

Profiles of Medical School professors who have retired from active faculty status

Professors Emeriti



A. Kent Christensen, Ph.D., professor of anatomy and cell biology and research scientist in the Reproductive Sciences Program, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 1999.

Professor Christensen received his A.B. degree from Brigham Young University in 1953 and his Ph.D. degree from Harvard University in 1958. For the next two years, he

pursued postdoctoral training with Don Fawcett, M.D. at both Cornell and Harvard Medical Schools. He was appointed assistant professor of anatomy at Stanford University in 1961 and was promoted to associate professor there in 1968. In 1971, Professor Christensen moved to Temple University School of Medicine, where he was appointed professor and chair of the anatomy department. He came to the University of Michigan as professor and chair of the Department of Anatomy in 1978. He served as chair until 1982.

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Professor Christensen has had a distinguished career as a cell biologist. His laboratory research contributions have concentrated on the cell biology of the testis, polysome ultrastructure, and designing techniques for the preparation of ultrathin frozen sections at the electron microscopic level. A major local contribution was his establishment of the Cell Biology Laboratories, a microscopy core facility at the University of Michigan. As chair, he was instrumental in introducing a significant emphasis on cell biology, in addition to changing the department name from anatomy to anatomy and cell biology.

As a teacher, Professor Christensen has been an enthusiastic participant in a variety of histology and cell biology courses, and he taught a popular course on morphology for molecular biologists. He also trained six Ph.D. students and eight postdoctoral fellows. Professor Christensen has served as president of a number of professional organizations, including the Association of Anatomy Chairmen, the American Association of Anatomists, and the Michigan Electron Microscopy Society.



Prasanta K. Datta, Ph.D., professor of biological chemistry, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 1998.

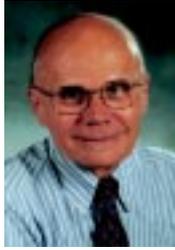
Born in Calcutta, India, Professor Datta received his B.Sc. (1949) and M.S. (1951) degrees from Calcutta University and his Ph.D. degree (1956) from the University of Washington in Seattle. After completing his postdoctoral studies, he went to Washington

University in St. Louis, Missouri, as an assistant research professor and research associate from 1961-65. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1966 as an assistant professor in the Department of Biological Chemistry; he was promoted to associate professor in 1968 and professor in 1976.

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Professor Datta has been an invaluable faculty member in the Department of Biological Chemistry. He has been an outstanding and dedicated teacher and has been extremely active with committee participation at all levels of the University as well as internationally. Professor Datta was one of the founding members of the Graduate Program in Cellular and Molecular Biology.

Professor Datta has had more than 30 consecutive years of research support from the National Institutes of Health for his research in the areas of gene structure and regulation of expression, control of enzyme function by cellular metabolites, and molecular evolution. He has been an invited speaker at numerous national and international symposia and seminars, and was research advisor for more than 25 doctoral and postdoctoral trainees and a dozen undergraduate students. Professor Datta was awarded two separate National Institutes of Health special research fellowships for sabbatical leaves at the Salk Institute and Stanford University. He was also a United Nations visiting professor at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, India. ➤



Pentti T. Jokelainen, M.D., associate professor of anatomy and cell biology, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 1998.

Jokelainen received his formal education in Finland. He was awarded his M.D. degree in 1960 and his Ph.D. degree in 1963, both from the University of Helsinki. A postdoctoral year at New York Medical College in 1963-64 was supported by a Fulbright Fellowship. Following this, he accepted an appointment at the New York Medical College in 1964 as an instructor of anatomy and was promoted to the rank of assistant professor of anatomy in 1967. In 1972, Jokelainen was named acting director of the electron microscopy laboratory at the University of Turku in Finland; he was named a docent there in 1973. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1974 as an associate professor of anatomy.

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Jokelainen's early research constituted a ground-breaking study of the ultra structure of the developing kidney. This research still stands as one of the definitive works in this field. Somewhat later, he carried out technically demanding electron microscopic work on cell organelles during cell division.

At the University of Michigan, Jokelainen divided his career between teaching gross anatomy to medical students and conducting research on hypertension. His hypertension research involved a meticulous study of the genetics of a special strain of hypertensive rats.

Alan C. Menge, Ph.D., associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and associate research scientist in the Reproductive Sciences Program, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 1998.



Professor Menge received his B.S. degree in 1956 from the University of Illinois and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in 1961 from the University of Wisconsin. He joined the faculty of Rutgers University in 1961 and came to the University of Michigan in 1967 as an associate professor, having been recruited by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology to establish a basic research program in reproductive immunology in conjunction with the clinical program directed by S. J. Behrman, M.D.

Menge built the preeminent unit studying the immunology of reproduction...developing clinical assays that are in use today.

Professor Menge built the preeminent unit studying the immunology of reproduction, markedly expanding the

knowledge base of the immunobiology of sperm and developing clinical assays that are in use today. He trained a generation of fellows and clinicians and was an active member of the educational program of the department.

From 1979-80, Professor Menge was a Fogarty Senior International Fellow at Uppsala University, Sweden. He was vice chair in 1980 and chair in 1982 of the biannual Gordon Research Conference on the Mammalian Genital Tract. From 1990-91, he was a visiting scientist at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. In 1994, he established the Laboratory of Assisted Reproductive Technologies at the University of Michigan in support of the clinical program. There he refined a number of techniques, leading to his certification in 1995 as a high complexity clinical laboratory director. Professor Menge has achieved an international reputation for his work in reproductive immunology.

Ronald H. Olsen, Ph.D., professor of microbiology and immunology, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 1996.

Professor Olsen received his B.A. degree in 1957, his M.S. degree in 1959, and his Ph.D. degree in 1962, all from the University of Minnesota. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1965 as an assistant professor of microbiology. He was promoted to associate professor in 1969 and professor in 1975. Professor Olsen also served as associate director of the Dental Research Institute from 1979-89, assistant vice president for research from 1987-88, associate vice president for research from 1988-91, and director of the Institute of Science and Technology from 1987-89.

Olsen's work in biodegradation research led to the formation of the Michigan Universities Consortium for the Management of Hazardous Wastes.

Professor Olsen's research has included studies of low temperature effects on cellular growth; evolution and epidemiology of antibiotic resistance; isolation and characterization of bacteria which degrade environmental compounds and their synthetic analogues; and biochemical genetics of metal working fluid microorganisms. He was a mentor for doctoral students and teacher of undergraduate, graduate, medical, dental, and pharmacy students.

In 1987, Professor Olsen's work in biodegradation research led to the formation of the Michigan Universities Consortium for the Management of Hazardous Wastes, one of most successful outcomes of which was the Cooperative Bioremediation Research for Michigan project ("CoBioReM"), for which Professor Olsen served as principal investigator. CoBioReM was a collaboration among university researchers, petroleum and gas industry site-owners, and state regulators that developed and deployed acceptable methods for remediating soil and ground-water contamination caused by hydrocarbon leaks

and spills. For his leadership role in this project, in 1993 Professor Olsen received a Certificate of Merit from the governor and a salutary resolution from the Michigan Legislature.

Professor Olsen has served on a number of advisory and editorial boards and has been an invited speaker at numerous conferences and symposia. He was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology in 1982 and received the Distinguished Environmental Scientist Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1985. The holder of 20 domestic and foreign patents, in 1985 he received the Inventor of the Year Award from the Niagara Frontier Association.

John T. Santinga, M.D., associate professor of internal medicine, retired from active faculty status on February 28, 1999.

Santinga has played a key role as a highly respected clinician and teacher linking programs in cardiology and geriatric medicine.

A native of Kalamazoo, Santinga did undergraduate work at Hope College from 1950-53 and received his M.D. degree from the University of Michigan Medical School in 1957. He completed an internship and residency at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids and residency and fellowship training at the University of Michigan. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1959-62. In 1965-66, he was a staff physician at the Burns Clinic in Petoskey, Michigan. He then moved to Seoul, Korea, where he served as assistant professor at Yonsei Medical Center from 1966-70. He joined the faculty of the University of Michigan in 1970 as an instructor in the Division of Cardiology in the Department of Internal Medicine. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1971 and associate professor in 1974.

In 1984, Santinga was awarded a Hartford Foundation Mid-Career Fellowship in Geriatric Medicine, which allowed him to spend the year 1985-86 in the Division on Aging at Harvard Medical School. He subsequently joined the Division of Geriatric Medicine as well as the Division of Cardiology upon returning to the University of Michigan in 1986. Santinga has also had an appointment as a faculty associate at the Institute of Gerontology and was medical director at Glacier Hills Nursing Center in Ann Arbor from 1986-96.

Santinga has played a key role as a highly respected clinician and teacher linking programs in cardiology and geriatric medicine and has achieved national recognition for his scholarly efforts in this growing area of medicine. He has lectured widely and published a number of important book chapters on the subject of heart disease in older adults. He has been a key participant and collaborator in a project focusing on self-management and behavior of women with heart disease. Santinga has been listed in *Best Doctors in America*. Other recognition includes the Outstanding Clinical Medicine Instructor Award from the sophomore medical school class in 1972, the Galens Smoker

Award in 1974, and the Kaiser Permanente Award for Excellence in the Clinical Sciences for the Medical School in 1998.

Edward M. Schwartz, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology in the department of pediatrics and communicable diseases, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 1998.



A native of New York, Professor Schwartz received his B.S. degree in 1959 from City College of New York, and his A.M. and Ph.D. degrees, in 1961 and 1966, respectively, from the University of Michigan. He joined the faculty as an instructor in 1966 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1970 and associate professor in 1976.

Professor Schwartz's early research focused on problems of children adopted in infancy. His work led to one of the earliest research studies and publications in this area, and provided some of the impetus for opening up adoption records to adoptees and for studying the long-term impact of the adoption process on adoptees.

Schwartz has followed patients with neurometabolic disorders and has contributed to identifying cognitive/learning and behavioral patterns and risks...of children with phenylketonuria, galactosemia and maple syrup urine disease.

For the past 30 years, Professor Schwartz has followed patients with neurometabolic disorders and in the process, has contributed to identifying cognitive/learning and behavioral patterns and risks in these populations of children with phenylketonuria, galactosemia and maple syrup urine disease. He has had extensive clinical and research involvement in the cognitive and behavioral risks and issues in children diagnosed with cancer. Other studies, all involving children, have included the impact of PBB exposure on developmental/cognitive abilities, the impact of congenital hypothyroidism on learning and behavior, and long-term cognitive and psychosocial outcomes in children with heart transplants and cochlear transplants.

A skilled and sought after teacher, Professor Schwartz has served on over 20 dissertation committees and has supervised and trained many psychology graduate students. He has shared his extensive clinical knowledge about meeting the needs of chronically ill children and families within the medical setting with medical students and house officers in pediatrics. He also served as director of Pediatric Psychology for 10 years and has served on a number of departmental and Medical School committees, including having chaired the review committee for the University of Michigan Children's Center. [m](#)