

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Adopted by the Regents

May 17, 2007

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Ellwood S. Derr, A.Mus.D., professor of music (theory) in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2007.

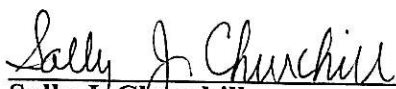
Professor Derr received his B.M. degree from the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester in 1954, and his M.M. and A.Mus.D. degrees from the University of Illinois in 1958 and 1968, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a lecturer in 1962, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1968, associate professor in 1971, and professor in 1977.

Characterized by his love of all things cultural, his generosity of spirit, and his ebullient sense of humor, Professor Derr is a highly revered faculty member who has taught a wide range of undergraduate and graduate students of all musical backgrounds for over 40 years. He is known for his incredible familiarity with all repertoires, his deep working knowledge of eighteenth-century compositional, pedagogical and performance practices, his facility with the contents of historical treatises on many topics, his extensive expertise in the German language, and his steadfast devotion to his students.

Many of Professor Derr's compositions, particularly his song cycle, "I Never Saw Another Butterfly," have been recorded and performed throughout North America and Europe. He is a frequent lecturer in North America and abroad, and his articles and essays, many of which concern eighteenth- and nineteenth-century composers' treatments of preexistent musical materials, have appeared in a wide range of American and European journals as well as in the new *Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*. Professor Derr's critical editions of music, among them Debussy's *Piano Trio in G* (the lost autograph of which he discovered), have been published by the G. Henle Verlag of Munich. This edition of the *Trio*, which includes a sizeable passage restored by Professor Derr, has been used frequently for performances and recordings.

The Regents now salute this distinguished professor for his dedicated service by naming **Ellwood S. Derr professor emeritus of music (theory)**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2007