THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Leo C. McAfee Jr., Ph.D., associate professor of electrical engineering and computer science in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2010.

Professor McAfee received his B.S.E.E. degree from Prairie View A&M University in 1966, and his M.S.E. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan in 1967 and 1970, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan Department of Electrical Engineering as a research assistant in 1969, and was promoted to instructor in 1970, assistant professor in 1971, and associate professor in 1976.

Professor McAfee's research focused on numerical and circuit modeling of integrated circuits, networks for automated semiconductor manufacturing, and computer network devices. The SECS Message Service (SMS) protocol, adopted as a standard by SEMI (Semiconductor Equipment and Materials, Inc.) in 1989, was a direct result of the work of Professor McAfee and his students, and had an important impact on semiconductor factory automation.

As the first African American professor hired by the College of Engineering, Professor McAfee had a lasting impact on generations of students. From 1976-79, he was program director for the Program in Engineering Research and Teaching for Minority Students. He also served in various roles with the Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program. During the 1970s and 1980s, he was the university-wide faculty coordinator for the Bell-Labs One-Year-on-Campus graduate program. From 2000-10, as associate director for education in the NSF Engineering Research Center for Wireless Integrated MicroSystems, Professor McAfee led a group of faculty who developed educational and outreach programs attended by thousands of college, high school, and middle school students, primarily from under-represented minority groups. He has been electrical engineering graduate chair, electrical engineering undergraduate chief program advisor, and the EECS department safety committee chair.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Leo C. McAfee Jr. associate professor emeritus of electrical engineering and computer science.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

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