

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Dale J. Trela, Ph.D., professor of English in the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Michigan-Flint, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2023.

Professor Trela earned his B.A. degree in history in 1981 from the University of Illinois-Chicago. In 1984, he completed his Ph.D. degree in English literature from the University of Edinburgh. He joined the faculty at Roosevelt University in 1989, with promotions to associate professor in 1994 and promotion to professor in 1997. During this time, Professor Trela served first as chair of the Department of English and later as director of Roosevelt's School of Liberal Studies. In 1999, Professor Trela was named professor of English and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UM-Flint. He would serve as dean for 14 distinguished years, before returning to the faculty in 2014. During his deanship, Professor Trela provided leadership and oversight for over 300 faculty members teaching within 40 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. His signature accomplishments as dean include successful development and fundraising activities that resulted in multiple millions of dollars' worth of support to faculty scholarship and creative activity, undergraduate research and endowed student scholarships, and major renovations to two academic buildings. During his term as dean, the College of Arts and Sciences enjoyed its highest ever enrollment.

Professor Trela's commitment to leadership remained steadfast in the most recent decade. He served on numerous advisory committees, including the Chancellor's Advisory Committee, the College of Arts and Sciences Executive Committee, and the Honors Council. Professor Trela also recently chaired the Provost's Task Force on General Education Reform. He further served the campus as chair of UM-Flint's previous Faculty Council as well as the new Faculty Senate. In addition, he served for two years as interim chair of the Department of Foreign Languages. Professor Trela was deeply committed to community service, including membership on the community boards of the Flint Cultural Center Corporation, the Flint Institute of Music and the Flint Institute of Art. As a scholar, Professor Trela is an expert in British literature, and is the author or editor of dozens of scholarly works including five books.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Dale J. Trela, professor emeritus of English**.

Requested by:



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

July 2023