

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Victor C. Li, Ph.D., James R. Rice Distinguished University Professor of Engineering, E. Benjamin Wylie Collegiate Professor of Civil Engineering, and professor of civil and environmental engineering in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2023.

Professor Li received his B.S. (1977), B.A. (1977), M.S. (1978) and Ph.D. (1982) degrees from Brown University. He joined the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as an assistant professor in 1981 and was promoted to associate professor in 1985. Professor Li joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1990 and was promoted to professor in 1993.

Professor Li led the world on the research of bendable concrete and the enhancement of the resilience and sustainability of civil infrastructures. He was the first to create a micromechanics design basis of damage-tolerant composites with the ability to self-heal. Professor Li was named inventor on 13 U.S. patents and was recognized with the International Innovation Grand Prize Award by the Construction Industry Council and with the Lifetime Achievement Award by RILEM. His research has impacted the building, transportation, energy and water industries in Asia, Europe, and the United States. Professor Li co-authored over three hundred scholarly publications, and a textbook titled *Engineered Cementitious Composites* (2019). He was ranked first in the top 2% highly cited authors worldwide in the field of building and construction materials by Stanford, in 2021 and 2022. Professor Li's work was featured in popular media including the Discovery Channel, CNN, NPR, ENR, *The Economist*, *Popular Mechanics*, *The Hill*, *Washington Post*, and *Forbes* magazine. In recognition of "outstanding, innovative contributions to materials research and engineering and providing our society and the construction industry with new, safe and sustainable building materials," Professor Li was presented the *Doctor technics honoris causa* by the Technical University of Denmark. A gifted teacher and mentor, he supervised over 30 Ph.D. dissertations.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Victor C. Li, James R. Rice Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Engineering, E. Benjamin Wylie Collegiate Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering, and professor emeritus of civil and environmental engineering.**

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

October 2024