

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Richard O. Straub, Ph.D.**, professor of psychology in the University of Michigan-Dearborn College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2020.

Professor Straub received his B.S. (1975) degree from Florida Southern College and his M.A. (1976), M.Phil. (1978), and Ph.D. (1979) degrees from Columbia University. He joined the University of Michigan-Dearborn faculty as an assistant professor in 1979, and was promoted to associate professor in 1984, and professor in 1994.

Professor Straub's teaching included both Introductory Psychology as a Natural Science and Introductory Psychology as a Social Science. He taught upper-level courses in Learning and Memory, Physiological Psychology, and Principles of Statistics and Experimental Design, and he developed courses in Positive Psychology, Sport Psychology, and Health Psychology. The quality and success of his efforts were recognized with UM-Dearborn's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1982 and in his selection as the Faculty Member of the Year by the UM-Dearborn Alumni Society in 2006. Professor Straub demonstrated his skills as an experimental psychologist with publications in such journals as *Animal Learning and Behavior* and the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*. He and renowned psychologist J. E. Singer were awarded a National Institutes of Health research grant to study "Bio-behavioral Investigations Using Type A and B Animals," which led to the development of an animal model of Type A behavior. Professor Straub is the sole author of the seminal textbook in the field, *Health Psychology* (2019), now in its sixth edition. Professor Straub's service to the Dearborn campus has been both extensive and consequential. He began the first of five three-year terms as chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences in 1992. He was the founder and first director of the M.S. Program in Health Psychology, and he also served as associate provost at UM-Dearborn from 2007-08. In 1991-92, he chaired the Academic Affairs Advisory Council and co-chaired the Joint Committee on Faculty Governance that created a new faculty governance structure at UM-Dearborn.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Richard O. Straub, professor emeritus of psychology**.

**Requested by:**



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

**December 2020**