

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Adopted by the Regents
September 15, 2011

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

David J. Knesper, M.D., associate professor of psychiatry, Medical School, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2011.

Dr. Knesper received his B.S. degree from Purdue University in 1966 and his M.D. degree from Northwestern University in 1970. Following an internship in medicine and pediatrics at Northwestern University Hospitals (1970-71), he completed his residency in psychiatry at the University of Michigan Medical Center (1971-74). He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an instructor in psychiatry in 1974, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1976 and associate professor 1981. He served as a research investigator (1974-76) and assistant research scientist (1976-94) at the Mental Health Research Institute. He received specialty certification in psychosomatic medicine in 2005.

Dr. Knesper is recognized nationally as a leader in the field of suicidology and suicide prevention education. His early health services research provided the basis for his present interest in the continuity of care. Dr. Knesper's numerous leadership positions within the Department of Psychiatry include serving as director of the hospital psychiatry section, which includes psychiatric emergency services, adult inpatient psychiatry, and psychiatry consultation services for hospitalized patients with general medical problems (2003-11). Dr. Knesper leads the Department of Psychiatry's suicide prevention initiatives, and will continue in this role as an active emeritus. With support from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Dr. Knesper authored the nationally acclaimed publication, *Continuity of Care for Suicide Prevention and Research: Suicide attempts and suicide deaths subsequent to discharge from the emergency department or psychiatry inpatient unit* (2011). Dr. Knesper served on the board of directors of the American Association of Suicidology from 2008-11. He received the Department of Psychiatry's Teacher of the Year Award four times (1994, 1995, 2001, and 2004), and received the American Psychiatric Association's Irma Bland Award for Excellence in Teaching Residents in 2006.

The Regents now salute this distinguished clinician, educator, and researcher for his dedicated service by naming **David J. Knesper associate professor emeritus of psychiatry**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2011