

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## *Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents  
July 21, 2011

### **ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject:** Report of Faculty Retirement

**Action Requested:** Adoption of Retirement Memoir

**Riley S. Rees, M.D.**, professor of surgery in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2011.

Professor Rees received his B.S. and M.D. degrees from the University of Utah in 1970 and 1973, respectively. He completed a general surgery internship at the University of Utah (1973-74), a general surgery residency at Louisiana State University (1974-77), and a plastic surgery residency and fellowship at Vanderbilt University from 1978-81. After serving on the faculty of Vanderbilt University from 1980-88, he joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor of surgery in 1988 and was promoted to professor in 1994. Dr. Rees served as chief of the plastic surgery section at the Ann Arbor Veterans Administration Medical Center from 1988-2011 and director of wound care at the University of Michigan Health System from 1997-2008.

Dr. Rees is recognized nationally as a leader in the fields of plastic surgery, wound healing, and surgical oncology. His early research in the area of wound treatment and healing led to six patents for products and techniques to facilitate wound closure. He has published more than 96 articles, 18 book chapters, and two books. Dr. Rees encompasses all of the best that is required of an academic surgeon. He provided a unique clinical expertise within the Section of Plastic Surgery for the treatment and reconstruction of head and neck cancer problems, melanoma cancer problems, and skin and soft tissue cancer problems. His research has been recognized by extramural funding and invitations to service at the national and international levels, and he has been a successful mentor for surgical residents.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher, scholar and clinician for his dedicated service by naming **Riley S. Rees professor emeritus of surgery**.

**Requested by:**

  
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**Sally Churchill**  
Vice-President and Secretary of the University

**July 2011**