

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Adopted by the Regents
May 15, 2008

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Michael G. Parsons, Ph.D., Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and professor of naval architecture and marine engineering in the College of Engineering, will retire from active faculty status on May 31, 2008.

Professor Parsons received his B.S.E. degree from the University of Michigan in 1963, his M.M.E. degree from The Catholic University of America in 1969, and his Ph.D. degree from Stanford University in 1972. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as assistant professor in 1972, and was promoted to associate professor in 1977 and professor in 1982.

Professor Parsons' research dealt with various aspects of marine engineering and ship systems design. Since the 1990s, his interests have broadened to include working to prevent the introduction of non-indigenous species into the Great Lakes, and have led to his receiving a patent for a ballast-free ship design concept. He has published numerous journal articles and contributed to many published conference and symposium proceedings. He is a fellow of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, and in 2003 received the prestigious William H. Webb Medal for outstanding contributions to marine education.

Within the College of Engineering, Professor Parsons served as associate dean for undergraduate education from 1991-96, as director of the Michigan Sea Grant College Program from 1987-92 and in 1995-96, and as chair of the Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from 1981-91. He has chaired or co-chaired the dissertations of 17 Ph.D. students and has advised many more, often co-authoring journal articles and conference presentations with them. He has received numerous teaching awards, and was named Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in 1997 for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education.

The Regents now salute this distinguished teacher, scholar, and administrator by naming **Michael G. Parsons Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus and professor emeritus of naval architecture and marine engineering.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2008