

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

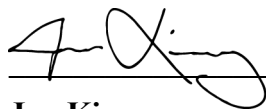
**Katherine R. Spindler, Ph.D.**, professor of microbiology and immunology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status July 2, 2024.

Professor Spindler received her B.S. degree from Purdue University in 1975, her Ph.D. degree from the University of California, San Diego in 1981, and postdoctoral training at the University of California, Los Angeles. She joined the faculty of the University of Georgia as an assistant professor in 1985, was promoted to associate professor in 1992, and professor in 1998. Professor Spindler joined the faculty of the University of Michigan in January 2002.

Professor Spindler's distinguished career involved research on the virus-host interactions of viruses in three diverse families. She contributed to understanding persistent infections and how viral transcriptional regulators function. Her laboratory pioneered work on a mouse model of adenovirus infection that enables study of pathogenesis in the natural host and identified host susceptibility genes, mechanisms of blood-brain barrier disruption and evasion of a host antiviral response. She co-authored over 70 scholarly publications and served on editorial boards and grant review panels. In addition to her scholarly research, Professor Spindler actively encouraged development of young scientists, as graduate studies director at Georgia and Michigan and on the Rackham Executive Board. She founded a summer undergraduate research program at Georgia for students lacking research opportunities at their institutions. She was on the STRIDE committee of Michigan's ADVANCE program to promote faculty diversity and excellence. She served as a podcast co-host for *This Week in Virology* and in vaccine informational town halls. Professor Spindler was an outstanding leader in the American Society for Virology (ASV), serving in leadership roles including as Secretary-Treasurer (2017-2024), where she oversaw the ASV Office at Michigan and annual ASV meetings throughout North America. She received teaching and scientific communication awards and the prestigious American Society for Virology's Wolfgang and Patricia Joklik Distinguished Service Award. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and faculty member by naming **Katherine R. Spindler, professor emerita of microbiology and immunology**.

**Requested by:**



**Jon Kinsey**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

**June 2024**