

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

**Adopted by the
Regents
December 19, 2013**

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Earl E. Werner, Ph.D., professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and director of the Edwin S. George Reserve, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2013.

Professor Werner received his A.B. degree from Columbia University in 1966 and his Ph.D. degree from Michigan State University in 1972. He served on the faculty of the University of Iowa from 1972-73 and Michigan State University from 1973-86. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 1986.

Professor Werner's pioneering research focused on the nature of species interactions and the subsequent consequences on the structure of ecological communities. He studied these dynamics utilizing larval amphibian communities as a model system. Professor Werner's work sought to understand animal behavior within the context of conflicting demands, foraging gain/predation risk tradeoffs, and community phenomena. He frequently collaborated with colleagues and students on research projects and authored over 90 scientific papers. He served as editor of the *Ecology and Ecological Monographs* (1980-82), vice president of the Ecological Society of America (1985-86), and on the scientific advisory board of the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (1994-97). Professor Werner taught a wide range of courses and seminars on topics including biodiversity, community ecology, general biology, general ecology, life history theory, and phenotypic plasticity. A dedicated mentor and engaging teacher, he oversaw the successful completion of 30 graduate degree dissertations. Professor Werner received the prestigious George Mercer Award from the Ecological Society of America in 1978.

The Regents now salute this distinguished researcher and scholar by naming **Earl E. Werner professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2013