

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents

December 13, 2007

## ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Gorman L. Beauchamp, Ph.D.**, associate professor of humanities, College of Engineering, and adjunct associate professor of English, Department of English Language and Literature, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2007.

Professor Beauchamp received his B.A. degree from Baylor University in 1961, his M.A. degree from the University of Houston in 1965, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1972. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a visiting lecturer in humanities in 1970, and was promoted to lecturer in 1971, assistant professor in 1974, and associate professor in 1978. He was appointed adjunct associate professor of English in 1985.

Professor Beauchamp began his career as a Shakespearean scholar, but broadened his interests to other areas, including nineteenth and twentieth-century American literature. He published a book on Jack London and many essays in distinguished scholarly journals on London and other authors, including Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Horatio Alger, Mark Twain, and Henry James. He also published regularly in the field of utopian studies and lectured worldwide on imaginary ancient and modern utopian communities. He was associate editor of the journal *Alternative Futures* and served on the editorial board of *Utopian Studies*, and in 2002 he received the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Society of Utopian Studies. Like George Orwell, a figure he much admired, Professor Beauchamp wrote and lectured with utmost clarity about books which engage social issues of cultural significance, especially the literary treatment of class, money, and success. His students have benefited from his patient and good-humored exposition of important texts ranging from Renaissance lyrics to contemporary tracts and manifestos.

The Regents salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Gorman L. Beauchamp associate professor emeritus of humanities**.

**Requested by:**

  
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**Sally J. Churchill**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

**December 2007**