

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**  
*Regents Communication*

Adopted by the Regents  
June 19, 2008

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**


**Gary M. Olson, Ph.D.**, Paul M. Fitts Collegiate Professor of Human-Computer Interaction and professor of information, School of Information, and professor of psychology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on June 30, 2008.

Professor Olson received his B.A. degree from the University of Minnesota in 1967, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University in 1968 and 1970, respectively. Following service in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1970-73, he served two years on the faculty of Michigan State University. Professor Olson joined the University of Michigan as an assistant professor of psychology in 1975, and was promoted to associate professor in 1977 and professor in 1984. He joined the School of Information as professor and as associate dean for research in 1995. He was named the Paul M. Fitts Collegiate Professor of Human-Computer Interaction in 2001.

Professor Olson was the founding director of the Collaboratory for Research in Electronic Work (CREW), and oversaw its migration from an OVPR incubator unit into a research center in the School of Information. In his role as associate dean, he was instrumental in reshaping the School of Information after its change in scope and mission in 1996, leading to the revitalization of the doctoral program, expansion of the base of externally funded research, and the development of the Human-Computer Interaction Program. Professor Olson has published over 120 articles and book chapters and is the leading authority on how information technology can be used to support work when participants are in different locations. In 2006, he was awarded (jointly with Judith S. Olson) the CHI Lifetime Achievement Award from SIGCHI (Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction) of the Association for Computing Machinery, acknowledging his leadership and lifetime impact on the field of human computer interaction and contributions to the development of the science of collaboration.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Gary M. Olson professor emeritus of information and professor emeritus of psychology.**

**Requested by:**

  
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**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2008