

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

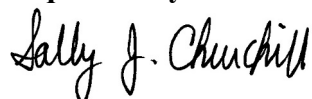
David W. Wright, Ph.D., associate professor of accounting in the Stephen M. Ross School of Business, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2021.

Professor Wright received his B.S. (1977) degree summa cum laude with a joint degree in accounting and actuarial science from Drake University and his Ph.D. (1986) degree in accounting from Michigan State University. He is both a Certified Public Accountant and a fellow of the Society of Actuaries. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a lecturer in 1984, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1986, and associate professor in 1993.

Professor Wright's research focused on the roles of extant financial reporting standards and auditing technology in the attestation, analysis and use of financial statements. He authored articles appearing in accounting, legal, and economics journals. His seminal work in the 1990's on the role of operating leases as a means of off-balance sheet financing is still heavily cited today as financial accounting standards have recently been revised in the manner Professor Wright suggested nearly thirty years ago. He has donated 100% of the royalties from his textbook, *The Analysis and Use of Financial Statements: An Executive-Level Perspective*, to an endowed accounting scholarship in his name at his alma mater, Drake University. Since joining the faculty, Professor Wright has been an exemplary teacher and innovator in the business school curriculum. He was awarded the prestigious Victor L. Bernard Teaching Leadership Award by his faculty colleagues in 1999. He designed, launched and served for fifteen years as the academic director of the Master of Accounting degree program in the Ross School. Throughout most of the last twenty years he chaired the Ross School curriculum committee and, more recently, the dean's advisory council for undergraduate programs. In recent years he has devoted significant time and energy to university-level faculty governance. He has been elected by the faculty of the Ross School to two three-year terms in the University of Michigan Senate Assembly. From 2015-18, he was a member of the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA) where he served as vice chair.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and scholar for his dedicated service by naming **David W. Wright, associate professor emeritus of accounting**.

Requested by:



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

September 2021