

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Adopted by the Regents

June 19, 2008

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Klaus-Peter Beier, Dr.-Ing., research scientist, Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, College of Engineering, will retire from active faculty status on June 30, 2008.

Dr. Beier received his Dipl.-Ing. and Dr.-Ing. degrees from the Technical University Berlin in 1970 and 1976, respectively. Prior to joining the University of Michigan he directed the CAD Computing Center, Technical University Berlin from 1975-83. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an associate professor of naval architecture and marine engineering in 1984. In 1991, his appointment was changed to research scientist and associate director of the Laboratory for Scientific Computation and adjunct associate professor.

In 1993, Dr. Beier introduced the emerging area of virtual reality (VR) to the University by founding the Virtual Reality Lab (VRL), and in 2002 he became director of the 3D Lab at the Duderstadt Center. While at the VRL and 3D Lab, Dr. Beier conducted pioneering work in virtual prototyping which significantly advanced emerging technologies of immersive VR and paved the way for industrial applications. His research in virtual reality modeling language on the World Wide Web led to many applications in collaborative engineering and knowledge representation. Recently, he has been working with virtual avatar animation, resulting in new methods for scripting complex movements of virtual humans.

In addition to teaching courses within the College of Engineering, Dr. Beier also developed "Principles of Virtual Reality," an interdisciplinary course involving students and faculty in several schools and colleges. He received the College of Engineering's Teaching Excellence Award in 1988 and its Outstanding Research Scientist Award in 1996. In 2000, he and his team were named "Medalist and Laureate" of the Year 2000 Computerworld Smithsonian Awards (now known as "Computerworld Honors") for their project, "Medical Readiness Trainer." His project, "Virtual Football Trainer" was awarded "Laureate" status in the 2003 Computerworld Honors.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Klaus-Peter Beier research scientist emeritus**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2008