

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Jessica M. Hahn, M.F.A., professor of theatre and drama in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2020.

Professor Hahn received her B.A. (1970) degree from the University of Illinois and her M.F.A. (1992) degree from Carnegie Mellon University. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1994, and was promoted to associate professor in 1997, and professor in 2011.

Professor Hahn served the department and the university for over 25 years, heading up the Design & Production area for 19 years. In that capacity she advised our student costume designers and taught all levels of costume design classes. She came to Michigan from the world of professional theatre, having worked predominantly in the Midwest (Goodman Theatre, Court Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Wisdom Bridge Theatre, Victory Gardens, Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis, Hubbard Street Dance Company, and the Lyric Opera Center for American Artists) with numerous world premieres in drama, musical theatre, dance, opera, ice shows, and corporate industrial shows. At the University of Michigan, Professor Hahn designed more than 60 shows for theatre, opera, musical theatre, dance and special projects. Notable among those productions are *Sense and Sensibility*, *Me and My Girl*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *Playing for Time*, *Dinner at Eight*, *Arms and the Man*, *City of Angels*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. For the past 23 years, Professor Hahn has headed up the preservation and cataloguing of the Department of Theatre & Drama's considerable historical costume collection, now housed in the North Campus Research Complex. Professor Hahn has been the recipient of three of Chicago's prestigious Joseph Jefferson Awards (1977, 1978, and 1982) and a Charles MacArthur Award (1973) for her costume designs. Her designs have been included in regional, national, and international theatrical exhibitions. Most recently, her professional designs were seen at the Virginia Stage Company in the world premiere of *Line in the Sand*. While on sabbatical, Professor Hahn designed an exhibit at the Kent State University Museum showcasing "The Kokoon Arts Club: Cleveland Revels." She is the curator of the Historic Costume Collection and has produced four exhibits in recent years. In addition, she has tried her hand at restaurant design, including Bella Italia, for which she was awarded an Excellence in Design by the Port Angeles, Washington Chamber of Commerce in 2002.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Jessica M. Hahn, professor emerita of theatre and drama**.

Requested by:



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

June 2020