THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

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

Jessica Kimlat Fogel, M.A., professor of dance in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2019.

Professor Fogel received her B.A. degree in dance from Barnard College, Columbia University in 1977 and her M.A. degree in dance education from Teachers College, Columbia University in 1983. Professor Fogel joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1985, and was promoted to associate professor in 1990, and professor in 2002.

Professor Fogel’s choreography has been produced nationally and internationally since 1974. She was the artistic director of Jessica Fogel and Dancers in New York City and was a founding member and the artistic director of Ann Arbor Dance Works. Her multi-layered, interdisciplinary dances feature collaborations with visual artists, composers, scientists, writers, actors, and designers often merging movement, text, music, and digital projections. She created several large-scale site dance works in a range of natural and built environments, drawing inspiration from the stories embedded in the sites and fostering environmental stewardship. Her dances have been produced by, among others, the Euin-In Temple, Danza Abend, Dance Theater Workshop, the Riverside Dance Festival, the Lincoln Center Touring Program, the Anemos Theater, The Yard, and the Toledo Museum of Art. She received the Michigan Choreographers Festival Award, a Lifetime of Achievement in the Arts Award from the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, and an Award of Excellence from the National Fine Arts Video Competition. She received grants from a number of agencies, including the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Michigan Council for the Arts, and the CETA Artists Project/Cultural Council Foundation of New York. Professor Fogel mentored a generation of students, played an important role in the design and vision of the new dance building as well as provided exemplary leadership during her service as the Department of Dance’s chair and director of graduate studies.

The Regents now salute this celebrated artist and distinguished teacher by naming Jessica Kimlat Fogel, professor emerita of dance.

Requested by:

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

December 2019