THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Adopted by the Regents

ACTION REQUEST

December 18, 2014

Subject:

Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested:

Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Paul W. Webb, Ph.D., professor of natural resources and environment in the School of Natural Resources and Environment, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and professor of environment, Program in the Environment, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and the School of Natural Resources, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2014.

Professor Webb received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Bristol in 1967 and 1971, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1972, and was promoted to associate professor in 1976, and professor in 1980. Professor Webb held several key leadership positions including interim dean (1995-96) and associate dean (1996) in the School of Natural Resources and Environment and associate director (2002-10) and director (2010-13) in the Program in the Environment.

Professor Webb is a leading authority on energetics and the functional morphology of fishes. His research explored the effects of locomotor mechanics and functional morphology on habitat selection, species distribution, and evolutionary patterns; the structure of freshwater marsh assemblages; the distribution and flow of materials and energy acquired as food within fishes; the effects of environmental perturbation including anthropogenic factors; and predator-prey interactions. A gifted teacher and dedicated mentor, he taught several popular courses including Biology of Fishes, Comparative Vertebrate Morphology, and Introduction to Animal Physiology. Professor Webb's outreach activities ranged from the technology transfer of concepts to aid in natural resource management and planning in coastal communities, to building capacity in the sciences by teaching at the University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Paul W. Webb professor emeritus of natural resources and environment, professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology, and professor emeritus of environment.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2014