

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir


Cathleen M. Connell, Ph.D., professor of health behavior and health equity in the School of Public Health, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2024.

She received her B.S. degree in 1980 from Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in human development and family studies from The Pennsylvania State University in 1983 and 1986, respectively. After her doctoral studies, she completed a post-doctoral fellowship in cardiovascular risk reduction at Washington University in St. Louis from 1986 to 1988. Professor Connell joined the School of Public Health faculty as an assistant professor in 1989 and was promoted to associate professor and professor in 1995 and 2003, respectively. Professor Connell served as the director of the Education and Information Transfer Core of the Michigan Alzheimer's Research Center and as interim director of the Center for Managing Chronic Disease. In the School of Public Health, she served as associate chair, department chair, associate dean of academic affairs, senior associate dean of academic affairs, and interim dean.

Professor Connell has also made substantial contributions to the teaching program in the School of Public Health, offering a wide range of required and elective courses. She also taught courses in the On/Job On/Campus program designed for working professionals. She provided mentorship to doctoral students, post-doctoral fellows, and early-stage career researchers. Professor Connell also served on or chaired numerous department, school and university wide committees, including the School of Public Health Executive Committee and the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs. Professor Connell's research program has focused broadly on the health and well-being of older adults. Specific areas of expertise include chronic disease management, dementia family caregiving, and the role of pets as a support for older adults. Professor Connell is a highly regarded faculty member who has made key contributions and lasting impact on the teaching, service, and research missions of the school, the university and her field.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Cathleen M. Connell, professor emerita of health behavior and health equity**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2024