THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir


Professor Bates received his B.S. degree from Central Michigan University in 1958, his M.A. degree from Wayne State University in 1961, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1968. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as a lecturer in 1965, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1968, associate professor in 1970, and professor in 1978.

Professor Bates was a leader in the study of educational psychology, special education, and diversity in education, as well as an outstanding teacher and mentor. He served as an assistant dean, chair of the special education program, and division director for curriculum, teaching, and psychological studies. He was the UM faculty athletics representative for twenty-two years. Professor Bates worked with dozens of school districts to assess their educational programs and engage teachers and administrators on issues related to equity, gender, and desegregation. Professor Bates contributed to his profession in numerous ways, including serving the U.S. Department of Education as the deputy assistant secretary and director of the Office of Special Education and as a member of the Secretary of Education’s Commission on Opportunity in Athletics. He was a founding board member and former chair of the Higher Education Commission of the National Alliance of Black School Educators. He served on several NCAA and Big Ten committees, and was president of the Black Coaches Association. In recognition of his skills as a teacher and an advocate for diversity in education, he received the McLendon Minority Athletics Administrators Hall of Fame Award (2010), the National Center for Institutional Diversity Exemplary Diversity Engagement and Scholarship Award (2008-09), and the Jazzistry Giant Steps: Lifetime Achievement in Diversity Education Award (2008-09).

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Percy Bates, professor emeritus of education.

Requested by:

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

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