

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

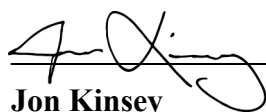
Mark A. Burns, Ph.D., T.C. Chang Professor of Engineering, professor of chemical engineering, and professor of biomedical Engineering in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2025.

Professor Burns earned his B.S. in chemical engineering (1981) from the University of Notre Dame. He completed his M.S. (1983) and Ph.D. (1986) in chemical and biochemical engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. He accepted an assistant professor position in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts in 1986 before joining the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor of chemical engineering in 1990. He was promoted to associate professor and then to professor in 2002. He held several administrative positions at Michigan, including chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering (2008-2017), director and co-founder of the Microfluidics in Biomedical Sciences Training Program (2005-2008), executive director of Mcubed and Research Innovation in the Office of the vice president for research (2017-2020), and advisor to the dean in the College of Engineering (2020-2023).

Professor Burns' pioneering research centers on the design, fabrication, and application of microfluidic systems to tackle critical challenges in healthcare and environmental monitoring. His work revolutionized point-of-care diagnostics, and his technology is currently incorporated in a line of Becton Dickinson's commercial instruments. He and his collaborators developed an integrated DNA analysis device that is a part of the permanent collection at the National Science Museum in London, England. Professor Burns earned numerous accolades, including the National Science Foundation's Engineering Initiation Award, the College of Engineering's Teaching Excellence, Research Excellence, and Rexford E. Hall Innovation Excellence Awards. He was elected as fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering, and the American Institute for Chemical Engineers. A prolific innovator and scholar, Professor Burns authored approximately 400 publications and presentations, including 40 patents. He taught 3,000 students in lecture courses and guided 40 Ph.D. students in research, leaving a lasting impact on the next generation of engineers and researchers.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Mark A. Burns, T.C. Chang Professor Emeritus of Engineering, professor emeritus of chemical engineering, and professor emeritus of biomedical engineering.**

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2025