

The University of Michigan Regents Communication

Request for Action

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Diana Perpich, B.A., M.A., librarian in the University Library, retired from active faculty status on July 5, 2026.

Ms. Perpich earned her B.A. in English and B.A. in communications from the University of Michigan in 1983 and 1985, respectively, and an M.A. from The Johns Hopkins University in 1998. She joined the University of Michigan in 2000 as a computer system consultant II in the Media Union. She subsequently served as an educational technologies consultant senior in the library, was appointed senior associate librarian in 2012, and was promoted to librarian in 2019.

Ms. Perpich began her U-M career in parallel with the beginning of the academic technologies field. As an educator with technologist coursework, she quickly established a unique niche at the intersection of teaching and technology. Her work bridged and cultivated trust between these communities, trust that shortened feedback loops, improved tool design, and helped instructors adopt new platforms. Ms. Perpich became a thought leader, connecting pedagogical goals to technical possibilities, yet always grounded in learning outcomes and tangible impacts.

As part of the team at the Duderstadt Center's Media Union and Digital Media Commons, she helped develop and implement a suite of tools, including U-M Coursetools, which laid the foundation for many platforms the university still uses. With the onset of the pandemic, Ms. Perpich helped create support for instructors who quickly pivoted online, including one-on-one consultations and the development of the Ready to Go Blue tutorials. Her steady and insightful leadership helped the university sustain high-quality teaching when it mattered most.

Ms. Perpich amplified the impact of two academic technology library spaces: the Faculty Exploratory and the Knowledge Navigation Center (KNC). These spaces helped the campus become more comfortable with emerging technologies, with Ms. Perpich creating an especially welcoming on-ramp to help people confidently try something new. In 2017, after the KNC became ScholarSpace, Ms. Perpich assisted graduate students with dissertation formatting and assisted instructors with designing and implementing Canvas courses. Her expertise removed a major source of friction for dissertating students, while her course design support led to clearer Canvas experiences for everyone.

The U-M community is stronger because Ms. Perpich made excellent teaching more achievable for more people, year after year. Her expertise will be deeply missed, and the library is grateful for everything she has done for our community.

The Regents now salute this distinguished Librarian for her dedicated service by naming **Diana Perpich, librarian emerita.**

Requested by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Kinsey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jon Kinsey

Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2026