

## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

### *Regents Communication*

#### **ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Death**  
**Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement**

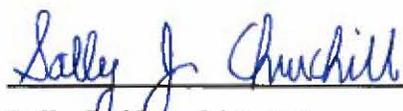
The regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of **Lena M. Chen, M.D., M.S.**, associate professor of internal medicine in the Medical School. Dr. Chen died on July 21, 2019.

Dr. Chen received her B.A. degree from Harvard University in 1991, her M.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1997, and her M.S. degree from the Harvard School of Public Health in 2007. She completed her internal medicine internship (1997-98) and her internal Medicine residency (1998-2000) at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Chen completed her general internal medicine and primary care fellowship at Harvard Medical School from 2007-09. She served as a consultant for the Boston Consulting Group from 2000-02, an instructor in The Johns Hopkins University's Department of Medicine from 2002-07, and as the medical director of The Johns Hopkins Hospitalist Program from 2003-05. Dr. Chen joined the University of Michigan faculty as a clinical lecturer in 2009, and was promoted to assistant professor in 2012, and associate professor in 2018.

As a hospital-based physician specializing in the care of inpatients, she was known for high standards, compassionate care, and excellent mentoring of younger physicians and medical students at Michigan Medicine and the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. As a member of the University of Michigan Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation, she worked to bring health services researchers from different disciplines together to look at how changes in federal law affected patient care and the economics of health care. Her expertise was nationally recognized and she was tasked to serve as a senior advisor to the deputy assistant secretary for health policy for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 2015-18 and 2019. In this capacity, her expertise informed a number of projects aimed at evaluating the impacts of specific federal actions. Dr. Chen was not only known for her academic accomplishments, but for being a kind and generous colleague, willing to help others with their research, translating research into national policies, or simply covering a hospital shift for a colleague with a sick child.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we extend our heartfelt condolences to her father, Jong, her mother, Mei, her brother, Mike, her sister, Pauline, and her many loving relatives and friends.

**Requested by:**



**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**  
**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**September 2019**