

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Michael D. Cohen, Ph.D.**, William D. Hamilton Collegiate Professor of Complex Systems, professor of information, School of Information, and professor of public policy, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2012.

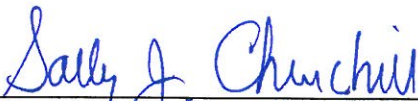
Professor Cohen received his B.A. degree from Stanford University in 1966 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of California, Irvine in 1972. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor and assistant research scientist in 1973, and was promoted to associate professor and associate research scientist in 1979, and professor and research scientist in 1985. In 1996 he became a professor and founding faculty member in the School of Information. He was appointed the William D. Hamilton Collegiate Professor of Complex Systems in 2001.

Professor Cohen studies organizational routines and how they interact with information resources. This work involves both theory and observation, and incorporates a number of ideas from research on complex adaptive systems. The main area of practical application recently has been an effort to improve handoff processes in hospitals. He has published nearly fifty articles in refereed journals and numerous books, edited volumes, and book chapters. His recent research funding has come from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institutes of Health.

Professor Cohen has held visiting professorships at Stanford University and universities in the Netherlands and Norway, and was an external faculty member at the Santa Fe Institute (1995-98). He served as the special assistant for information technology to the dean of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (1986-89), associate director and co-founder of the Collaboratory for Research on Electronic Work (1994-97), and co-director of the Interdepartmental Committee on Organization Studies (1995-2010).

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Michael D. Cohen professor emeritus of information and professor emeritus of public policy.**

**Requested by:**



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Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

July 2012