

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Adopted by the Regents  
October 19, 2012

## Regents Communication

### ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Sarah-Jane Gwillim-Kerr**, clinical assistant professor of theatre and drama in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2012.

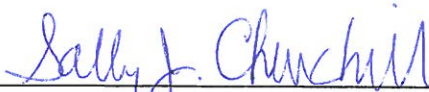
Professor Gwillim-Kerr received a diploma from the Institut Alpin Videmanette (Switzerland) in 1962 and a diploma from the Central School of Speech and Drama (London, England) in 1965. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as a visiting lecturer in 1984, and was promoted to lecturer in 1985 and clinical assistant professor in 1998.

Early in her career, Professor Gwillim-Kerr career performed in repertory theatres throughout England, appearing with such actors as John Neville and Judi Dench. She played leading roles in a variety of British television offerings, including a series opposite Malcolm McDowell, and in *Howard's End*, opposite Glenda Jackson. In the United States and Canada, Professor Gwillim-Kerr has performed in a variety of classical and contemporary roles in such venues as the American Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford, Playhouse in the Park in Cincinnati, Goodman Theatre in Chicago, McCarter Theatre in Princeton, the Annenberg and Walnut Street Theatres in Philadelphia, the California Shakespeare Festival, the Hartford Stage Company, the St. Louis Repertory Theatre, Manitoba Theatre Centre, and the Purple Rose Theatre. On Broadway, she performed in productions at the Circle-in-the-Square Theatre, where she stood by for Lynn Redgrave in George Bernard Shaw's *Saint Joan*. Off-Broadway, she received critical acclaim for her portrayal of Gloria in George Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell* at the Roundabout Theatre. She also stood by for Glenda Jackson in Christopher Plummer's *Macbeth* on a national tour and on Broadway.

An enthusiastic and popular teacher in the Department of Theatre & Drama, Professor Gwillim-Kerr taught beginning acting classes and foundation-level courses, which are key to laying the framework for further growth, in addition to more advanced Shakespeare and styles courses. Under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Professor Gwillim-Kerr toured the country, bringing *Shakespeare in Performance* into university classrooms.

The Regents now salute this gifted performer and teacher for her dedicated service by naming **Sarah-Jane Gwillim-Kerr clinical assistant professor emerita of theatre and drama**.

**Requested by:**



**Sally J. Churchill, J.D.**

**Vice President and Secretary of the University**

**October 2012**