

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

Adopted by the Regents
June 17, 2010

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Edwin M. Curley, Ph.D., James B. and Grace J. Nelson Professor of Philosophy and professor of philosophy, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2010.

Professor Curley received his B.A. degree from Lafayette College in 1959, and his Ph.D. degree from Duke University in 1963. Between 1963 and 1993, he was a faculty member at San Jose State University, Australian National University, Northwestern University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor of philosophy in 1993. He was appointed the James B. and Grace J. Nelson Professor of Philosophy in 1999, and reappointed in 2004 and 2009.

Professor Curley is best known for his work on Spinoza, including two seminal books, *Spinoza's Metaphysics* (1969) and *Behind the Geometrical Method* (1988), and a new edition and translation of Spinoza's collected works. He is also the author of *Descartes Against the Skeptics* (1978) and a new edition of Hobbes' *Leviathan* (1994), and has published articles on Locke, Montaigne, Montesquieu, the philosophy of religion, and the history of religious toleration. Professor Curley taught undergraduate and graduate courses in early modern philosophy, graduate seminars on the history of religious toleration, and a popular undergraduate course on the philosophy of religion. He is a past president of the American Philosophical Association, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the National Humanities Center.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Edwin M. Curley professor emeritus of philosophy.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2010