

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

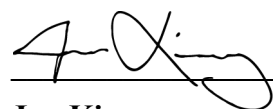
Janet S. Kinney, RDH, M.S., Dr. Dorothy G. Hard Legacy Professor and clinical professor of dentistry, School of Dentistry, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2025.

Professor Kinney received a Bachelor of Science in dental hygiene degree from the University of Michigan (1983) and a Master of Science in dental hygiene and a Master of Science in clinical research design and statistical analysis degrees from the University of Michigan (2007). Professor Kinney joined the University of Michigan as an clinical lecturer in 2007, and was promoted to clinical assistant professor in 2008, clinical associate professor in 2015, and clinical professor in 2020. She served as director of the program for ten years (2012-2022) and was named the inaugural Dr. Dorothy Hard Legacy Professor in 2021.

As program director, Professor Kinney transitioned the program from a three-year six semester bachelor's program to a two-year six semester bachelor's program and increased the class size. This strategic recruitment strategy has offered students the opportunity to earn a degree from the university in a shorter period of time. The programmatic change has served the broader community by increasing the number of graduates entering the market. One of Professor Kinney's most impressive accomplishments was her leadership during the pandemic. There was no interruption in students' education, and all students graduated on time. Professor Kinney has been the course director for in-person and online classes in the entry-level and graduate dental hygiene programs and has been instrumental in course design and curricular changes, which have kept the curriculum at the forefront of dental hygiene education. Professor Kinney received the Most Appreciated Dental Hygiene Faculty Award from the senior dental hygiene classes (2012, 2015, 2024, and 2025) as having made the most impact on the students' learning while in the program. In 2021, Professor Kinney received a *Dimensions of Dental Hygiene* peer-reviewed journal honor of "One of the Six Dental Hygienists You Want to Know – Academia" for her dedication and influence in dental hygiene education. She has mentored dozens of undergraduate and graduate students. She is a governor appointee to the Michigan State Board of Dentistry and is a member of the national professional association. Professor Kinney has 43 published manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals and five book chapters.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Janet S. Kinney, Dr. Dorothy G. Hard Legacy Professor Emerita and clinical professor emerita of dentistry.**

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

November 2025