

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Death

Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of **John E. DiNardo, Ph.D.**, professor of public policy in the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy and professor of economics in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Professor DiNardo died on August 26, 2017.

Professor DiNardo received his A.B. (1984) and M.P.P. (1984) degrees from the University of Michigan and his Ph.D. (1990) degree from Princeton University. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in 2001. Professor DiNardo held previous posts at the University of California, Irvine, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton University and the Rand Corporation. He was also a research associate and faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research in Health Economics and Labor.

Professor DiNardo was an exceptional labor economist. His research and scholarship explored a broad range of topics, including labor unions, illegal drugs, and health insurance. Professor DiNardo was an accomplished econometrician, with excellent technical skills, and a powerful vision of how econometric techniques should be applied. In particular, his pioneering work on the application of the regression discontinuity model in economics anticipated the impending flurry of interest in this model among econometric theorists. Professor DiNardo wrote seminal papers on the economics of labor unions, including studies on their impact on wages and inequality. He was a master at effectively advising scholars on how to address the empirical challenges they would confront in their research and was a valued co-author. In this context, his support for and mentoring of the faculty and students engaged in empirical research provided an extremely valuable resource to the University of Michigan community. Professor DiNardo was elected a fellow of the Society of Labor Economists in 2013. An enthusiastic musician, he was a founding member of the rock band the Solonators whose members wrote and performed songs about economics.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we also extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife Jean and his many loving relatives and friends.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

October 2017