

## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

### *Regents Communication*

#### ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Joel A. Swanson, Ph.D.**, professor of microbiology and immunology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2024.

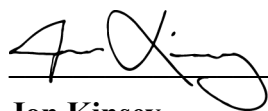
Professor Swanson received his B.A. degree from Rutgers University (1975), M.S. degree from The Ohio State University (1978), and Ph.D. degree from Princeton University (1982). Following post-doctoral studies at Rockefeller University (1982-84) and the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University (1984-86), he was at Harvard Medical School as an assistant professor (1986-92) and associate professor (1992-93) of cellular biology and anatomy and associate professor (1993-96) of cell biology. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1996 as an associate professor with tenure of anatomy and cell biology. In 1998, he transferred to the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, where he was promoted to professor in 2001.

At U of M, Professor Swanson taught 11 courses and served on four graduate (cellular and molecular biology, biophysics, microbiology & immunology, and immunology) and two training (cellular biotechnology, immunology) programs. In training programs, he was associate director for cellular and molecular biology (1998-2001), associate director (2000-03) and director (2003-14) in cellular biotechnology. He mentored 12 pre-doctoral students and 8 post-doctoral fellows. He served on the Biomedical Research Council as a member (1999-2001), vice chair (2001-02) and chair (2002-03), and on the Dean's ACAPT as member (2012-14) and chair (2014-15).

Professor Swanson's research focuses on the spatial organization of cells. He has published 130 peer-reviewed articles and chapters cited over 14,000 times (h-index = 61). His lab developed experimental methods for analyzing chemistry and molecular dynamics inside living macrophages and applied those methods to questions about cellular regulation of the ingestion of particles (phagocytosis) and fluids (macropinocytosis). He was PI of 15 NIH grants and is currently PI on an R35 award from NIGMS. He presented 64 extramural research seminars and co-chaired the Kavli Royal Society Conference on Macropinocytosis in 2018. Professor Swanson's research and service at U-M were recognized with the Rackham Graduate School Faculty Recognition Award (2005), Basic Sciences Teaching Award in M&I (2009), UMMS Distinguished Faculty Lectureship Award in Biomedical Sciences (2010) and EBS Recognition Award (2016). In 2021, he was appointed fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Joel A. Swanson, professor emeritus of microbiology and immunology**.

**Requested by:**



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

**June 2024**