

# The University of Michigan Regents Communication Request for Action

## **Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

### **Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Julie M. Ribaud, Ph.D., LMSW**, clinical professor of social work in the School of Social Work, retired from active faculty status on August 20, 2026.

Professor Ribaud spent 22 years in active social work practice before joining the University of Michigan faculty in 2006. Demonstrating an enduring commitment to learning and professional growth, she earned her Ph.D., earning three Graduate Professional Student Awards in 2020-2023, in social work from Wayne State University in 2024, while continuing to teach 24 credits a year. It must be additionally noted that those awards were conveyed during the COVID pandemic, inferring strength unique to few.

While the above awards reflect Dr. Ribaud's strength as a learner, there are countless ways in which we see her importance to the university community. As a researcher, she's a member of Zero to Thrive in Michigan Medicine's Department of Psychiatry. As an educator, the U-M School of Social Work's Student Union named her Professor of the Year in 2011 and 2015. Then, in 2022, with recognition from U-M at large, she was a Golden Apple Award nominee, an award for those who show unwavering commitment every time they teach and inspire students to aspire similarly.

Not confined to the university, Professor Ribaud has long served the community. In 2002, she received the Esther Dean Callard Award for Excellence in Service to Young Children and Families from the Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health (MI-AIMH). She served as president of MI-AIMH from 2003 to 2006, and in 2013, she was awarded MI-AIMH's Selma Fraiberg Award for Outstanding Contributions in Support of Services for Infants, Toddlers and their Families. She currently serves the World Association for Infant Mental Health as an elected board member.

Her primary focus is the relational health of infants, young children, and their parents. In this area, she serves as an active consultant, instructor, and researcher. As a clinical professor, Professor Ribaud teaches valiantly, striving to make sure her students are prepared to be effective, empathetic social workers. She ensures they graduate into the real world prepared to support some of society's most vulnerable: infants and children born to caregivers facing adversity, unmet needs, often with their own traumatic histories.

Throughout her education and career, it's clear Professor Ribaud has worked tirelessly. Early on, she was recognized as a "Woman of Distinction" by Shorewood Kiwanis Club (2004). The school recognized her many contributions, honoring her with the 2026 Lifetime Achievement

Impact Award. Now, 22 years later, the Kiwanis Club award perhaps summed it up best, recognizing the qualities she's embodied and carried onward, always holding a remarkable place in her community.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Julie M. Ribaud**, clinical professor emerita of social work.

Requested by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Kinsey', with a stylized, cursive script.

**Jon Kinsey**

Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2026