

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Robert E. Grese, M.S.L.A., professor of environment and sustainability in the School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS) and director of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2020.

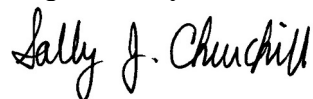
Professor Grese received his B.L.A. (1978) degree from the University of Georgia and his M.S.L.A. (1984) degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1986, and was promoted to associate professor in 1992, and professor in 2009. Professor Grese was appointed director of Nichols Arboretum in 1999 and director of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens in 2004. He served in both roles until his retirement in 2020.

Professor Grese held the Theodore Roosevelt Chair of Ecosystem Management at the School for Environment and Sustainability from 2013-18 and was inducted into the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture's Council of Fellows in 2019. He received the American Society of Landscape Architects' Honor Award in 2017, U-M's Advisor of the Year in 2006, and the UW-Madison's Outstanding Alumni Award in 1994. In 2003, Professor Grese was the inaugural recipient of an award named for him by the Ann Arbor Chapter of the Wild Ones, which fosters environmentally friendly gardening and the preservation and restoration of our natural landscapes and habitats. The Bob Grese Deep Roots Award is presented annually to an individual who has furthered the mission of the organization through words, deeds, and leadership.

Professor Grese has been a registered landscape architect since 1986. He taught and mentored students in landscape architecture for 34 years. During his long career of teaching, he taught well over a thousand students in courses emphasizing ecological design and landscape analysis, participatory design, ecological restoration, planting design, and design history and theory. His former students serve in leadership positions in professional firms, government agencies, and academia across the U.S. and around the world.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Robert E. Grese, professor emeritus of environment and sustainability**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

July 2020