

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**Adopted by the Regents  
July 17, 2014**

## ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Phillip E. Savage, Ph.D.**, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and professor of chemical engineering in the College of Engineering, will retire from active faculty status on August 15, 2014.

Professor Savage received his B.S. degree from The Pennsylvania State University in 1982 and his M.Ch.E. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Delaware in 1983 and 1986, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1986, and was promoted to associate professor in 1992, and professor in 1998. He was appointed the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in 1997 and interim chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering in 2014.

Professor Savage's research focused on kinetics, catalysis and reaction pathways, hydrothermal chemistry, supercritical fluids, and environmental sustainability. His work explored the development of biofuels and chemicals from algae via hydrothermal treatment, "green" chemical manufacturing in high-temperature water, hydrogen and methane production from biomass by gasification in supercritical water, and biodiesel production from plant oils via reactions in water and supercritical fluids. Professor Savage's extensive record of publications includes over 180 journal articles and five patents. He has served as associate editor and editor-in-chief of the American Chemical Society's *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research* journal. Professor Savage was elected a fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers in 2010 and the American Chemical Society in 2012. He was a frequent invited lecturer, served as chair or co-chair of twenty-five doctoral committees, and co-taught continuing education courses on chemical kinetics and reaction engineering. Professor Savage's teaching and research accomplishments have been recognized with numerous honors including the College of Engineering's Education Excellence Award (1995 and 2007) and Research Excellence Award (1997), the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies' Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award (2006), and the Michigan Green Chemistry Governor's Award (2009).

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher, mentor, and scholar by naming **Phillip E. Savage Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus and professor emeritus of chemical engineering**.

**Requested by:**



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

**July 2014**