

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## *Regents Communication*

### ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Geoffrey E. Gerstner, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D., D.ABDSM**, associate professor of dentistry in the School of Dentistry, retired from active faculty status on January 1, 2025.

Dr. Gerstner received his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree and his Master of Science in oral biology from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1985. He received his Doctor of Philosophy in neuroscience from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1992. Dr. Gerstner joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1992 and was promoted to associate professor in 1999.

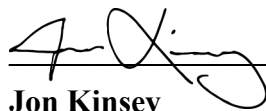
For over 30 years, Dr. Gerstner has been committed to dental education at the University of Michigan. He has chaired, co-chaired or directed 21 courses and lectured in 58 courses. He taught undergraduate, predoctoral dental students, dental residents, and graduate students. He mentored 240 students, 140 of whom were women and 86 of whom were minorities. His mentoring included 162 undergraduates from the Departments of Psychology and Biology, and Schools of Kinesiology and Engineering. He served on 20 master's committees and five Ph.D. committees and was chair of 17. He received eight teaching awards from dental classes, dental student organizations and the dean. During his tenure, he developed standards in clinical education of temporomandibular disorder and orofacial pain as well as of obstructive sleep apnea assessments. He developed a series of twenty standardized obstructive sleep apnea patients that are used in the curriculum to teach screening procedures. He standardized the practice of orofacial pain treatment in the pre-doctoral dental clinics. Dr. Gerstner developed an accredited mini-residency in dental sleep medicine, which provides practicing dentists with the ability to treat life-threatening sleep related breathing disorders. The program developed national interest and is one of only two accredited programs that provides training necessary to become Diplomates of the American Board of Dental Sleep Medicine.

Dr. Gerstner's research has focused on orofacial motor control and dysfunction. He has been funded by the NIH, NSF and other funding organizations. His clinical research involves examining the validity of sleep test devices used to screen and diagnose obstructive sleep apnea.

As active emeritus, Dr. Gerstner will continue to direct the accredited mini-residency program, to lecture and consult with faculty practicing sleep apnea treatment in the dental school, and to continue his research.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Geoffrey E. Gerstner, associate professor emeritus of dentistry**.

**Requested by:**



**Jon Kinsey**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

**December 2024**