

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

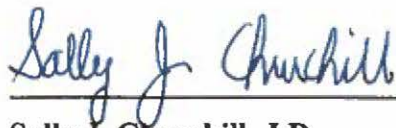
Erik R.P. Zuiderweg, Ph.D., professor of biological chemistry in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2018.

Professor Zuiderweg received his B.Sc. (1973) and M.Sc. (1975) degrees from the University of Amsterdam and his Ph.D. (1980) degree from the University of Nijmegen. He was a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Groningen and ETH Zurich. Professor Zuiderweg joined a research team at Abbott Laboratories in Chicago to help establish nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) as a tool in rational drug design. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 1991.

At the University of Michigan, Professor Zuiderweg contributed to NMR methodology development. He focused on the structure, dynamics, and interactions of heat shock protein 70 (Hsp70) chaperones mainly using NMR. Hsp70s are major players in tumor survival and Alzheimer's disease; modulation of the Hsp70 function is increasingly proposed as a possible avenue for therapy in both diseases. Professor Zuiderweg was also passionate about studying (thermo) dynamics using NMR, contributing to the now (almost) universal understanding that protein molecular dynamics is essential to protein function. During his tenure at the University of Michigan, Professor Zuiderweg served as the acting director of the Biophysics Research Division and as the principal investigator of the University of Michigan node of the Michigan Center for Structural Biology. Professor Zuiderweg taught biochemistry at the undergraduate and graduate levels and served on departmental committees in biological chemistry and biophysics, as well as on national study sections. He was a pioneer in NMR technology and passed along his expertise to a number of faculty and students in order to continue the exploration of NMR. In his retirement, Professor Zuiderweg plans to relocate to the Netherlands to assist a local university with NMR technology and also potentially create his own business in collaboration with former UM faculty to develop new uses for NMR technology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and researcher for his dedicated service by naming **Erik R.P. Zuiderweg, professor emeritus of biological chemistry**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2018