THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

R. Paul Drake, Ph.D., Henry Smith Carhart Collegiate Professor of Space Science and professor of climate and space sciences and engineering in the College of Engineering and professor of physics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on January 8, 2020.

Professor Drake received his B.A. degree from Vanderbilt University in 1975 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from The John Hopkins University in 1977 and 1979, respectively. He was an associate professor (1989-91) and professor (1991-93) at the University of California, Davis. Professor Drake served as director of the Plasma Physics Research Institute at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory from 1989-96. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an adjunct professor in 1996, and was appointed a visiting professor in 1996, and professor in 1998. He served as director of the U-M Space Physics Research Laboratory (1998-2002), the U-M Center for Radiative Shock Hydrodynamics (2008-14), and the U-M Center for Laser Experimental Astrophysics Research (2009-16). He served as the graduate chair for the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic and Space Sciences for 8 years.

Professor Drake's research at the University of Michigan focused on plasma spectroscopy based in the areas of hydrodynamics and radiation hydrodynamics with applications to astrophysics. His research has played a leading role in the development of two new, related fields of inquiry–High-Energy-Density Physics (HEDP) and High-Energy-Density Laboratory Astrophysics (HEDLA). Professor Drake served as chair or member of more than 60 national committees and scientific societies. He also served on more than 20 university, college, and department committees as well as chaired more than 20 doctoral committees. Professor Drake received many honors and awards, the most notable include election as a fellow of the American Physical Society (1989), the UROP Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentorship Award (2003), the AOSS Departmental Research Excellence Award (2009), the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies' Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award (2013), the Ted Kennedy Family Faculty Team Excellence Award (2014), and the American Nuclear Society's Edward Teller Award (2017).

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming R. Paul Drake, Henry Smith Carhart Collegiate Professor Emeritus of Space Science, professor emeritus of climate and space sciences and engineering, and professor emeritus of physics.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

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Vice President and Secretary of the University

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