

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Sheryl S. Pearson, Ph.D.**, associate professor of English literature in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn, retired from active faculty status on April 30, 2016.

Professor Pearson received her B.A. (1968) degree from the University of Texas. She received her M.A. in English (1970), M.A. in linguistics (1976), and Ph.D. (1976) degrees from the University of Michigan. She joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as a lecturer in 1977, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1979, and associate professor in 1985.

Professor Pearson was a dedicated and innovative teacher, particularly in the area of online learning. Over her career, she taught a wide array of courses in composition, professional communication, contemporary fiction, and women's writing. One of her early articles was named the best article on methods of teaching scientific and technical communication in 1984 by the National Council of Teachers of English. An early adopter of distance learning pedagogies, she was influential as an instructor, mentor, policy developer, and director in several different programs. Professor Pearson held a number of key leadership positions, including director of the Writing Program (1981-85), interim director of Sponsored Research (1988), chair of the Department of Humanities (1989-92), co-chair of the Women's Commission (1993-95), director of the Women's Studies Program (1993-94), and associate dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters (2003-06). Professor Pearson's administrative work was always marked by her careful attention to detail, her sensitivity to different perspectives, and her calm demeanor. Her work in both the traditional and online classroom was recognized with UM-Dearborn's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2002.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Sheryl S. Pearson, associate professor emerita of English literature.**

**Requested by:**



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**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**July 2016**