

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Approved by the Regents

June 16, 2006

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Virgil W. Cope, Ph.D., professor of chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Michigan-Flint, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2006.

Professor Cope received his B.A. degree from the State College of Iowa (now Northern Iowa University) in 1965 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Kansas in 1968. He joined the faculty at the University of Michigan-Flint in 1968 as an assistant professor of chemistry and was promoted to associate professor in 1973 and professor in 1987.

Professor Cope's strong belief in student centeredness was evident in every aspect of his work, including the classroom, the laboratory, and administrative service. His reputation as an outstanding teacher in analytical chemistry led the department to rename its American Chemical Society Analytical Chemist Award as the Dr. Virgil W. Cope ACS Analytical Chemist Award. This annual award is the highest honor given to a UM-Flint analytical chemistry student. Professor Cope's high standards for his students helped the UM-Flint chemistry program become one of the strongest in the state. Because of his belief that laboratory research is an important teaching tool, Professor Cope had many undergraduate students working in his research lab.

Professor Cope served several terms as either chair, acting chair, or interim chair of the Department of Chemistry, was a member of numerous University-wide committees, and from 1993-95, served as interim director of the Office of Research. He was also instrumental in helping the Department of Chemistry design and implement its assessment plan. In 1998, Professor Cope received the University of Michigan-Flint Distinguished Service Award.

The Regents now salute this distinguished educator for his dedication and service by naming **Virgil W. Cope professor emeritus of chemistry**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2006