THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Multicultural Center

Action
Requested: Approval of Project and Authorization to Appoint an Architect

Background:

Student Life proposes construction of a new multicultural center on a vacant site on State Street, adjacent to the Betsey Barbour House and Helen H. Newberry Residence (see attached map). The proposed multicultural center is a result of extensive outreach and input from a variety of constituents. Engagement included four town hall meetings over the past nine months, eight focus group sessions, benchmarking to other college and university campus multicultural centers, a survey of students, and a process where we strove to identify and summarize student input from a broad and diverse population. That input, along with our knowledge of the existing multicultural center student uses, resulted in this proposed project. The new building is proposed to be approximately 20,000 gross square feet to accommodate replacement spaces from the current William Monroe Trotter Multicultural Center along with a multipurpose room that will be able to accommodate approximately 300 people in both banquet-style seating for conferences and events and an active learning classroom-style configuration that will accommodate over 100 students. Parking will be accommodated within existing parking spaces on Central Campus.

The estimated cost of the project is $10,000,000. Funding will be provided from investment proceeds and gifts. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by bond proceeds or increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Board of Regents. The architectural firm of Hanbury Evans Wright Vlattas + Company will design the project. The project is expected to provide an average of 13 on-site construction jobs. Design is scheduled to begin immediately and we will return with a construction schedule when we seek approval of schematic design.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the Multicultural Center project as described, the proposed State Street site and authorize commissioning Hanbury Evans Wright Vlattas + Company for its design.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Royster Harper
Vice President for Student Life

Kevin P. Hegarty
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

December 2015
Attachment