

Approved by the Regents  
February 17, 2011

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
**REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Building Naming

Action

Requested: Authorization to name the Law School Commons Addition in honor of Robert B. Aikens

Background:

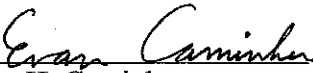
The University of Michigan (U-M) has received a leadership gift of \$10 million from Robert B. Aikens in support of the Law School's building expansion and renovation project. In addition to this gift, Mr. Aikens, a 1954 graduate of the Law School, previously has provided generous support to the Law School, the School of Art & Design, and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.


Currently under construction, the Law School commons will provide much needed student study, interaction, and support spaces. An antidote to the dearth of informal gathering space at the Law School, the commons will have a dramatic impact on the student experience, making a school already known for its collegiality an even warmer and more welcoming place. Moreover, the new facility will enable generations of students to derive inspiration from the soaring architecture of the Cook Law Quadrangle in an entirely new way.

Mr. Aikens was motivated to make this gift by his desire to help U-M rise to the level of other top law schools in terms of student gathering space. The inclusion of group study spaces, gathering spots for faculty and students, a café, and student organizational space ensures that this facility will do just that.

In recognition of this significant gift, we recommend that the Regents formally designate the Law School commons as the Robert B. Aikens Commons.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Evan H. Caminker  
Dean  
Law School

  
Timothy P. Slottow  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

February 2011