

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Received by the Regents  
January 19, 2012

Subject: University of Michigan Energy Institute

Background:

The Michigan Memorial Phoenix Energy Institute (MMPEI) will change its name to the "University of Michigan Energy Institute," effective February 1, 2012.

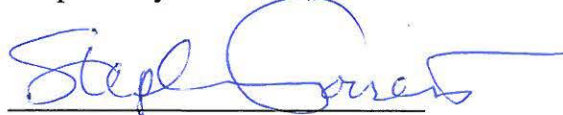
The name change will clarify the Institute's identity as an interdisciplinary academic research unit of the Office of the Vice President for Research that draws on expertise from across the entire University in science, technology, policy, economics, business, and social sciences to develop, coordinate, and promote energy research and education.

The Institute was established under its current name six years ago, building on the legacy of the Michigan Memorial Phoenix Project (MMPP), which was launched in 1948 to engage in research and other activities that support the peaceful uses of atomic energy. These focused activities were meant to serve as a "living memorial" for University of Michigan students and alumni who gave their lives during World War II.

As the University of Michigan Energy Institute embraces its new name to better reflect its broader scope, it will also ensure the enduring legacy of the MMPP by reinvigorating it and highlighting its on-going activities as a distinct unit within the Institute. In addition, it will dedicate prominent space to the Phoenix Project on its website, and promote and support its work through appropriate channels. The legacy will also endure as the name of the renovated and expanded new home of the Energy Institute – the Michigan Memorial Phoenix Laboratory on North Campus. Inside, the building will feature a prominent display area focusing on the MMPP's unique history.

The planned name change has been reviewed and endorsed by the Institute's external advisory board, executive committee, and faculty affiliates.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen R. Forrest  
Vice President for Research

January 2012