

The University of Michigan Regents Communication

Request for Action

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Charles G. Ransom, B.A., M.L.S., librarian in the University Library, retired from active faculty status on February 27, 2026.

Mr. Ransom obtained a B.A. in political science from Wabash College (1972) and a Master of Library Science (1974) from Indiana University. He began his career as a librarian at public libraries in Indiana and Illinois, and at DePauw University. He joined the University of Michigan Library in 1991 as the Multicultural Studies and American Culture Librarian, a position he has held for 35 years.

Mr. Ransom has left the University of Michigan Library an enduring legacy of a superb collection of materials on African American and Multicultural Studies. In addition, he spearheaded a project that helps to preserve the legacy of activism and multiculturalism on campus: a digital collection on the William Monroe Trotter Multicultural Center. On campus, Mr. Ransom worked tirelessly to create a community of Black culture and to promote African American achievements with long-standing service to B.E.A.M. (Black Employee Association at U-M), the University MLK Day Symposium Committee and the Library MLK Day Committee. Beyond the U-M campus, Mr. Ransom engaged in high-profile national activities that solidified the university's leadership in African American Studies. He gave presentations at the Annual National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education (NCORE) and was a frequent panelist on diversity and multiculturalism at national conferences and university presentations. Mr. Ransom won two major university awards: the University Librarian Achievement Award in 2021 and the Harold R. Johnson Diversity Service Award in 2022. Mr. Ransom's leadership in Multicultural and African American Studies has positioned the University of Michigan Library at the forefront of this field. He has left a lasting mark of a human dimension represented by aid to students and faculty, mentorship to countless individuals, and a great spirit of teamwork.

The Regents now salute this distinguished librarian for his dedicated service by naming **Charles G. Ransom, librarian emeritus**.

Requested by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Kinsey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2026