

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

Bruce H. Wilkinson, Ph.D., professor of geology and mineralogy and research scientist in the Museum of Paleontology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, will retire from active faculty status on December 31, 2006.

Professor Wilkinson received his B.S. and M.A. degrees from the University of Wyoming in 1965 and 1967 respectively, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Texas in 1973. He joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1973, and was promoted to associate professor in 1979 and professor in 1986. Within the Museum of Paleontology, Professor Wilkinson was appointed assistant research scientist in 1974, and was promoted to associate research scientist in 1979 and research scientist in 1986.

Professor Wilkinson's research spans the broad field of sedimentary geology, seeking to decipher the processes and history of the modification of the earth's surface and the temporal records of its environments and climate. His research extended from studies of marine coastal processes into continental settings to examine records archived in lake systems and then to sedimentary deposits of the marine realm. Later studies combined empirical observations and analytical techniques to identify the primary factors that control the character, distribution, and temporal patterns of sedimentary rocks. Most recently, he has explored the role of humans as geologic agents and their impact on the sculpting of earth's surface through processes of erosion.

Professor Wilkinson's teaching contributions are equally diverse and impressive. In the late 1970s he developed mini-courses to provide short, intensive, introductions to a broad variety of earth science subjects. His introductory-level field-based courses culminated in the popular class, "Geology of the Rockies." Professor Wilkinson has also taught advanced undergraduate and highly specialized graduate courses and is known for his unrelenting mentorship of students. His appointment to the Museum of Paleontology recognized his collaborative interactions with faculty in this unit and his pivotal contributions to graduate education in this field.

The Regents salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Bruce H. Wilkinson professor emeritus of geology and mineralogy and research scientist emeritus.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill
Vice President and Secretary of the University

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