

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

June Manning Thomas, Ph.D., Mary Frances Berry Distinguished University Professor of Urban Planning and professor of urban and regional planning in the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2020.


Professor Thomas received her B.A. degree from Michigan State University in 1970 and her Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1977. She began her academic career as an assistant professor at Michigan State University in 1977. She served on the faculty of Cleveland State University from 1981-82. She returned to Michigan State University as an associate professor in 1982, and was promoted to professor in 1995. She served as director of the MSU Urban and Regional Planning Program from 1996-2000. In 2003, she was inducted as a fellow in the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Professor Thomas joined the University of Michigan faculty as a Centennial Professor and professor of urban planning in 2007. She served as the president of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) from 2013-15 and was immediate past president from 2015-16. In addition to leadership at ACSP, she co-founded and co-chaired the Planners of Color Interest Group whose mission is to advance the interests and concerns of people and communities of color within the planning academia and the profession. She was named the Mary Frances Berry Distinguished University Professor in 2016.

Professor Thomas' contributions to the urban and regional planning profession and academia encompass the diversification of the planning profession, planning history, social equity in neighborhoods and urban revitalization. She was recognized for excellence in research, scholarship, teaching, and community service. Notably, Professor Thomas was awarded the ACSP's annual Paul Davidoff Award (1999), given to the best book published that year in social justice and urban planning, for her book *Redevelopment and Race: Planning A Finer City in Postwar Detroit* (1997). Most recently, she was honored with the Laurence Gerckens Prize for Sustained Excellence in the Teaching of Planning History (2017), presented by the Society for American City and Regional Planning History. Her career was marked by thoughtful leadership, social justice and purposeful planning.

The Regents now salute this distinguished urban and regional planning educator for her dedicated service by naming **June Manning Thomas, Mary Frances Berry Distinguished University Professor Emerita of Urban Planning and professor emerita of urban and regional planning.**

Requested by:



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

June 2020