THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested:

Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Susan L. Siegfried, Ph.D., Denise Riley Collegiate Professor of the History of Art and Women's Studies, professor of history of art, and professor of women's studies in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2019.

Professor Siegfried received her B.A. degree from Wellesley College (1971) and her M.A. (1976) and Ph.D. (1980) degrees from Harvard University. She received an honorary M.A. (1983) degree from Oxford University. Served as assistant professor at Northwestern University (1980-84), research projects manager for the Getty Art History Information Program (1987-95), and professor of art history at the University of Leeds (1996-2002). She joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 2002. She was named the Denise Riley Collegiate Professor of the History of Art and Women's Studies in 2011.

A preeminent figure in the field of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century European art, Professor Siegfried authored two groundbreaking books and co-authored another, while co-editing a major anthology and publishing some fifty articles, book chapters, and reviews. She curated three important museum exhibitions. She was the world's leading authority on the work of both Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres and Louis-Léopold Boilly, and she was at the forefront of recent scholarship devoted to costume and fashion in late eighteenth- and nineteenth-century visual culture. With the publication in 1995 of The Art of Louis-Léopold Boilly: Modern Life in Napoleonic France, Professor Siegfried established the interpretive parameters for the study of middle-class portraiture and genre painting during the Consulate and Empire periods. Her monumental and widely acclaimed 2009 book, Ingres: Painting Reimagined, remains the most ambitious, sophisticated, and methodologically nuanced study of an especially complex and intractable artist. She has highlighted issues of gender analysis in her research and teaching, an approach sustained by her joint appointment in the Women's Studies Program where she served as acting director. Her contributions to the university and to her field are exceptional. Over the years, she served on numerous advisory committees, editorial boards, fellowship juries, and review panels, both national and international. During her tenure at Michigan, she also trained a generation of talented scholars who have gone on to hold important academic and curatorial positions.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar and teacher by naming Susan L. Siegfried, Denise Riley Collegiate Professor Emerita of the History of Art and Women's Studies, professor emerita of history of art, and professor emerita of women's studies.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

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December 2019