

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Adela Pinch, Ph.D., professor of English language and literature and women's studies in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2025.

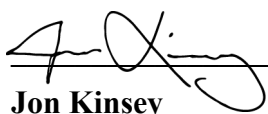
Professor Pinch attended Yale University where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1982. She then attended Cornell University where she earned her Doctorate in 1990. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as assistant professor in 1989, and was promoted to associate professor in 1995, and professor in 2011.

Specializing in British literature and culture of the long nineteenth century, Professor Pinch's research focused on the relation between literature and philosophy. Her publications include a wide range of articles and review essays, an edition of Jane Austen's *Emma* for Oxford World's Classics (2008), and three monographs: *Strange Fits of Passion: Epistemologies of Emotion, Hume to Austen* (Stanford University Press, 1996), *Thinking About Other People in Nineteenth Century British Writing* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), and *The Location of Experience: Victorian Women Writers, The Novel and the Feeling of Living* (Fordham University Press, 2024; winner of the 2025 James Russell Lowell Prize, awarded by the Modern Language Association for an outstanding scholarly book). Her work has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, and the Guggenheim Foundation.

At the University of Michigan, Professor Pinch taught classes in English literature and gender studies, including an ever-popular lecture course on Jane Austen. Her teaching was honored with a University Undergraduate Teaching Award, a John Dewey Teaching Award from LSA, and an English Department Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award. She developed new courses in research methods for both the undergraduate and graduate programs in English, and she was a generous mentor for numerous doctoral dissertations. Her service to the university includes three years as associate chair of English, four years as director of the English honors program, and two years as director of the joint Ph.D. programs in women's and gender studies.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and teacher by naming **Adela Pinch, professor emerita of English language and literature and women's studies**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

November 2025