

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

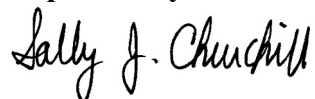
**Alec D. Gallimore, Ph.D.**, Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, Richard F. and Eleanor A. Towner Professor of Engineering, and professor of aerospace engineering in the College of Engineering, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2023.

Professor Gallimore earned his Ph.D. (1992) degree from Princeton University. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1992, and was promoted to associate professor in 1998, and professor in 2004. After assignments as Rackham's associate dean for academic programs and initiatives (2005-11), and the College of Engineering's associate dean for research and graduate education (2011-13) and associate dean for academic affairs (2014-16), he served as the Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering from 2016-23. Professor Gallimore was named provost and chief academic officer of Duke University in 2023.

Professor Gallimore was a trailblazing academician and leader. He founded and co-directed the Plasmadynamics and Electric Propulsion Laboratory. His leadership in advanced spacecraft propulsion led to the development of the X3 nested-channel Hall thruster—the world's most powerful Hall thruster and prototype plasma propulsion unit for sending humans to Mars via nuclear-electric propulsion. He co-founded ElectroDynamic Applications, Inc. He authored or co-authored more than 360 archival journal articles and conference papers and co-owns four patents. He co-founded MCubed, a seed-funding, multidisciplinary research program adopted university-wide. While he was dean, the College of Engineering increased its enrollment, faculty and staff size, endowment and physical plant (including erecting the Ford Motor Company Robotics Building, the first U-M partnership of its kind.) He established the ME 2020 Strategic Vision to create the world's preeminent college of engineering serving the common good and pioneered a "People-First Engineering" ethos. A prolific advisor, he graduated 44 Ph.D. and 14 master's students. Eight of the College of Engineering's 14 department chairs are women—contrasted with zero when he became dean. Professor Gallimore was awarded the U.S. Air Force Decoration for Meritorious Civilian Service (2005), is a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (2010), and was elected into the National Academy of Engineering (2019).

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member for his dedicated service by naming **Alec D. Gallimore, Robert J. Vlasic Dean Emeritus of Engineering, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus, Richard F. and Eleanor A. Towner Professor Emeritus of Engineering, and professor emeritus of aerospace engineering.**

**Requested by:**



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

**June 2023**