THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: **Report of Faculty Retirement**

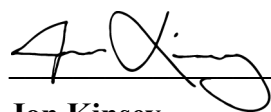**Action Requested:**   **Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

Irina D. Pogozheva, Ph.D., associate research scientist, medicinal chemistry in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry, College of Pharmacy, retited from active faculty status on June 28, 2024.

Irina Pogozheva received her B.S., M.S. in biology (biophysics) from Moscow State University, Russia (1979) and her Ph.D. degree in biology (biophysics) from the Semionov Institute of Chemical Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow (1985). She completed a postdoctoral research fellowship in 1999 at the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy, at which time she was appointed as a research investigator in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry. She was promoted to assistant research scientist in 2002 and associate research scientist in 2013.

Dr. Irina Pogozheva is an internationally recognized scientist whose impressive contributions span numerous areas, from experimental biophysical studies of rhodopsin to employing advanced computational methodologies for the structural assessment and modeling of proteins, peptides, and organic molecules in membrane environments, along with computer-aided drug discovery. Her pioneering computational studies cover a wide range of biologically important molecules, including G protein-coupled receptors, antigen-peptide transporters, chemokine receptors, major histocompatibility complexes, and T-cell receptor complexes. They have illuminated the intricacies of molecular interactions in membrane protein signaling pathways and have contributed to the development of novel analgesics derived from mixed efficacy opioid ligands. Her scholarly work is widely cited, with a significant portion of citations attributed to the Orientations of Proteins in Membranes (OPM) database and PPM web server, which have seen over a million visitors and serve as critical tools for researchers. She has also played an integral role in the development of the BioMembHub portal, a gateway to a computational infrastructure that includes three databases for membrane-associated proteins and drug-like molecules, along with eight web-based computational modeling applications. These are vital for the broad dissemination of biological information, which in turn catalyzes scientific discoveries and enhances fusion of research and education. She has mentored numerous computer science students, who have successfully embarked on promising careers after being introduced to advanced technologies through the development of these bioinformatics resources.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Irina D. Pogozheva, associate research scientist emerita, medicinal chemistry.**

Requested by:

Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University   **July 2024**