## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

## **ACTION REQUEST**

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

**Karen L. Jania, M.S.I.**, archivist in the Bentley Historical Library, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2015.

Ms. Jania received her B.A. (1973) degree from Michigan State University and her M.S.I. (1997) degree from the University of Michigan. She joined the Bentley Historical Library staff in 1988. Ms. Jania was appointed assistant archivist in 1997, and promoted to associate archivist in 2000, and archivist in 2006. She served as head of the reference division from 2003-14.

An exceptional and accomplished archivist, Ms. Jania played an instrumental role in the growth and development of the reference division. She has a notable record of providing superior reference services, empowering users through personalized instruction, and enhancing collection accessibility. Ms. Jania supported the teaching and research efforts of the faculty, staff, and students of the University of Michigan and other area universities. A gifted teacher and dedicated mentor, she taught or collaborated with faculty on forty courses per academic year, mentored a number of graduate students from the School of Information, and was committed to the development of the reference staff. Ms. Jania participated in the intercollegiate, faculty-led archival study "Developing Standardized Metrics: Towards Understanding the Impact of College," from 2005-08. She was actively involved in a number of organizations, including the Michigan Archival Association, the Society of American Archivists, and the Washtenaw County Historical Society. Her outreach work included a successful collaboration with the Ann Arbor District Library for the "Making of Ann Arbor" website project and numerous presentations to area genealogical and historical societies.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member for her dedicated service by naming Karen L. Jania, archivist emerita.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

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