

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Michael J. Flannagan, Ph.D.**, research associate professor in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on July 31, 2022.

Professor Flannagan received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1989. He joined the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute faculty as an assistant research scientist in 1990, and was promoted to senior associate research scientist in 2001, and research associate professor in 2003.

Professor Flannagan's research has combined vision science and transportation data analysis to address issues in automotive safety, especially in driver visual performance. Much of his work has been on how driver vision can be improved by innovations in traditional vehicle systems, such as adaptive headlamps, and by the introduction of new systems, such as camera-based vision and driver assistance systems. He has conducted a wide range of experimental work on human vision, including laboratory work and on-the-road driving studies, covering issues in visual perception, psychophysics, and attention. Because of the special importance of vision in night driving, he has extensively studied the effects of natural light and darkness on crash risk, using the annual seasonal variations in natural light, as well as the abrupt changes in natural light that people experience in the transitions to and from daylight saving time. He has been active in communicating research results, serving on several committees of the SAE Lighting Systems Group and on the Committee on Visibility of the Transportation Research Board. His work has contributed to multiple U.S. and international vehicle safety standards and has supported the introduction of innovative safety systems.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and researcher by naming **Michael J. Flannagan, research associate professor emeritus.**

**Requested by:**



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

**October 2022**