

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

*Regents Communication*

Approved by the Regents

December 15, 2006

## ACTION REQUEST

**Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement**

**Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir**


**Don B. Chaffin, Ph.D.**, Richard G. Snyder Distinguished University Professor of Industrial and Operations Engineering, G. Lawton and Louise G. Johnson Professor of Engineering, professor of industrial and operations engineering, and professor of biomedical engineering in the College of Engineering, and professor of occupational health in the School of Public Health, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2006.

Professor Chaffin received his B.S. degree from the General Motors Institute in 1962, his M.S. degree from the University of Toledo in 1964, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1967. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor of industrial engineering in 1968, and was promoted to associate professor in 1970 and professor in 1973. He was appointed professor of occupational health in the School of Public Health in 1984 and professor of biomedical engineering in 1997. Professor Chaffin was named the G. Lawton and Louise G. Johnson Professor of Engineering in 1993 and was honored with the Richard G. Snyder Distinguished University Professorship of Industrial and Operations Engineering in 1994.

Professor Chaffin's research has emphasized the use of biomechanics to understand and prevent occupational musculoskeletal injuries. He has published 6 books, more than 140 journal articles, and some 300 other publications. He led a team of students and staff in developing a set of widely-used software programs for assisting practicing engineers in the design of workplaces and vehicles that can accommodate various groups of people and reduce overexertion injury risk factors. Professor Chaffin has been elected fellow in six different international professional and scientific organizations, including the Ergonomics Society of Great Britain and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has received many national and international awards for his work, including election to membership in the prestigious National Academy of Engineering in 1994.

The Regents now salute this accomplished scholar for his dedicated service by naming **Don B. Chaffin the Richard G. Snyder Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Industrial and Operations Engineering, professor emeritus of industrial and operations engineering, professor emeritus of biomedical engineering, and professor emeritus of occupational health.**

**Requested by:**

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

**December 2006**