OCTOBER MEETING, 1984

Douglas R. Robbins, Psychiatry, September 25, 1984
Pauline C. Terrelonge, Political Science, June 30, 1984

Instructor
Alan N. Dengiz, Internal Medicine, August 5, 1984

Lecturer
Barbey N. Dougherty, English Composition Board, May 31, 1984
Emily B. Golson, English Composition Board, May 31, 1984
Conrad J. Mason, Atmospheric and Oceanic Science, June 30, 1984

Clinical Instructor
Alessandro Giovannardi, Dentistry, August 10, 1984
Gary P. Hutnik, Dentistry, July 31, 1984
Mildred J. Tinker, Dentistry, April 30, 1984

Leaves of Absence

Three off-campus assignments, twenty-three sabbatical leaves, one scholarly activity leave, five leaves of absence without salary, two extended sick leaves, seven retirement furloughs and one disability leave were reported to the Regents.

VI. RETIREMENT MEMOIR

Vice President Kennedy reported the retirement of one faculty member. The following retirement memoir was adopted:

JACK LAPIDES, Professor of Surgery and Head of the Section of Urology in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status as of June 30, 1984, after a long and distinguished career as a surgeon, teacher, and researcher.

Professor Lapides was born in Rochester, New York. He completed his undergraduate work at the University of Michigan, receiving a B.A. degree in 1936, an M.A. degree in physiology in 1938, and his M.D. degree in 1941. He was a Rockefeller Research Associate in the Department of Physiology from 1936-38 and did his surgical and urologic training at the University of Michigan, interrupted by military service as a flight surgeon in the Pacific Theatre from 1941-46. He was a research fellow at the University of Chicago and the United States Public Health Service, National Cancer Institute, following completion of his residency in urology.

In 1950 Professor Lapides returned to Michigan as Instructor in Urology and Chief of the Urology Service at Wayne County General Hospital. He became Professor of Surgery in the Section of Urology in 1964, and, in 1968, Head of the Section of Urology, a position he held until 1983.

Author of 198 scientific papers and two textbooks on urology as well as twenty-eight chapters in textbooks, Professor Lapides used his background training in physiology to full advantage. His major interests centered around the neurogenic bladder, incontinence, and function of the upper urinary tract. His basic and clinical research, and his ability to communicate his findings to other urologists, led to profound changes in the management of the conditions which he studied. One of the most significant advances in urology in the past twenty years was the concept of management of the neurogenic bladder by intermittent self-catheterization. This idea was developed and promulgated by Professor Lapides and is now the standard method for treatment with vastly improved results.

During his distinguished career, Professor Lapides received multiple honors and awards and participated actively in the national and international urologic societies. His urology residents, in community and academic urology, are scattered throughout the world.

The Regents now salute this distinguished surgeon by naming him Professor Emeritus of Surgery.

VII. MEMORIALS

Vice President Kennedy reported the death of Carl Ray Proffer, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literature. The following memorial statement was adopted.
It is with profound sadness that the Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge the loss of Carl Ray Proffer, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, who died at the age of 46 on September 24, 1984, after a two-year struggle with cancer.

Carl Proffer was a Michigan boy and a Michigan man. Born in Buffalo, N.Y., he grew up in Bay City and came to Ann Arbor to do his undergraduate work in 1956. It was here that he dropped his plans for varsity basketball and took up Russian, earning an A.B. with Highest Distinction in 1960. In 1963 Carl emerged as the Slavic Department’s first Ph.D. in literature. After establishing himself as a teacher and scholar at Reed College and Indiana University, Carl returned to Ann Arbor in 1970 as an Associate Professor, and was promoted to Professor in 1972.

Professor Proffer was an accomplished scholar best known for his books on Gogol and Nabokov and his many articles, reviews and translations. He was also a talented teacher with very high standards who served the University with great loyalty during his twelve years on the faculty. In the Slavic Department he offered a wide range of courses, including undergraduate surveys of Russian literature, upperclass lecture courses on Gogol, Dostoevsky, and Nabokov, and graduate seminars on various periods of Russian literature including Russian Romanticism, as well as a seminar on translation. Carl’s energy was contagious, but he set a lofty example which only the most dedicated could follow.

Outside the department, Carl served also within the Center for Russian and East European Studies, where his occasional lectures were always packed, and in the Residential College, where he taught undergraduate seminars. In the Literary College he offered a freshman seminar on Russian civilization.

The Russians have a term “kabinetnyj professor” for the type of academic who is a scholarly recluse—the sort of man who squirrels up in his study and dedicates his life to a narrow, abstruse line of research, and who has little taste or enthusiasm for teaching, students, and the real world. Carl Proffer, though he had a passion for research, was the complete opposite of the “kabinetnyj professor”. Carl was a professor of Russian literature to the world. In his brief forty-six years he managed to redefine the dimensions of professorial activity in his field. He studied at Moscow State University in 1962 and returned to the Soviet Union more than ten times on research visits during his teaching career, entering the very literature he taught by building up a network of friendships within the community of Soviet Russian literati both before and after the emigrations of the 1970’s, emigrations which drained the USSR of its most promising writers and poets. Those writers and poets, and the thousands of Russian intellectuals who eagerly read their works as unofficial literature in manuscript samizdat form, were later delighted to find that there existed a channel for the publication of Russian literature via Ardis Press, founded here in Ann Arbor by Carl and his wife Ellendea. Carl’s and Ellendea’s publishing house put Ann Arbor on the map as world center for the publication, in Russian and in English, of Russian literature of all periods—but especially of contemporary Soviet Russian literature—from both sides of the Soviet frontier. And Carl also brought us Russians. Too long to repeat here is the list of Russian emigre writers, poets, artists, musicians, ballet dancers, and intellectuals who have made a pilgrimage to Ann Arbor because of Carl Proffer and Ardis Press. Above all, in 1972 Carl brought us the leading Russian poet Joseph Brodsky, arranging a job for Joseph as Poet-in-Residence at The University of Michigan within a week of his forced exile. After Joseph there followed a series of Soviet emigre graduate students, many of them excellent indeed.

All roads lead home. We can be fiercely proud that Carl Proffer began and ended his career at The University of Michigan. And it is not farfetched to predict that in the future many grateful Russians and Americans interested in Russian literature, will visit Carl’s grave in Forest Hill cemetery; for Carl was truly a professor of Russian literature to the world, and his name and the memory of his contributions to the field will live in perpetuity.

VIII. DEGREES

On recommendation of the proper faculty in each case, the Regents approved the following amendments to the degree lists:

Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies
Master of Public Policy Studies, August, 1984
add: Nancy Lazar Moore, A.B., North Park College and Theological Seminary