

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

**Adopted by the
Regents
March 19, 2015**

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Michael J. Welsh, Ph.D., professor of cell and developmental biology in the Medical School, will retire from active faculty status on April 10, 2015.

Professor Welsh received his B.Sc. degree from Texas A&M University in 1970 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1977. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1979, and was promoted to associate professor in 1985, and professor in 1990. He held numerous additional appointments including research scientist, research professor, professor of anesthesiology, professor of electrical engineering and computer science, and faculty ombudsman.

Professor Welsh's early research explored male reproductive cell biology, specifically the biology of Sertoli cells, reproductive toxicology, and the structure and function of the cell cytoskeleton. His later research focused on the functions of small heat-shock proteins (sHSP), discovery of a new member of that protein family, identification of proteins that interact with sHSPs, and the effect on protein-protein interactions of disease causing mutations in the sHSPs. Professor Welsh has a notable history of successfully securing research funding, published extensively in the leading scholarly journals, and co-authored the authoritative laboratory guide *Gene Biotechnology* (2011). He served as director of the Cancer Center Morphology Core Facility from 1987-2013 and as editor-in-chief of the international journal *Cell Biology and Toxicology* from 2002-06. Professor Welsh was actively involved in the development and mentorship of graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and junior faculty. He taught a wide range of courses including Mammalian Reproductive Biology, Cellular Biotechnology, and Medical Histology.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher and scholar for his dedicated service by naming **Michael J. Welsh professor emeritus of cell and developmental biology**.

Requested by:



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

March 2015