

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

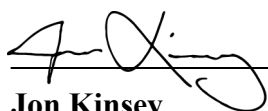
Rebecca Hardin, Ph.D., associate professor of environment and sustainability, School for Environment and Sustainability, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2025.

Professor Hardin received an A.B. in 1988 from Brown University in modern culture and media, then an M.Phil. and Ph.D. in anthropology from the Yale University in 1994 and 2000 respectively. She joined Yale University as a lecturer in anthropology in 2000, then Université Paris, Sorbonne, France as a visiting professor for 2001-2002. Professor Hardin was appointed an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology and in the School of Environment at McGill University (Montreal, Quebec, Canada) in 2002. She joined the University of Michigan as an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences and in the School for Natural Resources and Environment (SNRE, now SEAS) in 2003. She became an associate professor in SNRE in 2009, where she co-founded and directs a software platform www.learn gala.com, or Gala, that hosts multi modal, interactive case studies on sustainability from across the UM Campus, the Michigan Sustainability Cases. Used by SEAS, SPH, CoE, LSA and institutions beyond UM these multi modal, data-rich, dynamic learning modules contribute to communicating new knowledge in a clear and actionable way that can also be translated across cultures, learning communities, or learning levels. Appointed faculty director for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in 2022, Professor Hardin worked with the Community Impact and Engagement team on gradual, values-driven organizational change for the school.

Professor Hardin's scholarly and pedagogical trajectories toward innovation in science education continues her contributions to African studies and environmental anthropology, redefining 'the field' as a spatial or organizational site that connects people and practice across continents and sectors. Advising SEAS and PitE students since 2008 to scope, script, host, edit and archive the weekly live broadcast "Its Hot in Here" on WCBN Ann Arbor, 88.3 FM, she formalized an environmental communications course that leveraged inputs from her co-leadership of the UM STEM Africa initiative, and her mentorship of successive UM Wallace Fellows in journalism. Her students, undergrad and grad, have forged careers in science communication, education, and academic work.

The Regents now name this distinguished faculty member **Rebecca Hardin, associate professor emerita of environment and sustainability**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2025