

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

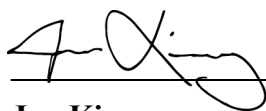
Roy S. Hanashiro, Ph.D., professor of history in the College of Arts, Sciences and Education, University of Michigan-Flint, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2024.

Professor Hanashiro received his B.A. degree in Asian studies and Japanese language (1976), and his M.A. (1978) and Ph.D. degrees in history (1988) from the University of Hawaii. He joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty as an assistant professor in 1989, and was promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in 1995, and professor, with tenure, in 2003.

Professor Hanashiro was an exceptional teacher, scholar, and leader. His scholarship focused on the history of Japan and Hawaii, and specifically the history of western imperialism in these two places. His book, *Thomas William Kinder and The Japanese Imperial Mint, 1868-1875* (1999), drew upon archival research in Japan and England to highlight how Japan's Meiji government called upon westerners to help manage the country's rapid economic transformation. He shows not only that the establishment of the mint helped to fuel Japan's transformation, but also that Kinder's years as director of the mint featured substantial friction between the Englishman Kinder and his Japanese employees and superiors. He further developed these ideas in a series of articles and also published important work on Japanese-Hawaiian relations in the nineteenth century. Professor Hanashiro was an outstanding and popular teacher for more than three decades, teaching fifteen distinct courses and leading multiple study abroad trips to Japan and Hawaii. He also served the department, the university, and the profession in an array of leadership roles, including twelve years as chair of the Department of History. He was a steady force as department chair and his leadership allowed the Department of History to flourish in a changing and often challenging local and national landscape for higher education. After many years as an Executive Committee member of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, he revived the organization's journal, *Studies on Asia*, becoming its editor in 2020. Above all, he was an esteemed colleague and a dedicated mentor to more than a generation of students.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Roy S. Hanashiro, professor emeritus of history**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2024