

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication
ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Carl P. Simon, Professor of Mathematics, Economics, and Complex Systems in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and Professor of Public Policy in the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, retires from active faculty status on June 1, 2020.

Professor Simon received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from Northwestern University in 1970. He joined the UM Department of Mathematics as an assistant professor in 1972. In 1978 he was named an associate professor of Mathematics and Economics, and in 1988 he became professor of Mathematics, Economics, Complex Systems, and Public Policy. From 1999-2009 he was the founding director of the Center for the Study of Complex Systems, and from 2011-2016 he was the director of the UM Science, Technology, and Policy Program in the Ford School of Public Policy. He was named the LSA Distinguished Senior Lecturer for 2007 and received the UM Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award in 2012.

The broad range of Professor Simon's research centers on the theory and application of dynamical systems. He has published well-cited research in many different fields, including the theory of chaotic dynamical systems, economic mechanisms for price adjustment, optimal Presidential term length, evolution of ecological systems and of literary genres, sex-differences in smoking initiation, a systems approach to the spread of crime, and most intensely, the spread of communicable diseases such as HIV, influenza, malaria, and gonorrhea. He and his research group were among the first to estimate the contagiousness of HIV. Their work was recognized by the 1995 Howard Temin International HIV Prize and the 2005 Kenneth Rothman Epidemiology Prize. He co-authored with L. Blume the popular textbook Mathematics for Economists.

Professor Simon has mentored eight Ph.D. students and many junior faculty members. He was active in undergraduate advising and teaching. For 30 years he taught large calculus courses in the Ford School that were famous for his algebraic aerobics.

The Regents salute this distinguished scholar by naming **Carl Simon Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, Economics, Complex Systems, and Public Policy**.

Requested by:

Vice President and Secretary of the University