Frier chairs Department of Classical Studies

Bruce W. Frier, the Henry King Ransom Professor of Law, has been named interim chair of the Department of Classical Studies in the University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LS&A).

Frier currently holds joint appointments in the Law School and the Department of Classical Studies. He joined LS&A in 1969 and became a full professor in 1983. He was a visiting lecturer in the Law School from 1981 until 1986, when he became a professorial member of the Law School faculty.

Frier earned his B.A. cum laude at Trinity College and his doctorate in classics at Princeton University. He also was honored with a fellowship at the American Academy in Rome. His research interests include Roman law and legal history; Roman social, economic, and demographic history; Hellenistic and Roman historiographies, legal theory, and the sociology of law; and classical and modern rhetoric. He is the author of numerous books and articles, among them (with R.S. Bagnall) The Demography of Roman Egypt; Libri Anales Pontificum Maximorum: The Origins of the Annalistic Tradition; “More is Worse: Some Observations on the Population of the Roman Empire” (in Debating Roman Demography); and “Tenants and Tenancy” (in the forthcoming Cambridge Guide to Classical Civilization).