

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Brenda K. Gunderson, Ph.D., lecturer IV in statistics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2020.

Dr. Gunderson received her B.A. (1984) degree from St. Olaf College, her M.S. (1986) degree from Iowa State University, and her Ph.D. (1989) degree from the University of Michigan. Dr. Gunderson first joined the faculty of the University of Michigan in 1989. She was appointed lecturer II in the Department of Statistics in 1993, and was promoted through the ranks to LEO lecturer IV in 2005. In recognition of her superlative achievements, Dr. Gunderson was appointed Senior Lecturer in 2002.

During her years at Michigan, Dr. Gunderson provided exemplary teaching, advising, mentoring, and university service. She coordinated and taught the undergraduate statistics course, Stats 250: Statistics and Data Analysis, which was the most popular statistics course during Dr. Gunderson's tenure. Her research focused on statistical education, in particular using technology to enhance teaching and learning. Dr. Gunderson was a leader in the integration of instructional technologies into the undergraduate statistics curriculum. She also led the statistics department's training of GSIs and served on various committees, including the Foundational Course Initiative Faculty Board, the Academic Innovation Advisory Committee, and the Provost Task Force on a Michigan Undergraduate Education in the Third Century. Dr. Gunderson was honored with numerous university awards, including the Golden Apple Award (1999), multiple LSA Excellence in Education Awards (1993-95, 1997-99, and 2001), the LSA Mentorship Service Award (2008), the Provost's Teaching Innovation Prize (2011), and the Council for Disability Concerns Certificate of Appreciation (2006). Students regularly reported that Dr. Gunderson was by far the best teacher they had had at the university, noting her enthusiasm for the material, her fun attitude, her dedication to helping students learn, and her respect for them as learners. They credited her with helping them find their own passion and for making the learning of statistics enjoyable.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Brenda K. Gunderson, lecturer IV emerita in statistics.**

Requested by:



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

December 2020