ACTION REQUEST: Establishment of an Academic Department

DEPARTMENT NAME: Cardiac Surgery

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 2, 2012

The Medical School requests approval to establish a Department of Cardiac Surgery effective January 2, 2012. Cardiac Surgery has been a section within the Department of Surgery since 1998. It has now matured into an independent discipline both nationally and at the University of Michigan. The establishment of a department will enable further academic growth of the faculty and trainees of this discipline and facilitate the Medical School’s ability to attract the very best new faculty and trainees to the University.

Cardiac Surgery continues to evolve new approaches to the spectrum of cardiac disease from congenital abnormalities to problems of the elderly. It is a unique academic discipline with educational, research and clinical content that are distinct from other medical disciplines. The American Board of Medical Specialties and the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education recognize it along with thoracic surgery as a primary specialty board. Its graduate medical education is closely associated with thoracic surgery and together they are independent from any other discipline. Cardiac Surgery has grown to a size in terms of number of faculty, financial resources, and academic productivity to warrant the establishment of a separate administrative unit.

The Medical School Dean and its Executive Committee believe that the establishment of an independent department of Cardiac Surgery is critical to sustaining and enhancing the University’s reputation of excellence in this field and helping the faculty to pursue collaborative scholarly activities with their peers across the University and across the nation. The recommendation to establish an independent Department of Cardiac Surgery was approved by a vote of the Executive Faculty of the Medical School on August 5, 2011.

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the establishment of the department of Cardiac Surgery effective January 2, 2012.

Recommended by:

James O. Woolliscroft, MD
Dean
Medical School

Recommendation endorsed by:

Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, MD
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

Philip J. Hanlon, PhD, Provost
and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

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