

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication
ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Building Name Change

Action Requested: Authorization to change the name of the Engineering Lab Building, UM-Dearborn Campus, to the Tony England Engineering Lab Building

I am pleased to recommend renaming the Engineering Lab Building (ELB) at UM-Dearborn in honor of Anthony (Tony) W. England, dean emeritus of the UM-Dearborn College of Engineering and Computer Science, professor emeritus of electrical and computer engineering, and professor emeritus of electrical engineering and computer science.

Professor England served as the Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the UM-Dearborn from 2014-20 after serving two years as interim dean. He earned his Ph.D. in geophysics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) as well as his master's and bachelor's degrees. He was a scientist and former astronaut with NASA where he served as Mission Scientist for Apollo 13 and 16, Mission Specialist crewman on the Spacelab 2 flight in 1985, and Space Station Program Scientist in 1986-87. Notably, he developed and communicated instructions for fabrication of the lithium hydroxide canisters that helped Apollo 13 safely return to earth.

As a scholar, educator, and administrator, Professor England has vigorously supported faculty and student diversity earning him the UM Harold R. Johnson Diversity Service Award in 2002, as well as the university's NCID Exemplary Diversity Engagement and Scholarship Award in 2009. He served for five years as associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Engineering on the Ann Arbor campus. His research has included scattering theory applied to the microwave brightness of the earth and other planets, and the development and use of ice-sounding radar for the study of glaciers in Alaska and Antarctica.

Professor England not only transformed the lives of engineering students, he also influenced the design of the ELB to be mindful of student artists, designers and those from other disciplines. His belief was this kind of mixing of people and ideas that ultimately makes the best engineers.

In recognition of his dedication to UM-Dearborn and the College of Engineering and Computer Science, I respectfully request the name change of the Engineering Lab Building to the Tony England Engineering Lab Building, effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,



Domenico Grasso, Chancellor , University of Michigan-Dearborn
February 2024