

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

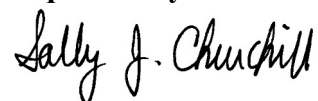
**Douglas R. Fullen, M.D.**, clinical professor of pathology and clinical professor of dermatology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2022.

Professor Fullen received his M.D. degree from Emory University School of Medicine in 1990. Following an internship in internal medicine at the University of Virginia, three years of active duty in the United States Navy, a pathology residency at the University of Michigan, and a dermatopathology fellowship at the Weill Cornell Medical Center, he joined the faculty at the University of Michigan as a clinical assistant professor in 2000, and was promoted to clinical associate professor in 2005, and clinical professor in 2012.

Professor Fullen is an outstanding dermatopathologist who is highly regarded nationally and internationally. He receives hundreds of consults per year for second opinion from pathologists and clinicians around the country. He has taught medical students, pathology and dermatology residents, and dermatopathology fellows. The quality of his teaching is evidenced by teaching awards bestowed upon him from the Departments of Dermatology (2002) and Pathology (2006). He has authored over 130 peer-reviewed papers in top-tier journals in his field. His studies on the molecular underpinnings of melanocytic tumors have advanced the understanding of their biology and significantly impacted the clinical management of patients with these tumors. His early publications on BRAF and NRAS mutations in melanocytic tumors, specifically “BRAF and NRAS mutations in melanoma and melanocytic nevi” and “BRAF and NRAS mutations in spitzoid melanocytic lesions,” have been highly cited. A collaboration entitled “Efficient tumor formation by single human melanoma cells” published in *Nature* was influential in challenging the dogma of the cancer stem cell theory. Professor Fullen has coauthored several textbook chapters and co-authored a textbook, *Handbook of Direct Immunofluorescence: a pattern-based approach to skin and mucosal biopsies* (2018), which is the most comprehensive and authoritative textbook on this subject. He has delivered invited lectures at national and international meetings. He has filled several important departmental administrative roles and has been a national leader as chair of the Mentorship Committee and vice chair of the Ethics Committee of the American Society of Dermatopathology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Douglas R. Fullen, clinical professor emeritus of pathology**.

**Requested by:**



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

**June 2022**