

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Approved by the Regents

June 16, 2006

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

John Kucich, Ph.D., professor of English language and literature in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2006.

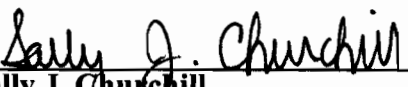
Professor Kucich received his B.A. degree from the University of California-Santa Cruz in 1974, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1976 and 1978, respectively. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1979 and was promoted to associate professor in 1985 and professor in 1990.

Professor Kucich published extensively on Victorian fiction, including four major monographs that earned him a reputation as a preeminent scholar of the field: *Excess and Restraint in the Novels of Charles Dickens* (1981), *Repression in Victorian Fiction: Charlotte Brontë, George Eliot, and Charles Dickens* (1987), *The Power of Lies: Transgression in Victorian Fiction* (1994), and *Imperial Masochism: British Fiction, Fantasy, and Social Class* (forthcoming November 2006). In these and other works, he made highly influential contributions to narrative theory and psychoanalytic criticism and revolutionized the critical understanding of Victorian hypocrisy, self-control, and repression.

Within the English department, Professor Kucich also provided conscientious administrative leadership as acting chair (summers 1996, 1997), associate chair (1995-97), director of graduate studies (1994), and director of undergraduate studies (2000-01). He was a generous mentor and a much-sought-after thesis and dissertation director, who earned the respect of his students for his thorough, fair-minded critiques of their work. His many honors include the Donald Gray Prize for the Best Essay in Victorian Studies from the North American Victorian Studies Association (2005) and a William C. and Ida Friday Fellowship from the National Humanities Center (2002). His University contributions have been recognized by the Distinguished Faculty Recognition Award (2004), the Ayrshire Foundation Award (2003), the Rackham Faculty Recognition Award (2002), the Research Excellence Award (1997), the Julia Lockwood Award (1995), the William Wilhartz Assistant Professorship (1983), and the Bredvold Publication Prize (1982).

The Regents now salute this faculty member by naming **John Kucich professor emeritus of English language and literature.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2006