THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Tamara L. Gay, M.D., clinical associate professor of psychiatry in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on July 1, 2020.

Dr. Gay received her B.S. (1976) and M.D. (1980) degrees from the University of Kentucky. She completed her psychiatry residency (1980-84) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she then served as a clinical instructor (1984-85). She was an assistant professor at the University of Kentucky (1985-86) and an assistant clinical professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1989-93). She joined the University of Michigan faculty as a lecturer in 1993, and was promoted to clinical assistant professor in 1996, and clinical associate professor in 2011.

Dr. Gay has a long-standing interest in developmental trajectories of young adults as they navigate significant milestones such as graduation from college and medical school. In 1994, Dr. Gay co-founded and served as the first director of the U-M Medical Student Mental Health Consultation Service. In 1996, she co-founded a similar program for physicians in training, the U-M House Officer Mental Health Program. In 1998, Dr. Gay was selected as the director of the psychiatry clerkship (one of seven core clerkships at the Medical School). In 1998, she joined the Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry, and was elected to multiple leadership positions, including president in 2013. In 2012, Dr. Gay was selected as the assistant dean for student services (ADSS) at the Medical School where she supported medical students with challenging personal and life stressors as they intersected with the fast-paced medical education program. The ADSS was responsible for the oversight of financial aid, registration, scheduling, learning and disability issues, and the health/immunization status of the medical student body. Career planning, participating in the National Residency Matching Program, student professionalism issues, and the learning environment are also responsibilities of the ADSS. Dr. Gay’s scholarly work included studying various teaching methods and techniques within busy clinical settings, and the challenges of treating depression in house officers. She taught medical students in formal settings, such as lectures, workshops, and presentations, and has engaged with many learners in the out-patient psychiatry clinic. She was a dedicated mentor to a generation of medical students and house officers.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Tamara L. Gay, clinical associate professor emerita of psychiatry.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2020