Subject: Walgreen Drama Center

Action Requested: Authorization to Issue the Project for Bids and Award Construction Contracts

Background:
At the March 2005 meeting, the Regents approved the Walgreen Drama Center (WDC) project design and authorized the issuing bids and award of construction contracts for early procurement packages. We now seek authorization to issue the remainder of the project for bids and award construction contracts.

A 97,500 gross square feet building is planned. The facility will have two floors, with a partial basement and penthouse for mechanical equipment. Approximately 55,000 net square feet of space will house the Arthur Miller Theater and the Theatre and Drama Department for the School of Music. The WDC will also provide classrooms, rehearsal spaces, a scene shop, faculty offices and support space for the Theatre and Drama Department, and an auditorium with a capacity of approximately 460 persons.

The estimated cost of the project is $42,800,000. Funding will be provided from gifts and investment proceeds. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Regents. Construction of the Theatre and Drama facility and classroom space is expected to be completed in Summer 2006 and the Arthur Miller theatre interior and auditorium completed in Summer 2007.

We recommend that the Regents authorize issuing the Walgreen Drama Center project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

May 2005