

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Adopted by the Regents
June 21, 2007

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Don Lowell Fisher, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomical sciences, Medical School, retired from active faculty status on April 30, 2007, after a productive career as an educator and researcher.

Professor Fisher received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Brigham Young University in 1966 and 1968, respectively, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Minnesota in 1971. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1972 as an instructor, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1974 and associate professor in 1983.

In 1978, after a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis ended Professor Fisher's ability to perform experimental embryology bench research, he decided to change his focus from research to teaching. Over the course of the next 28 years, Professor Fisher led courses in gross anatomy, dental gross anatomy, and embryology, and from 1989-2004, he directed the graduate program in embryology. In 1997 he published the text, *"Your Remarkable Anatomy."*

A firm believer in active learning, Professor Fisher facilitated the dissection sections of first year medical student gross anatomy laboratories, directed the prosection demonstrations for first year dental students, and assisted with laboratory instruction in the fourth year dental gross anatomy course. He held formal review sessions for the 401 undergraduate anatomy course and for many years served as a mentor for students in the Master of Fine Arts Program in Medical and Biological Illustration. The Medical School has recognized Professor Fisher's excellence as a teacher with numerous awards, including the Kaiser Permanente Award (1991) and the Elizabeth C. Crosby Award (1998). For three consecutive years, in 1999, 2000, and 2001, he was chosen by medical students as the outstanding basic science teacher of the year.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member for his dedicated service by naming **Don Lowell Fisher associate professor emeritus of anatomical sciences.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2007