director of the Institute for Social Research from 2015-2021.

Professor Lam has made important contributions to the study of economic development and economic demography. He is well-known for research investigating the determinants of extreme wage inequality in Brazil and South Africa, with particular attention to the role of education. He has collaborated extensively with Brazilian and South Africa researchers, and was a Fulbright Scholar in both countries. He was named Honorary Professor of Economics at the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa, in recognition of his deep engagement with UCT faculty and students. His research in South Africa includes the Cape Area Panel Study, a seven-year longitudinal study of Cape Town youth conducted with South African researchers with funding from the U.S. National Institutes of Health. Professor Lam served as president of the Population Association of America in 2011. He was a member of the Committee on Population of the National Academy of Sciences, and served as a consultant or advisor to the World Bank, United Nations Population Division, United Nations Development Program, and the South Africa Office of the Presidency. He is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).

During his years at Michigan, Professor Lam taught graduate and undergraduate courses in economic development and economic demography, and supervised many Ph.D. students.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **David Lam, professor emeritus of economics and research professor emeritus**.

Requested by:



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

May 2023