

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir


Gregory T. Wolf, M.D., professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2014.

Dr. Wolf received his B.S. degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1969 and his M.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1973. He completed a general surgery residency at Georgetown University (1973-75), an otolaryngology residency at the State University of New York, Health Science Center (1975-78), and a fellowship at the National Institutes of Health (1978-80). He joined the University of Michigan faculty as assistant professor in 1980, and was promoted to associate professor in 1985, and professor in 1990.

Dr. Wolf held several key leadership positions including chair of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (1993-2009), service chief of otolaryngology at the Ann Arbor Veterans Affairs Medical Center (1980-90), and principal investigator for the landmark national Veteran's Affairs Cooperative Study for organ preservation in advanced laryngeal cancer. This study led a global revolution in organ preservation in head and neck cancer so that the current standard for most advanced head and neck cancers is chemotherapy and radiation. Dr. Wolf was the first researcher to describe differences in response of metastatic lymph nodes to chemotherapy and propose changes in the management of the regional metastases in these cancers. The study also formed the basis for innovative biomarker research that has helped characterize cancers that respond to chemotherapy. Through his innovative ideas and courageous efforts, patients with advanced cancer are able to retain crucial functional capacities, avoid disfiguring surgical defects, and enjoy a higher quality of life.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Gregory T. Wolf professor emeritus of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2014