## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

MOTION WHATE
SECTION RICHARD

ACTION APPROVED BY THE REGENT

JUN 1 6 2005

**EXH** 

NO THE

Regents Communication

**ACTION REQUEST** 

Subject:

**Report of Faculty Death** 

Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of **Stella Raudenbush**, research investigator and instructor in the School of Education. Ms. Raudenbush died suddenly at the age of 59 on May 21, 2005.

Having pledged a life-long commitment to social justice, Ms. Raudenbush made her first major impact on society by helping organize the first hospital workers union in Massachusetts while attending Cardinal Cushing College in Brookline. After graduating in 1967, she continued her commitment as a social worker in Massachusetts, where she led battles for welfare rights and later guided the Parents Support and Action Center in Cambridge as it worked to facilitate school desegregation in the area. In 1984, Ms. Raudenbush and her family moved to Michigan, where she directed service learning programs for undergraduates at Michigan State University and later at the University of Michigan. In 2001, she launched the award-winning program "Lives of Urban Children and Youth," a partnership between the University of Michigan and community organizations to train undergraduates while improving instruction for Detroit children.

In addition to her instructional and outreach work at the University, Ms. Raudenbush collaborated with McClellan Hall of the National Indian Youth Leadership Project to organize and interview groups of elders. These persons of mature age shared their life-gained wisdom in a book called *Wisdom Teachings: Lessons Learned from Gatherings of Elders*. She also led classes in yoga-like dancing: slow, internally-directed movements designed to stretch mind and spirit. Most recently, the University of Chicago had just announced Ms. Raudenbush's appointment as director of an ambitious new urban education program. Her commitment to intellectual honesty and social justice will continue to live through the many lives she has touched.

As we mourn the loss of this distinguished educator and citizen, we also extend our condolences to her husband of 37 years, Stephen; her children Jesse, Danielle, and Catherine; her parents Lemar and Maggie Pipkins; her siblings Elbert Pipkins, Jerrolyn Simpson, Robert Pipkins, Judy Leavis, and Rottisha Mewborn; and her grandchildren Monica and Valentino Raudenbush.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill

Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2005