Dear Colleagues:

It is with enormous gratitude that we write to announce that David Schoem will retire from his role as Director of the Michigan Community Scholars Program at the end of the academic year. As you know, David has been a force for dialogue, civic engagement, and justice both on the U-M campus and nationally. We've highlighted some of David's accomplishments below, though we invite you to read his full bio.

David Schoem has served as the Founding Director of the Michigan Community Scholars Program since 1999. From 1979-1999, Schoem served as Michigan’s first and only Assistant Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, as the first Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education in LSA, and as Director of the Pilot Program. In these roles, he was a leader in integrating academic and student affairs, emphasizing intergroup dialogue, diversity, community-building, and social justice. David has always been dedicated to teaching the whole student.

David is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Sociology Department and has held appointments with the UC/ALA Division and as an affiliated faculty member in Judaic Studies. He is the author and editor of numerous articles and eleven books on intergroup relations and dialogue, teaching, college life, learning communities, and the American Jewish experience.

David has played a leadership role in important initiatives at U-M on student learning, diversity, and undergraduate education. He was a co-founder of the Program on Intergroup Relations and played a critical role in the establishment of the LSA Race and Ethnicity Requirement. Nationally, he served as a consultant to the President’s (Clinton) Initiative on Race, and as a PEW National Learning Communities Fellow. He received an MI Campus Compact Faculty Award for Community Service-Learning and the Exemplary Diversity Engagement and Scholarship Award from NCID.

In retirement, David looks forward to continuing to teach at Michigan, working on a new book on intergroup relations, and spending quality time with his wife, his daughters and sons-in-law, and his grandchildren.

As you have likely noted from the aforementioned accomplishments, no one can replace David. Still, we will soon be posting the position to find a new MCSP director. More information will be forthcoming regarding opportunities to thank David for his immense contributions to U-M.

Warm Regards,

Timothy McKay                 Kelly Maxwell  
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education     Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education