

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## *Regents Communication*

### ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Death**  
**Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement**

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of **Michael R. Moore, Ph.D.**, professor of environment and sustainability, School for Environment and Sustainability. Professor Moore died suddenly on May 11, 2025.


Professor Moore received his B.A. degree from the University of Colorado in 1977, and his Ph.D. degree in natural resource economics from the University of Michigan in 1986. He served in the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in various capacities from 1986-1995. Professor Moore joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1996, was promoted to professor in 2007. Professor Moore spent over 40 years as a member of our community; he received his PhD from a unique U-M interdisciplinary program in natural resource economics between the U-M Economics Department and what was then the School of Natural Resources in 1986.

Professor Moore led the school through many times of transition and change. He served as associate dean for academic affairs from 2017-2019, associate dean for research from 2011-2015, and interim dean in August 2019 when current SEAS Dean Jonathan Overpeck was temporarily out with his own health challenges. Professor Moore was always willing to step up for our community and served in many roles at SEAS: parliamentarian; Promotion and Tenure Committee; Scholarship Committee; Executive Committee; PhD admissions and multiple select committees: specialization coordinator for the environmental policy and planning specialization; Diversity Committee; and faculty ombud. There is no doubt he was dedicated to service and doing whatever he could to help others and our school. He taught SEAS' core environmental economics course for all environmental policy and planning students, which was also taken by many others. He pioneered the use of online education with a "flipped classroom" model and created an environmental economy Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) as an online tool.

Moore received numerous honors and awards, graduating Summa Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Colorado in 1977. He received the Brinser Award as an Outstanding PhD student at the School of Natural Resources. His work at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service (ERS) from 1988 to 1995 sharpened his ability to apply the tools of economics to practical policy problems, and he received four ERS Administrator's Special Merit Awards, five Certificates of Merit, and two Certificates of Appreciation.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we extend our heart-felt condolences to his wife Ellen, his sons Eric and Peter. We know many in our community will feel this loss deeply.

**Requested by:**



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

**June 2025**