

Michael Thouless is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering and a Professor of Materials Science and Engineering. He was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and read engineering at Churchill College, Cambridge, receiving a B.A. in 1981. He did graduate work on the creep of ceramics in the Department of Materials Science and Mineral Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, getting an M.S. in 1982 and a Ph.D. in 1984. This was followed by post-doctoral work at Berkeley, and at the (then) new Materials Program at the University of California, Santa Barbara. In 1988, he moved to the Physical Sciences Department at the IBM Research Division in Yorktown Heights, where he was a Research Staff Member until joining the University of Michigan in 1995.

His research focuses on the mechanical properties of materials, with a particular emphasis on deformation and fracture. He has worked in a wide range of areas including polymer-matrix and ceramic-matrix composites, interfacial fracture mechanics, adhesion, creep, structural adhesives and other joining techniques, and the mechanical properties of thin films and coatings for microelectronics and transport applications. He is a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and is a Chartered Engineer and fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining in the United Kingdom. He has been awarded an Sc.D. degree by the University of Cambridge (2009), was elected an Overseas Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge (2011), and has been appointed as an Ottø Montsted Guest Professor at the Danish Technical University (2012-13). Internal awards include College of Engineering Research (2004), Service (2011) and Teaching (2013) Excellence Awards, and the UM distinguished Faculty Governance Award (2012).

Michael Thouless has been very active in faculty governance at different levels within the university. At the departmental level he served on the Mechanical Engineering Advisory Committee for nine years. He served for three years on the Rackham Executive Board, and three years on Senate Assembly, followed by three years on SACUA. He was vice-Chair (2008-9) and Chair (2009-2010) of SACUA. In addition he has served on the Advisory Board on Intercollegiate Athletics (*ex officio*), and the Provost's Faculty Budget Advisory Committee and Academic Affairs Advisory Committee. He has also served on a number of other Senate Assembly Committees, and various *ad hoc* committees for the department, college and university.