THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Richard Hall, Ph.D., professor of political Science in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and professor of public policy in the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2024.

Professor Hall received his B.A. degree from University of Iowa (1977), and his M.A. (1980) and Ph.D. (1986) degrees from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1986, and was promoted to associate professor in 1992, and professor in 2001.

Professor Hall’s research interests focus on American national politics, where he has been one of the most influential scholars of Congress and interest groups of his generation. His work on Congress shifted the research agenda on legislative behavior from the study of representatives’ roll-call decisions, the sole moment at which legislators are equal and majorities rule, to the ways in which individual legislators achieve disproportionate influence by concentrating the work of their office on policies affecting their most vocal constituents. This work provided a new perspective on legislative institutions and the inequitable practice of representation. Even more influential is Professor Hall’s research on interest groups. He developed a theory of lobbying fundamentally different from the canon in political science, work that won him the Samuel J. Eldersveld Career Achievement Award for the study of political parties and organizations. His 2006 article on lobbying is the most cited paper on lobbying ever written. Professor Hall has also been the recipient of the prestigious Barbara Sinclair Lecture Award, the Richard F. Fenno Prize from the American Political Science Association, the Pi Sigma Alpha Award from the Midwest Political Science Association, and the Jack L. Walker Award from the American Political Science Review. Hall also received recognition for his excellence in mentoring and has taught a wide range of undergraduate and graduate courses on the politics of policy analysis, policy advocacy, campaign finance reform, and the politics of health policy.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Richard Hall, professor emeritus of political science and professor emeritus of public policy.

Requested by:

Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2024