

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Daniel M. Burns, Jr., Ph.D.**, professor of mathematics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retires from active faculty status on May 31, 2025.

After receiving a B.S. from the University of Notre Dame, Professor Burns earned his Ph.D. in mathematics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1972. Professor Burns held faculty positions at Princeton University from 1972-1978, including a year as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study. He joined the UM Mathematics faculty in 1978 as an associate professor, and was named professor in 1983. During his tenure, he held visiting appointments at several institutions in Europe and the U.S. Professor Burns received a Sloan Fellowship in 1978 and was named a fellow of the American Mathematical Society in 2013.

Professor Burns' research has primarily focused on complex geometry and several complex variables. He has made significant contributions in these areas, particularly in understanding the properties of complex manifolds, CR structures, Monge-Ampère equations, and complex analytic structures. Professor Burns has also studied topics such as the geometry of Kähler manifolds and differential geometry.

From 2005-2017, Professor Burns was co-director of the UM Bioinformatics program, and continues to work with its faculty on interdisciplinary research. Throughout his career, Professor Burns has advocated bringing science outreach to underserved populations, both locally and abroad. He has been coordinator and co-coordinator of the STEM-Africa Initiative with the UM African Studies Center, and helped organize five STEM conferences in Ann Arbor, Ghana and Cameroon. He has also been involved with organizing the Buea International Conferences on Mathematical Sciences in Cameroon. Locally, as director of the Michigan Math and Science Scholars program, Professor Burns worked with public schools in Detroit to offer opportunities to deserving students. He also participated in a science outreach program for local at-risk middle school students.

Professor Burns advised 17 Mathematics Ph.D. students, served on many Ph.D. dissertation committees, and mentored several young faculty and postdoctoral researchers. During his time at UM, he served on committees at the departmental, college, and university level.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Daniel M. Burns, Jr., professor emeritus of mathematics**.

**Requested by:**



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**Jon Kinsey**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

**May 2025**