

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Gary L. Pace, Ph.D., associate professor of biology in the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Michigan-Flint, will retire from active faculty status on June 30, 2011.

Professor Pace received his B.S. degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1963, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan in 1964 and 1970, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty as a lecturer in 1969, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1970, and associate professor in 1974.

Professor Pace is an authority on freshwater snails of the orient; he has used his expertise to identify potential parasite vectors and invasive snails that are sometimes found in shipments from Asia. Within the biology department, he has been instrumental in the development of the biology curriculum, and served as the department's advisor for the Teaching Certificate Program and Honors Scholar Program. The local community benefited greatly from his commitment to the Flint River Watershed Coalition and the Flint Environmental Action Team, and from the countless lectures he has given to schools and organizations on such topics as wildflowers, spiders, coral reefs, and parasites. Above all, Professor Pace loved teaching. During the course of his career, he taught 17 different courses, ranging from human reproduction and development to coral reef ecology, and also taught non-biology-majors. He was awarded the UM-Flint Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award in 1993 and received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the Michigan Association of Governing Boards of State Universities in 1994. His teaching excellence was described most eloquently by Professor Tom Husband of the University of Rhode Island, who acknowledged Professor Pace as his most prominent role model in his acceptance speech for a 2007 national teaching award. Of Professor Pace, he said, "He gave me direction, inspired me, and instilled the confidence in me to excel in school. Most importantly, he planted the seeds of possibility. To this day, whenever a student walks through my door, I think of the impact that Gary Pace had on me, and the possibility of me doing the same for that student."

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Gary L. Pace associate professor emeritus of biology**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill

Vice President and Secretary of the University

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