

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Caryl Flinn, Ph.D., professor of film, television, and media 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, 2024.

Professor Flinn received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. She then earned both a Master of Arts degree (1985) and a Ph.D. degree in film and broadcasting (1988) from the University of Iowa. After academic appointments at the University of Florida, the University of Toronto, and the University of Arizona, Professor Flinn joined the Department of Film, Television, and Media at the University of Michigan as a professor in 2012, where she was also an affiliate of the Department of Women's and Gender Studies.

Over the course of her career, Professor Flinn has produced scholarship and taught courses at the intersection of cinema studies, gender studies, and music studies. In addition to exploring concepts of camp, kitsch, and affect, her work has centered primarily on film musicals, studio-era Hollywood, and New German Cinema. As of 2024, she has published five single-author books, one co-edited anthology, and over 20 essays that consider film music and popular culture through the lens of queer theory, cultural studies, and feminist theory. Whether writing about Ethel Merman or *The Sound of Music*, she has explored the ways that music produces meanings, effects, and affects that serve ideological functions despite its inability to represent directly. She served as department chair from 2014-2016 and has been a mentor to over a dozen graduate students. She was also instrumental to designing a more inclusive and interdisciplinary version of FTVM's popular introductory course, which she taught for five years.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Caryl Flinn, professor emerita of film, television, and media and professor emerita of women's and gender studies**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2024