

Example – Naming of an Existing Collegiate Professorship

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Approval to Name an Existing Collegiate Professorship

PROPOSED NAME: Charles M. Butter Collegiate Professorship in Psychology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2004

The College of Literature, Science, and the Arts seeks to name an existing collegiate professorship for Charles M. Butter, who was a faculty member at the University of Michigan from 1962 until his retirement in 1999. A stipend funded from College resources will accompany this professorship.

Charles Butter received his Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University in 1955 and his Doctorate from Duke University in 1959. Following a three-year postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institute of Mental Health, he joined our faculty as an assistant professor in 1962. He was promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in 1964 and to professor in 1968.

Professor Butter is a leading scholar in the field of brain mechanisms of attention. His studies have illuminated the nature of deficits of visual attention that are caused by various types of lesions of the neocortex or subcortical brain structures. A major focus of his work has dealt with the perception of spatial relations and of visual objects in space, and on the processing of space in relation to self in order to clarify the neural controls that direct attention. His research has also touched on other topics in behavioral neuroscience and physiological psychology, ranging from associative learning to the brain mechanisms of motivation and emotion. He has written over 65 research articles in peer-reviewed publications, plus three book chapters and a book.

Professor Butter has mentored several generations of Ph.D. students in biopsychology and has taught undergraduate courses in human neuropsychology and physiological psychology. He has served on administrative committees in the Department of Psychology; the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; in Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies; and on the civil rights board of the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs. He has also served on national executive, program, and research committees of the American Psychological Association, and is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, the American Psychological Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A distinguished faculty member will be nominated to receive this honor. The initial term of appointment will be for five years with the possibility of renewal.

Recommended by:

Recommendation endorsed by:

Terrence J. McDonald,
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,
Professor of History, and Dean
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Teresa A. Sullivan, Provost and
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

July 2004