

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

Approved by the Regents

## ACTION REQUEST

October 20, 2006

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**

**Paul K. Peterson, Ph.D.**, associate professor of philosophy in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Michigan-Flint, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2006.


Professor Peterson received his B.A. degree in 1964 and his Ph.D. degree in 1972, both from the University of Minnesota. He joined the University of Michigan-Flint faculty as a lecturer in 1969 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1972 and associate professor in 1976.

Professor Peterson served four separate terms as chair of the University of Michigan-Flint Department of Philosophy. He also directed the Summer Institute for Talented Students (1989-99), directed the Bachelor of Applied Sciences Program (1995-1999), and held an additional appointment as faculty counselor for Academic Support Services (1992-2000). As chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on General Education (1981-2006), Professor Peterson guided an extensive reform of the general education program.

During every semester of his 37-year career at the University of Michigan-Flint, Professor Peterson taught the course, "Introduction to Logic," which developed an excellent reputation as a result of his efforts. He received two special merit awards for teaching and played a leading role in creating both the joint concentration in philosophy and psychology and the minor in philosophy of the social sciences. He continually shared his research interests, not only in the classroom but through local, national, and international presentations on such topics as the philosophy of children's literature, philosophical investigations into terrorism, human evil, and the rhetoric of violence.

The Regents now salute this distinguished philosophy educator for his dedicated service by naming **Paul K. Peterson associate professor emeritus of philosophy.**

**Requested by:**

  
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**Sally J. Churchill**  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

October 2006