

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Approved by the Regents
February 16, 2012

Subject: Building Naming

Action

Requested: Authorization to name the Player Development Center for Intercollegiate Basketball as the William Davidson Player Development Center

Background:

The University of Michigan (U-M) has received a leadership gift of \$7.5 million from the William Davidson Foundation in support of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Mr. Davidson has been a longtime supporter of U-M. In addition to this gift, his generosity created the William Davidson Institute at the Ross School of Business to study and promote emerging economies.

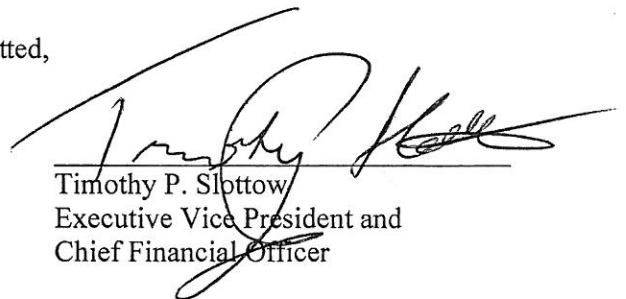
The late William Davidson was a student athlete in track and field at U-M and received a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1947. The university awarded him an honorary degree in 2001. His love for sports and determination to succeed both on and off the field were exemplified in his life after U-M. He earned a juris doctor degree from Wayne State University and was chairman, president and chief executive officer of Guardian Industries. In 1974, he acquired the Detroit Pistons and owned it until his death in March 2009, creating a model organization for the National Basketball Association. He was the first owner in sports history to win championships in three different professional leagues in one season when the Detroit Pistons, the Detroit Shock, and the Tampa Bay Lightning won championship games in the 2003-2004 season. Mr. Davidson served on the President's Advisory Group, the Michigan Difference National Campaign Cabinet, and the Business School Visiting Committee. Mrs. Davidson, also a U-M graduate, has served on the President's Advisory Group and the Taubman Medical Research Institute Advisory Board.

In recognition of Mr. Davidson's exceptional generosity to U-M and this significant commitment from the William Davidson Foundation, we recommend that the Board of Regents formally designate the Player Development Center for Intercollegiate Basketball as the William Davidson Player Development Center.

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Brandon
Donald R. Shepherd Director of
Intercollegiate Athletics



Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

February 2012