

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents

December 18, 2008

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Eric J. Essene, Ph.D.**, William C. Kelly Collegiate Professor of Geological Sciences and professor of geological sciences, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2008.

Professor Essene received his B.S. degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1961, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1967. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1968, and was promoted to associate professor in 1976 and professor in 1980. He was named the William C. Kelly Collegiate Professor of Geological Sciences in 2001.

Professor Essene's interests spanned the fields of metamorphic petrology, mineralogy, geochemistry, and general petrology. The basic theme of his research was the application of chemical thermodynamics to the reconstruction of P-T-X histories of the earth's crust and mantle. He made seminal contributions to the development and critical evaluation of geothermobarometers in metamorphic systems. He is an authority on the innovative applications of geothermobarometry and phase equilibria to a variety of metamorphic systems to evaluate quantitatively the P-T evolution of metamorphic terranes and the roles of fluids in metamorphic processes. These contributions advanced our understanding of petrogenetic and tectonic processes in the earth's crust. One measure of his impact in geological science is that he is named as one of the original highly cited researchers of the *ISI Web of Knowledge* and is among the top 100 geoscientists in the world in terms of total citations.

During his long and distinguished publishing career, Professor Essene contributed numerous articles, essays and book chapters on a variety of subjects and in countless numbers of scientific publications. He has directed or co-directed 72 master's degree students and 36 doctoral students, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in the geosciences.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Eric J. Essene professor emeritus of geological sciences.**

**Requested by:**



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2008