THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Approved by the Regents
October 23, 2008

Subject: Building Naming

Action Requested: Authorization to name the new tower at the W. K. Kellogg Eye Center in honor of William and Dolores (Dee) Brehm

Background:

The University of Michigan has received gifts totaling more than $50 million from William and Delores (Dee) Brehm of McLean, Virginia. They have committed $30 million of that total for the expansion of the W. K. Kellogg Eye Center to create the Brehm Center for Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus Research to accelerate the search for a cure for this disease.

With this gift, the Brehms will fund a new paradigm for Type 1 Diabetes research, one that relies on an unprecedented use of systems analysis and modern information science, as well as true interdisciplinary cooperation and sharing of research results within the community of scientists at the U-M and in collaboration with research institutions in the United States and elsewhere.

The Brehm’s motivation is both personal and philanthropic. As an undergraduate, Dee Brehm was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes and treated at the University of Michigan. William Brehm has earned a bachelors and a masters degree in mathematics from the University of Michigan.

In recognition of their exceptional generosity to fund new research, new faculty, and a new facility, their ties to the U-M, and their unique human story in seeking to accelerate a cure for Type I Diabetes Mellitus, a disease which has impacted their lives so dramatically, we recommend that the Regents formally designate the new tower at the Kellogg Eye Center as the Brehm Tower.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert P. Kelch
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

October 2008