

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Edward T. Zellers, Ph.D.**, professor of environmental health sciences in the School of Public Health (SPH), retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2020.

Professor Zellers received his B.A. (1978) degree from Rutgers University and his M.S. (1984) and Ph.D. (1987) degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1987, and was promoted to associate professor in 1994, and professor in 2002.

As director of the Industrial Hygiene (IH) Program in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences since 1999, Professor Zellers led that program through three ABET accreditation renewals and four competitive NIOSH center grant renewals, and he staunchly maintained it as one of the leading IH programs in the country. From 2000-16, he served as group leader of environmental sensing in the Center for Wireless Integrated MicroSensing and Systems (WIMS2) in the College of Engineering (CoE) and oversaw projects from numerous collaborating faculty and students across several units at Michigan and other affiliated universities. He was a long-standing member of the editorial boards of the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene* and *Sensors and Actuators B: Chemical*, and initiated or participated in numerous global occupational health efforts locally, nationally, and internationally. In 2010, he received the SPH Teacher of the Year Award and (with colleagues) the CoE Ted Kennedy Family Team Excellence Award. He was proud to have mentored graduate students from several academic disciplines that have gone on to successful careers in academe, industry, or government. Professor Zellers was an internationally recognized expert in micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) technologies applied to the analysis of organic vapor mixtures. He delivered invited, plenary, and keynote addresses at technical conferences around the world. He co-invented several novel MEMS devices and his scholarly publications have been cited over 7000 times. Most of his work in this domain has concerned gas chromatographic microsystems ( $\mu$ GC) comprising microfabricated devices for vapor preconcentration, separation, and detection. Professor Zellers advanced the state-of-the-art in device and system designs and operating modes, interfacial materials development and characterization, physicochemical modeling, chemometrics, system integration, and prototype instrumentation assembly and testing. This work culminated recently in the first wearable  $\mu$ GC prototype capable of real-time measurement of exposures to complex mixtures of workplace air contaminants.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Edward T. Zellers, professor emeritus of environmental health sciences.**

**Requested by:**



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

**December 2020**