THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Shannon D. O’Dell, M.A., curator in the School of Dentistry, retired from active faculty status on June 15, 2021.

Ms. O’Dell received her B.S. degree in anthropology at Oregon State University in 1980. She accepted a professional museum curatorship shared with the DeWitt Historical Society of Tompkins County and the Hinckley Foundation Decorative Arts Museum in Ithaca, N.Y. During her employment, she returned briefly to the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho to complete her M.A. degree in anthropology in 1990 in historical archaeology and museum studies. Ms. O’Dell completed her thesis *Burial Garments of Central New York, 1790-1920*.


Ms. O’Dell has appeared as a panel or guest speaker or led tours for several University of Michigan classes eager to learn about museums on campus. She has been an active member of several professional organizations and presented papers for the Medical Museums Association and the American Academy of the History of Dentistry. In 2017, Ms. O’Dell completed a two-year term as president of the Medical Museums Association and was recognized by the American Academy of the History of Dentistry receiving the national honorary award, the Hayden-Harris Award for distinguished contributions to the history of dentistry.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Shannon D. O’Dell, curator emerita.

Requested by:

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

June 2021