

The University of Michigan Regents Communication Request for Action

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Lawrence M. Seiford, Ph.D., professor of industrial and operations engineering in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on May 24, 2026.

Professor Seiford received his B.A. degree from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas (1969) and his M.A. (1972) and Ph.D. (1977) degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. He began his academic career at the University of Kansas in 1979 as an assistant professor of operations research and statistics before joining the University of Texas at Austin in 1980, where he was promoted to associate professor in 1983. In 1986, he joined the University of Massachusetts Amherst as an associate professor of mechanical and industrial engineering and was promoted to professor in 1991. During his tenure there, he also held appointments as adjunct professor of management and adjunct professor of mathematics. From 1997 to 2000, he served as program director for operations research and production systems at the National Science Foundation.

Professor Seiford joined the University of Michigan in 2000 as professor of industrial and operations engineering and served as chair of the Department of Industrial and Operations Engineering from 2000 to 2009. He subsequently served as Goff Smith Co-director of the Tauber Institute for Global Operations from 2010 to 2024 and as program director and faculty advisor for the Engineering Global Leadership (EGL) Honors Program from 2011 to 2026. He also held visiting appointments at the University of Auckland in 2010, 2016, and 2026.

An internationally recognized scholar in operations research, data envelopment analysis, and productivity measurement, Professor Seiford has made foundational contributions to the advancement and application of these fields. His scholarship includes more than 100 journal publications, numerous book chapters, and several influential books and edited volumes that have shaped research and practice in industrial and operations engineering. His work helped establish data envelopment analysis as a widely used methodology for performance evaluation and benchmarking across industry, government, and academia.

Through his leadership of the Tauber Institute and the EGL Honors Program, Professor Seiford played a significant role in advancing interdisciplinary and global engineering education. He has received numerous honors recognizing his contributions to research, teaching, mentorship, and leadership. His awards include the Albert G. Holzman Distinguished Educator Award from the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers (2014), the General Electric Outstanding Teaching Award from the University of Massachusetts Amherst (1990), and the Outstanding Advisor Award from the University of Massachusetts College of Engineering and Joint Student

Engineering Societies (1997). He was also recognized as a Lilly Faculty Mentor (1999) and Lilly Endowment Teaching Fellow (1987–88). He is a fellow of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers (IISE), and the American Society for Quality (ASQ). In recognition of his international impact on the field, he received an honorary doctorate (Doctor Honoris Causa) from Université de la Méditerranée Aix-Marseille in France in 2000.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Lawrence M. Seiford, professor emeritus of Industrial and operations engineering.**

Requested by:

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

Jon Kinsey

Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2026