THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Mary Catherine Spires, M.D., clinical professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on July 31, 2022.

Dr. Spires received her B.S. degree in physical therapy from Wayne State University in 1976 and then received her M.A. degree in human development from Wayne State University in 1984. She received her M.D. degree in 1988 from Michigan State University. She completed her physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at the University of Michigan Medical School in 1992. In July 1992, Dr. Spires began her full time academic career at the University of Michigan as a clinical instructor. In 1997, she was promoted to clinical assistant professor, and in 2002 was promoted to clinical associate professor. In 2009, she was promoted to clinical professor.

Dr. Spires has over 30 years of experience providing care and treatment in the form of rehabilitation care to patients at the University of Michigan’s Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She has contributed to nineteen book chapters and three books. She has been a dedicated educator, giving extensive training and grand rounds presentations to residents and others. She was the assistant residency program director from 1992-1994, the residency program director from 1994-2018. Dr. Spires was also the associate chair of clinical affairs, service chief, and medical director of ambulatory care units, and medical director of medical rehabilitation outpatient faculty from 2007-2017. She also regularly lectures to departmental residents and to trainees in other department divisions such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, and others. She has also given numerous national presentations.

Additionally, she was awarded important awards from the university such as the Women’s Leadership Program Award in 1995, the Silver Crutch Teach Award in 1999, and the Recipient of the Executive Vice President of Medical Affairs Clinicians Recognition in 2003.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Mary Catherine Spires, clinical professor emerita of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Requested by:

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

July 2022