THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

David E. Kieras, Ph.D., professor of electrical engineering and computer science in the College of Engineering and professor of psychology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2020.

Professor Kieras received his B.A. (1969) degree from Rice University and his Ph.D. (1974) degree from the University of Michigan. He completed an R.K. Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowship (1974-76) at Carnegie Mellon University. He joined the University of Arizona faculty as an assistant professor in 1976, and he was promoted to associate professor in 1982. Professor Kieras joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1985 and he was promoted to professor in 2002.

Professor Kieras’ research focused on applied and theoretical cognitive psychology, particularly in human-computer interaction, cognitive simulation modeling, human performance, complex human learning, and natural language processing. His approach has been to construct computational models for the cognitive processes involved in tasks that have practical importance, to validate the models against empirical data, and to prepare them for practical application. Starting in 1994, Professor Kieras and his collaborators developed the Executive-Process Interactive Control (EPIC) computational cognitive architecture for modeling human cognition and performance. His work on EPIC expanded since then to inform interface design for visual and auditory interfaces, and EPIC has shed light on the mental processes involved in interacting with electronic devices and computer systems in order to understand and enhance in human performance and usability. Professor Kieras published nearly 175 scholarly publications. He received the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society’s Jack A. Kraft Innovator Award in 2010 and the College of Engineering’s Education Excellence Award in 2007. He was elected a member of the SIGCHI Academy in 2010. His research has been supported by ONR, ARPA, NASA, IBM, and NYNEX Science and Technology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming David E. Kieras, professor emeritus of electrical engineering and computer science and professor emeritus of psychology.

Requested by:

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

June 2020