

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Charles (Charlie) Brown, Ph.D., professor of economics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and research professor in the Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2022.

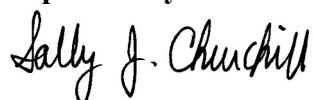
Professor Brown earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Boston College in 1970 and his doctorate in economics from Harvard University in 1974. He was at the University of Maryland before joining the faculty at the University of Michigan as professor of economics and research professor in the Institute for Social Research in 1985. He served as chair of the Department of Economics from 1997-1999. At the Institute for Social Research, he was a co-investigator on the Health and Retirement Study since 1990 and served as director of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics from 2012-2016.

Professor Brown has made important contributions to the study of labor economics. He is well-known for his work investigating the mechanisms that explain why firm characteristics, such as firm size, are associated with higher wages. His work on measurement in survey data provided important insights for applied researchers. His methodological and empirical analysis of how job characteristics affect wages has been quite influential. He provided valuable insights on controversial public policy issues: the effects of the minimum wage (which followed from his service on the U.S. Minimum Wage Study Commission), and his work on federal equal opportunity laws. While there have been strong differences of opinion among researchers in these areas, one constant is that people on different sides of arguments often cite Professor Brown's work. He is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research and was elected as a fellow of the Society of Labor Economists in 2006.

During his years at Michigan, Professor Brown taught graduate and undergraduate courses in labor and personnel economics, and a research seminar for undergraduate majors. Professor Brown was an active mentor for the department's doctoral program, supervising many Ph.D. theses and playing for decades on the Invisible Glove, a graduate student softball team.

The Regents now salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Charles (Charlie) Brown, professor emeritus of economics and research professor emeritus.**

Requested by:



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

December 2022