

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Donald F. Anderson, Ph.D., professor of political science in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, retired from active faculty status on April 30, 2008.


Professor Anderson received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Detroit in 1959 and 1961, respectively, and his Ph.D. degree from Cornell University in 1968. He joined the UM-Dearborn faculty as an assistant professor in 1969, and was promoted to associate professor in 1973 and professor in 1979.

Professor Anderson is a nationally-recognized expert on the American presidency and is considered a leading authority on the presidency of William Howard Taft. His study of the Taft presidency (*William Howard Taft: A Conservative's Conception of the Presidency*, Cornell University Press, 1973) won an outstanding book award from the Ohioana Library Association and was classified by the Library of Congress *Bulletin* as the best single-volume work on the Taft Administration. He is currently at work on a second Taft book, focusing on Taft's six appointments to the Supreme Court.

Within the Department of Social Sciences, Professor Anderson was instrumental in developing a joint undergraduate program in criminal justice with Henry Ford Community College and was a leader in developing the Master of Public Policy Program. He served as chair or interim chair of the department for a total of ten years between 1975 and 2005 and served several terms on the executive committee of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters. Professor Anderson played a central role in the creation of the Dearborn campus' Faculty Senate, where he served in numerous leadership roles. He was also a staunch supporter of the American Association of University Professors and served as president of the campus chapter for many years. He is a past president of the Michigan Conference of Political Scientists and received its Founder's Award in 2007. Throughout his career, Professor Anderson has been recognized by colleagues and administrators for his unwavering commitment to due process, procedural rectitude, and fairness in administrative decision making.

The Regents now salute this dedicated and accomplished faculty member by naming **Donald F. Anderson professor emeritus of political science**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

November 2008