

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Anton A. Reznicek, Ph.D., curator, Herbarium and research scientist, ecology and evolutionary biology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2020.

Dr. Reznicek received his B.Sc. degree from the University of Guelph in 1971 and his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Toronto in 1973 and 1978, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant curator in 1978, and was promoted to associate curator in 1987, and curator in 1992. Dr. Reznicek served as the director of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens from 1988-90, the head of the Plant Biology Group in the Department of Biology from 1992-94, and the assistant director of the Herbarium from 2008-17.

Dr. Reznicek was an internationally renowned expert on the systematics of the sedge family (Cyperaceae), for which he discovered and described species and evolutionary processes, especially from the genus *Carex*. Dr. Reznicek was a leading expert on the flora of northeast North America, including the Great Lakes region. He was the foremost expert on the flora of Michigan, which encompasses over 3,000 native and introduced vascular plant species. He also had strong interests in the history and biogeography of the Great Lakes region flora in terms of both its development since deglaciation and more recent anthropogenic changes since European settlement. Building on the publication of the *Field Manual of Michigan Flora* (2012), Dr. Reznicek maintained updated taxonomic and geographic distribution data on all Michigan plant species through the Michigan Flora web portal. He served as the Herbarium's liaison for citizen science-based collection activities, was a past-president of the Michigan Botanical Club, and was very active in the conservation and stewardship of Michigan flora and vegetation.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Anton A. Reznicek, curator emeritus, Herbarium and research scientist emeritus, ecology and evolutionary biology**.

Requested by:



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

September 2020