THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Dennis R. Claflin, Ph.D., associate research scientist, molecular and integrative physiology in the Medical School, and lecturer IV in biomedical engineering in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2023.

Dr. Claflin attended the University of Michigan where he received his B.S.E. (1977), M.S. (1978), M.S.E. (1979) and his Ph.D. (1985) degrees. Dr. Claflin moved to Boston in 1986 to begin work as a postdoctoral fellow and instructor in the anesthesia department researching muscle physiology at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Claflin was promoted to the rank of assistant professor in 1991 and remained in this title through 1999 at which time he left Boston to begin his career at the University of Michigan. From 1999-2003, Dr. Claflin was appointed as an assistant research scientist in the Department of Surgery, in 2003 he was promoted to research assistant professor and that same year he added a joint appointment in the Institute of Gerontology which he held through 2006. In 2006, Dr. Claflin added a joint appointment in molecular & integrative physiology and this appointment continued through 2012. In 2010, Dr. Claflin began a split partial appointment as an adjunct lecturer in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. In 2011, he was promoted to lecturer III and in 2015 lecturer IV. In 2013, Dr. Claflin was reappointed to the scientist track as an associate research scientist in the Department of Surgery and in 2022, he transferred his appointment to the Department of Molecular & Integrative Physiology.

Throughout his career at the University of Michigan, Dr. Claflin’s research has focused on skeletal muscle contractility and skeletal muscle disease and aging. His research and expertise in muscle physiology contributed to numerous multi-year NIH funded grants, resulting in over 30 peer-reviewed publications, and several book chapters. A gifted teacher, Dr. Claflin devoted many years to teaching in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. Dr. Claflin has also served on numerous thesis committees and mentored many undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral students. In 2023, Dr. Claflin was honored by the Department of Biomedical Engineering with the Departmental Faculty Award for his contributions to the department in teaching.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Dennis R. Claflin, associate research scientist emeritus, molecular and integrative physiology.

Requested by:

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

September 2023