

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Dennis Pollard, Ph.D., lecturer IV in Romance languages and literatures, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2023.

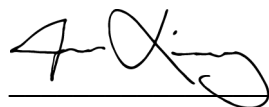
Dr. Pollard attended Albion College (Albion, MI) where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts/Spanish in 1971. He then attended the University of Michigan, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, where he earned his Ph.D. degree in Spanish literature in 1986. In 1975, he joined the University of Michigan, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, as a graduate teaching instructor, then adjunct lecturer in 1978, then lecturer in Spanish in 1986. He joined Albion College as a visiting assistant professor of foreign languages in 1987, then rejoined the University of Michigan, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, as a lecturer III in Romance languages and literatures in 1988. He was promoted to lecturer IV in Romance languages and literatures in 2004.

Throughout his tenure at Michigan, Dr. Pollard has left an important mark on the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, dedicating nearly five decades to advancing the pedagogy and curriculum of Spanish language education. His tenure is distinguished by his contributions to curriculum design, notably in courses such as Spanish 277, Reading, Grammar, and Composition, where he served as the coordinator from 2011 to 2023. Dr. Pollard was instrumental in developing and updating the curriculum, supervising and evaluating lecturers and Graduate Student Instructors, and managing a substantial annual enrollment of approximately 550 students. His commitment to academic excellence extended to advising undergraduate students on course selection and study-abroad opportunities and pioneering online resources to enhance language learning. His efforts in creating and piloting courses like Spanish 320, Introduction to the Study of Literature, and Spanish 270, Spanish Conversation for Non-concentrators, reflect his innovative approach to language education, emphasizing interactive and immersive learning experiences.

Beyond his pedagogical achievements, Dr. Pollard's contributions to the academic community and professional service are noteworthy. His active participation in university committees, including the LEO Professional Development Committee and the LSA Information Technology Committee, exemplifies his commitment to fostering an enriching academic environment. Dr. Pollard's dedication to employing technology in the classroom led him to develop web-based instructional projects and multimedia components, which enhanced students' engagement and understanding of complex grammar concepts. Dr. Pollard's retirement marks the end of a distinguished career filled with academic achievements, innovative teaching, and dedicated service to the University of Michigan.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Dennis Pollard, lecturer IV emeritus in Romance languages and literatures**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2024