

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

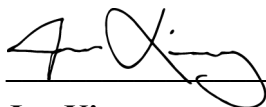
James M. Borders, Ph.D., professor of music in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2024.

Professor Borders received his B.M. degree (1974) in music theory and composition *summa cum laude* from DePaul University and A.M. and Ph.D. degrees (1983) in historical musicology from the University of Chicago. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a lecturer in 1980. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1983, associate professor in 1990, and professor in 2000. He was named the Glenn McGeoch Collegiate Professor of Music in 2008.

Professor Borders began performing the musical repertory that would become his scholarly passion, Gregorian Chant, as a young chorister at St. Bede the Venerable Catholic Church in Chicago. His most recent publications concern the oral/written transmission of chant for services in medieval pontificals (service books for bishops), but he has also published in various areas of medieval sacred music, rock music, and the history of musical instruments. He has presented at national and international conferences sponsored by, among others, the International Musicological Society, the American Musicological Society, the International Congress on Medieval Studies, the Medieval Academy of America, the Renaissance Society of America, and the American Musical Instrument Society. Professor Borders has received fellowships and awards from the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Mellon Foundation, the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), and Fulbright-Hays. He is editor emeritus of *Plainsong and Medieval Music*, a journal published by Cambridge University Press, and is a former chair of the International Musicological Society Study Group, 'Cantus Planus,' devoted to the study of medieval plainchant. An energetic instructor, Professor Borders taught all four courses in the School of Music's undergraduate music history core curriculum besides upper division and graduate courses and seminars in areas of his musicological expertise. He also held a number of key administrative positions, including director of the SMTD academic division (2010-13), chair of the Department of Musicology (2007-14), associate dean of graduate studies in music (1996-2003), and curator (1980-94) and director (1994-96) of the University's Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **James M. Borders, professor emeritus of music.**

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2024