

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir


Carl J. Schmidt, M.D., M.P.H., clinical professor of pathology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on November 25, 2024.

Dr. Schmidt received his M.D. degree from the Universidad Anáhuac in Mexico City in 1981, where he grew up. He came to the United States in 1984, where he trained in general surgery at the Morristown Memorial Hospital for two years. After a transitional year, he attended the University of Connecticut for two years in the field of neurobiology, and then trained in pathology at the Medical College of Ohio from 1989 to 1993. After a year of private practice in Fremont, Ohio, he trained in forensic pathology at the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office in Detroit, MI, from 1994 to 1995, and worked there for the next 28 years. In 2012, he joined the faculty of the Department of Pathology at the University of Michigan as a clinical associate professor and was promoted to clinical professor in 2018. After the forensic services contract with Wayne County ended in 2022, he remained in the Department of Pathology in Autopsy and Forensic Services.

Dr. Schmidt participated in many research projects relevant to forensic pathology which resulted in over 50 scientific papers. These included the postmortem redistribution of drugs, brain biomarkers in long-term drug abuse, the epidemiology of sudden infant death in Detroit, the surveillance and epidemiology of drug abuse and, more recently, the development of the postmortem microbiome as a surveillance and public health tool. This promises to be a useful tool to assess the prevalence of antibiotic resistance genes and infectious disease in the community. The Covid-19 pandemic also showed the value of infectious disease surveillance in medical examiner casework and resulted in several papers. Another recent project is the use of artificial intelligence to assist in the evaluation of injuries. Dr. Schmidt has also been active in the forensic community with membership and participation in the National Association of Medical Examiners, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. He also collaborated extensively with the United States Department of Justice in forensic education in Latin America. Finally, he was active throughout his career in the education of medical students, residents, and fellows, highlighting the insights into medicine unique to forensic pathology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Carl J. Schmidt, clinical professor emeritus of pathology.**

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

October 2024