

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

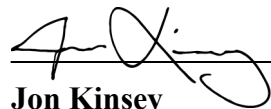
Gary M. Beckman, Ph.D., George G. Cameron Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations and Languages, and professor of Middle East studies in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2025.

Professor Beckman received his Ph.D. degree from Yale University in 1977. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an adjunct professor in 1996, and was promoted to professor in 1998.

Gary Beckman, a historian of the ancient Near East, first came to the University of Michigan as a visiting associate professor from Yale in 1992. He offered courses primarily in the Akkadian and Hittite languages and in the history and culture of the ancient Near East. From 2004 to 2010 he served as chair of the Department of Near Eastern Studies. In 2004-2005, he served as president of the American Oriental Society, and since 1999 has been an associate editor for the ancient Near East section of the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. Beckman also taught briefly at the Institute for the History of Ancient Civilizations of Northeast Normal University (Changchun, China), Beijing University, the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), and Bilkent University (Ankara, Turkey). Beckman has published widely on Hittite religion and on Hittite social organization and diplomacy. He also compiled two catalogues of the Old Babylonian cuneiform tablets held by the Babylonian Collection of Yale University. The focus of his most recent research is the reception and adaptation of Syro-Mesopotamian culture by the Hittites. Professor Beckman has published 10 monographs, most recently *The Hittite Gilgamesh* (2019), and 117 articles. He has edited 7 publications and has translated 6 publications. Professor Beckman was an active mentor of graduate students and has served on and chaired over 25 dissertation committees.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Gary M. Beckman, professor emeritus of Middle East studies**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2025