

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

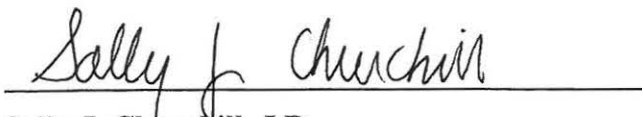
Zvi Gitelman, Ph.D., Preston R. Tisch Professor of Judaic Studies, professor of Judaic studies, and professor of political science in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2017.

Professor Gitelman received his B. Heb. Lit. (1962) degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary and his A.B. (1962) degree from Columbia College. He received his M.A. (1965) and Ph.D. (1968) degrees from Columbia University. Professor Gitelman joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1968, and was promoted to associate professor in 1973, and professor in 1979. He was named the Preston R. Tisch Professor of Judaic Studies in 1989. Professor Gitelman played an integral role in the establishment of the Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. He served as director of the center from 1995-2002.

Professor Gitelman studied ethnicity and politics, especially in former Communist countries, as well as Israeli politics, East European politics, and Jewish political thought and behavior. His most recent edited book titled *The New Jewish Diaspora: Russian-speaking Immigrants in the United States, Israel and Germany* was published by Rutgers University Press in 2016. Professor Gitelman's *Jewish Identities in Postcommunist Russia and Ukraine: An Uncertain Ethnicity* (2012) drew upon two large surveys that he conducted with two colleagues in Russia. He is a co-editor of a forthcoming volume on Jewish thought, politics, and literatures in the interwar (1918-39) period. Professor Gitelman's many books on Soviet Jewish life and politics, several of which were written before Soviet archives were available and during a period in which American scholarship was highly politicized by Cold War battles, have stood the test of time. His *Jewish Nationality and Soviet Politics: The Jews Sections of the CPSU, 1917-1930* (1972), *A Century of Ambivalence: The Jews of Russia and the Soviet Union, 1881 to the Present* (1988) and *Jewish Identities in Postcommunist Russia and Ukraine: An Uncertain Ethnicity* (2012) are nuanced studies of the complexities of Jewish life in the Soviet Union and its successor states.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Zvi Gitelman, Preston R. Tisch Professor Emeritus of Judaic Studies, professor emeritus of Judaic studies, and professor emeritus of political science.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2017