

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

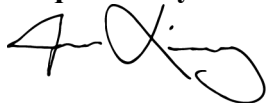
Jeffrey L. Platt, M.D., professor of surgery and professor of microbiology and immunology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on May 18, 2024.

Dr. Platt received his B.A. degree in politics from New York University in 1971, and graduated from the University of Southern California, receiving an MD degree in 1977. He trained as a clinical pediatrician at UCLA and in pediatric nephrology and transplant immunology at the University of Minnesota. He began his early academic career at the University of Minnesota in 1986. He was recruited to Duke University and promoted to professor in the departments of surgery, pediatrics, and immunology in 1992. In 1998, he was appointed as the director of the transplantation biology program, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, Minnesota. In 2008, he was recruited to the University of Michigan as professor of surgery and professor of microbiology & immunology, and director, transplantation biology program. He has served the university as a luminary in the field of transplant immunology since that time.

He has achieved several significant milestones in biomedical science. Notably, Dr. Platt's work on the polymorphism of the TNF receptor family has illuminated its biological significance in transplantation, host defense, and infection susceptibility. He was first to propose and first to report on application of genetic engineering to enable potential use of pigs as sources of organs and tissues for transplantation. He discovered the now widely accepted concept that cells and organs can acquire resistance to immune and inflammatory injury, a condition called *accommodation*. He was first to report that endogenous substances can activate and control toll-like receptors. He also discovered that an end product of complement activation, previously considered inert, hastens and amplifies activation of cell-mediated immunity, revealing what appears to be a new avenue for therapeutics in cancer and infectious disease. With these groundbreaking discoveries came numerous honors. He was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (formerly IOM) in 1997 and the Association of American Physicians in 1998. He received the American Heart Association's Clinician-Scientist Award and Established Investigator Award, and the National Institutes of Health's MERIT Award.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Jeffrey L. Platt, professor emeritus of surgery and professor emeritus of microbiology and immunology**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2024