

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Richard E. Burney, M.D.**, professor of surgery in the Medical School, will retire from active faculty status on November 30, 2012.


Dr. Burney received his A.B. and M.D. degrees from Harvard University in 1965 and 1969, respectively. He completed his internship (1969-70) and residency (1970-74) in general surgery at the Yale-New Haven Medical Center. From 1974-76, he served his military commitment at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he was chief of clinics at the U.S. Munson Army Hospital. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor of surgery in 1976, and was promoted to associate professor in 1983, and professor in 1992.

Dr. Burney has held numerous leadership positions at the University of Michigan Hospitals, including interim head of the section of emergency services (1985-87, 1990-92), chief of emergency services (1985-92), medical director of survival flight (1985-94), and chief of the Division of Colorectal Surgery (2005-07). He served on over 40 University and Health System committees, including the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute Executive Committee and the Executive Committee on Clinical Affairs. In the late 1970s, he was instrumental in the development of a stable, advanced emergency medical services system for Washtenaw and Livingston counties, and served as the first medical director of this system. He served as president of the Washtenaw County Medical Society in 2003, and from 1994-2004, he was a member of the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Burney has authored over 130 peer-reviewed publications and 25 book chapters. He served for many years on the editorial boards of *The Journal of Trauma* and the *Annals of Emergency Medicine*. Dr. Burney was active in medical care quality review organizations throughout his career, starting with the Area VII Professional Standards Review Organization (1977-84) and continuing with the Michigan Peer Review Organization (1984-2008), which he helped to establish and where he served as president of the board from 1984-2006. He was appointed to the Michigan Board of Medicine in 2008 and was elected chair of the board in 2012.

The Regents now salute this distinguished physician and health educator for his dedicated service by naming **Richard E. Burney professor emeritus of surgery**.

**Requested by:**

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

November 2012