THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Donald Freeman, Ph.D., professor of education in the Marsal Family School of Education, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2023.

Professor Freeman received his B.A. degree from Yale University in 1973, his M.A.T. degree from the School for International Training in 1977, and his Ed.D. degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Education in 1991. He was a faculty member in the Graduate School for International Training/World Learning in Vermont from 1982-2007. There he served as director of the Center for Teacher Education, Training, and Research (1995-2007) and as dean (2001-2007). He joined the University of Michigan Marsal Family School of Education faculty as an associate professor in 2007, and was promoted to professor in 2017. He has held visiting faculty appointments around the world in Australia, England, Italy, Brazil, South Africa, and Slovakia.

Professor Freeman is a scholar of teacher learning in the contexts of organizational and systemic reform and its influence on student learning. He examines the development and use of teacher knowledge, particularly in the interrelationship between teacher learning and systemic change and the influences of teacher education on student learning. Methodologically, he studies the place of language as data in these learning processes, and how it can be used to trace influences across the interrelated domains of teacher education, classroom practices, and student learning. His books include Doing Teacher-Research: From Inquiry to Understanding (Heinle-Thomson; 1998) and Teacher Learning in Language Teaching (co-edited with Jack C. Richards; Cambridge University Press, 1996), as well as a four-level student curriculum ICON-International Communication through English, with Kathleen Graves and Linda Lee (McGraw-Hill). He was series editor of the TeacherSource professional development series published by Heinle-Thomson.

He has held many prominent national service roles. He serves on the editorial board of the Modern Language Journal and previously on the boards of the Educational Researcher and the TESOL Journal. He is past president of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), and member of the University of Cambridge ESOL Advisory Council.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Donald Freeman, professor emeritus of education.

Requested by:

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

December 2023