

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

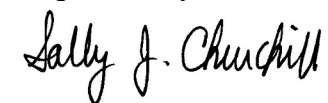
Thomas E. Fricke, Ph.D., professor of anthropology in the College of Literature, Sciences and the Arts and research professor, Survey Research Center and research professor, Population Studies Center in the Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2020.

Professor Fricke received his B.A. (1977) degree from Moorhead State University, Minnesota and his M.A. (1978) and Ph.D. (1984) degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was a research fellow at the East-West Population Institute from 1984-85. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant research scientist and adjunct assistant professor in 1985. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1986, associate professor in 1993, and professor in 2003. He was promoted to research professor in the Institute for Social Research in 2003.

Professor Fricke's interests involved him in the 1980s renewal of anthropological demography. His contributions to this area have been methodological, merging survey and ethnographic approaches to field research; theoretical, developing cultural and political models for studying demographic shifts; and empirical in the longitudinal study of social cultural transformation in a remote Nepali village across 39 years. The results of his research, over 50 publications, appear in journals, edited volumes, and book-length publications such as *Himalayan Households: Tamang Demography and Domestic Processes* in 1986 (2nd revised edition in 1994) and the co-edited volume, with David Kertzer, *Anthropological Demography: Toward a New Synthesis* (1997). In addition to Nepal, Professor Fricke has conducted multidisciplinary research on these same themes in Pakistan, Taiwan, and the United States. Professor Fricke taught courses ranging from large introductory lecture formats for undergraduates to more specialized seminars for graduate students and advanced undergraduates. Through numerous external grants he was able to provide funding for large numbers of graduate student, post-doctoral, and faculty researchers. He was active on several departmental and college committees and served as chair of the Department of Anthropology (2009-15).

The Regents now salute this distinguished researcher and teacher by naming **Thomas E. Fricke, professor emeritus of anthropology; research professor emeritus, Survey Research Center; and research professor emeritus, Population Studies Center.**

Requested by:



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

December 2020