

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

John David Blaha, M.D., clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on September 1, 2017.

Dr. Blaha received his B.S. (1969) degree from the University of Notre Dame and his M.D. (1973) degree from the University of Michigan. He completed a surgery internship (1973-74), a general surgery residency (1974-75), and served as chief resident in orthopaedic surgery (1975-78) at the University of Michigan. Dr. Blaha also completed a fellowship in adult reconstructive arthritis surgery (1979-80) at the London Hospital Medical College. He joined the faculty of West Virginia University (WVU) as an assistant professor in 1980, and was promoted to associate professor in 1983, and professor in 1991. Dr. Blaha held a number of key positions in the WVU Department of Orthopedic Surgery, including chairman, chief of the Section of Arthritis Surgery, and director of the residency program in orthopedic surgery. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery in 2002.

Dr. Blaha's research explored the fixation of total joint prostheses to bone, including both basic science work in the effects of estrogen on osteoblasts and the effect of viscoelasticity of bone on implant fixation as well as clinical research into results of hip and knee arthroplasty procedures. He also completed basic science work on the kinematics of the human knee and the relationship between knee joint stability and kinematics as well as the clinical results of total arthroplasty procedures at the knee. Dr. Blaha received funding, as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator, from the National Institutes of Health, the Orthopaedic Research Society, and the Whittaker Foundation. He has been an outstanding mentor and advocate for research fellows from Niigata University in Japan with whom major findings regarding the vector of quadriceps function have been measured and verified as present in the human lower extremity. Dr. Blaha was actively involved in a number of professional organizations, including the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the American Orthopaedic Association, and the Michigan Orthopaedic Society. He also served as president of the Interstate Orthopaedic Society, the Musculoskeletal Infection Society, the Society for Arthritic Joint Surgery, and the West Virginia State Medical Society Orthopedic Section.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **John David Blaha, clinical professor emeritus of orthopaedic surgery**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2017