

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Trevor Le Gassick, Ph.D.**, professor of Middle East studies in the Department of Middle East Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2022.

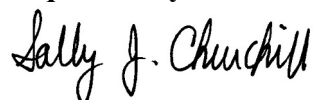
Professor Le Gassick attended the University of London School of Oriental and African Studies where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Arabic in 1958. He later completed his PhD in Arabic Studies at the same institution in 1960. He taught Arabic literature in Wisconsin and Indiana before joining the faculty at the University of Michigan as assistant professor in 1966 and was promoted through the ranks to professor in 1979.

Professor Le Gassick's research and publications focused on the prose literature of the modern Arab world, both fiction and non-fiction. His articles and translations were the first outside the Middle East to draw attention to Naguib Mahfouz, winner of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1988. He published an anthology of excerpts from works representing the views on societal and political issues expressed by leading 19th and 20th century Arab intellectuals, an autograph Arabic manuscript by the Egyptian nationalist leader Ahmad 'Urabi, and an edited critical work on Naguib Mahfouz. He also translated works by Yusuf Idris, Yahya Haqqi, Ihsan Abd al-Quddus, and other prominent Arab writers. In addition, he published a four-volume translation of Ibn Kathir's *Life of the Prophet Muhammad* and co-published a translation of a 6<sup>th</sup> century work on the *Fundamentals of Religion* by Tibghurin al-Malshuti.

Professor Le Gassick taught many courses including Introduction to Arabic Literature in Translation, History of Arabic Literature in English, Modern Arabic Fiction, Modern Arabic Non-fiction, and Introduction to the Qur'an. He served on numerous committees at U-M, such as CMENAS executive committee, Rackham program evaluation committee, and FLAS committee. He equally served his profession in various venues, including AATA (American Association of Teachers of Arabic) executive board twice (1970-3, 1976-9), *JAATA* editor (1975), and *Digest of Middle East Studies* editorial board.

The Regents salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Trevor Le Gassick, professor emeritus of Middle East studies**.

**Requested by:**



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

September 2022