

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Frederick Amrine, Ph.D., Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and professor of Germanic languages and literatures in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2022.

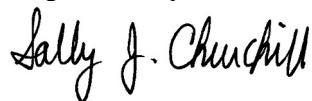
Frederick Amrine attended the University of Michigan where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1974 and the University of Cambridge where he earned a Master of Arts degree in 1976. He then attended Harvard University where he earned his doctorate in 1981. Professor Amrine joined the faculty at the University of Michigan as associate professor in 1986, and was promoted to the rank of full professor in 2019.

Professor Amrine is a well-regarded scholar of German literature and philosophy. He is a recognized and widely respected authority on German Romanticism and has authored, edited and co-edited four books and monographs on Johann Wolfgang Goethe's scientific and literary writings. In addition, he has edited and translated more than 50 books on and by Rudolf Steiner, an influential German philosopher, literary critic, and educator who also founded the Waldorf school system. Professor Amrine's published articles range across topics from the history of science to German Romanticism, and from German Idealism to contemporary French philosophy.

As a teacher and mentor, Professor Amrine has made important contributions to the undergraduate curriculum in German studies. He was a wide-ranging instructor who taught across the curriculum, including highly popular courses on German fairy tales and the imagination. Among his most important contributions to the curriculum was his redesign of the language curriculum, which he re-oriented from being grammar-focused to being topic-focused, thus inaugurating the interdisciplinary character for which our department is widely recognized. It was largely on the basis of his innovative approach to language instruction that Professor Amrine was awarded an Arthur F. Thurnau award in 1998. Beyond these contributions to teaching and research, Professor Amrine served as chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures from 1995-2004. He was a key architect of the department's embrace of radical interdisciplinarity, for which the department is currently recognized nationally and internationally.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Frederick Amrine, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus and professor emeritus of Germanic languages and literatures.**

Requested by:



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

December 2022