The University of Michigan Regents Communication

Request for Action

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Martin J. Murray, Ph.D., professor of urban and regional planning, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and professor of sociology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2026.

Professor Murray earned his B.A. from the University of San Francisco in 1967, an M.A. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1970, and a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1975. He is also a "first-gen," the first in his family to attend and graduate from college. He started his academic career as an assistant professor at the University of Missouri in 1973. He was next an assistant professor at State University of New York at Binghamton in 1974, where he was promoted to associate professor and professor in 1981 and 1990, respectively. In 2009, he joined the University of Michigan's A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning as a professor of urban and regional planning and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts as an adjunct professor of Afro-American and African Studies (DAAS).

Professor Murray's expertise spans urban studies and planning, global urbanism, cultural geography, distressed urbanism, development, historical sociology, and African studies. He is a prolific scholar who has published eleven books (in addition to three edited books), including the latest work, *Insurgent Politics and the Lone Star State: Remembering the Antiwar Movement in Austin, Texas (1967-1973)* in 2025. He has published extensively on South Africa (with a focus on Johannesburg), in addition to two books on global urbanism (one with Columbia University Press and the other with Cambridge University Press). Professor Murray's work has been widely disseminated in respected scholarly journals, including the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Environment & Planning A: Economy and Space, Cultural Geography, Canadian Journal of African Studies*, *Geoforum, International Development Planning Review*, *International Sociology*, *Journal of Southern African Studies*, and the *Journal of African History*. In 2019, he was awarded with the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study fellowship in South Africa. He participated in the Fulbright Specialist Program in Dortmund (Germany). In 2025, he was awarded the prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship in the Architecture, Planning, & Design: History, Theory & Criticism category.

The Regents now salute this distinguished professor by naming **Martin J. Murray, professor emeritus of urban and regional planning.**

Respectfully submitted:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

November 2026