

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents

May 20, 2010

## ACTION REQUEST

**Subject:** Report of Faculty Retirement

**Action Requested:** Adoption of Retirement Memoir

**Fred J. Karsch, Ph.D.**, professor of molecular and integrative physiology and research professor in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on January 31, 2010.

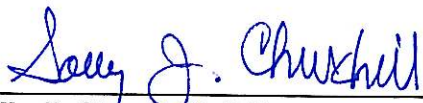
Professor Karsch received his B.S. degree from Juniata College in 1964, his M.S. degree from the University of Maine in 1966, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1970. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh, he joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor of physiology in 1972, and was promoted to associate professor in 1975, and professor in 1982. He also held appointments as associate research scientist (1981-87), research scientist (1987-2003), and research professor (2003-present) in conjunction with his work in the Reproductive Sciences Program.

Professor Karsch's research focused on brain mechanisms that regulate fertility in females and on the integration of reproductive physiology, neuroendocrinology, and biological rhythms. His work with sheep led to advances in methodology and new knowledge about reproductive hormones. Professor Karsch's research established the sheep model as the premier system for studying the effect of the seasons and hormones on the reproductive cycle of female mammals. With Dr. Douglas Foster, he founded and co-directed the Sheep Research Facility in the Reproductive Sciences Program.

A dedicated teacher and mentor, Professor Karsch served on the faculty of the Reproductive Sciences Training Program, the Systems and Integrative Biology Training Grant, and the Medical Scientist Training Program. Many of his former graduate students and postdoctoral fellows have gone on to establish their own highly regarded research programs. His honors include the Research Award from the Society for the Study of Reproduction (1987), the Amoroso Award from the Society for the Study of Fertility in Great Britain (1995), and the University of Michigan's Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award (1999) and Medical School Award for Teaching Excellence (2001).

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member for his dedicated service by naming **Fred J. Karsch professor emeritus of molecular and integrative physiology and research professor emeritus**.

**Requested by:**



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Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

April 2010