THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Edward L. Bove, M.D., professor of cardiac surgery and professor of pediatrics in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on October 31, 2021.

Professor Bove received his M.D. degree from Albany Medical College in 1972. He completed his general surgery and thoracic surgery residencies at Michigan in 1977 and 1979, respectively. After completing a congenital cardiac surgery fellowship at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London, Professor Bove joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in 1985, and was promoted to professor in 1988. He was named the inaugural Helen and Marvin Kirsh Professor of Cardiac Surgery in 2004. Professor Bove played an integral role in the establishment of the Department of Cardiac Surgery in 2011. He served as the first chair of the department.

Professor Bove is one of the most well-known and well-respected surgeons in the field of congenital cardiac surgery. He is internationally recognized as a pioneer in the care of the single ventricle patient, specifically hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS). Universally fatal until 1982, HLHS remained a daunting challenge into the 1990’s with national survival rates of less than 40%. During this era, when many physicians felt HLHS babies should not be offered treatment, Professor Bove led a team that refined their care and achieved superior results. Through his perseverance, superior technical surgical skills and leadership, the care of HLHS has evolved to the point where the University of Michigan Congenital Heart Center now achieves survival rates exceeding 97%, superior to any other center’s published results. Professor Bove is also a dedicated mentor and gifted teacher. The clinical fellowship he built in congenital cardiac surgery at Michigan is arguably the premier in the country. Ten former graduates now lead congenital heart programs of their own. Professor Bove was the chair of the subcommittee at the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, which resulted in the recognition of congenital cardiac surgery as a boarded subspecialty in 2009, and he holds board certificate #0001. Throughout his career, Professor Bove has been active academically with over 300 peer-reviewed publications, 56 book chapters, 80 scientific presentations and more than 330 invited lectures across the globe. Highlights of his numerous national committee work include the American Board of Thoracic Surgery’s Board of Directors and as the president of the Congenital Heart Surgeons Society.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Edward L. Bove, professor emeritus of cardiac surgery and professor emeritus of pediatrics.

Requested by:

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

October 2021