

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Peter F. Hitchcock, Ph.D., Skillman Research Professor of Pediatric Ophthalmology, professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, and professor of cell and developmental biology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2025.

Dr. Hitchcock earned his undergraduate degree at Michigan State University (1978) and his Ph.D. from the University of Alabama in Birmingham (1983). He completed postdoctoral studies at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, MI and was a visiting postdoctoral fellow the Salk Institute in San Diego, California. In 1986, he joined the University of Michigan as an assistant research scientist in ophthalmology and visual sciences and assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology. He held various professorial positions, becoming a professor by 2003, and was appointed the Skillman Research Professorship in Pediatric Ophthalmology in 2022. Internationally, he was a Fogarty Senior International Research Scholar in London (1997-1998) and a Fulbright Research Scholar in Barcelona (2020).

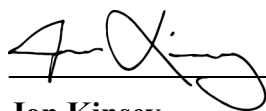
Dr. Hitchcock taught dental, medical, and graduate students at the University of Michigan, serving as course director in both the School of Dentistry and the Medical School, and received the League of Educational Excellence award for teaching excellence. He also lectured internationally in Madrid, Spain, and Doha, Qatar.

As a renowned developmental neurobiologist and vision scientist, Dr. Hitchcock focused on the retina and its molecular mechanisms. He published over 81 peer-reviewed articles and presented at more than 80 national and international seminars. His research was continuously funded by prominent organizations, including the National Science Foundation and NIH.

Administratively, Dr. Hitchcock was the associate director and director of the Interdepartmental Neuroscience Graduate Program, founding director of the Vision Research Training Program, and the Medical School's Office of Postdoctoral Studies. He was also the associate dean for academic programs and initiatives at the Rackham School of Graduate Studies for seven years.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Peter F. Hitchcock, professor emeritus of ophthalmology and visual sciences and professor emeritus of cell and developmental biology.**

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2025