Subject: Building Naming

Action Requested: Authorization to name new building at 1024 Hill Street

Proposed Name: Edward and Rosalie Ginsberg Building

Background:

In 1999, William and Inger Ginsberg gave $5 million to endow the Edward Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning (Ginsberg Center). This year, William and Inger have given an additional $10 million to the Division of Student Life to support the construction of a brand new home for the Center at 1024 Hill Street in memory of William’s parents, Edward and Rosalie Ginsberg.

The new, 11,000 square foot building will replace the Madelon Pound House on Ann Arbor’s central campus and will be among the first net-zero-ready buildings on campus. It will provide the opportunity for increased collaboration among faculty, students, and community partners including a spacious, flexible area that can accommodate large groups, as well as a resource library, student organization space, and administration areas. The new space will enable greater engagement with students and faculty, including a more robust menu of community service programming, training, presentations, events and learning opportunities.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Edward Ginsberg moved at a young age to Cleveland, Ohio, where he grew up. He received his BA from the University of Michigan in 1938 and his JD from Harvard University in 1941. He met Rosalie when he was in law school and she was in college in Boston. They returned to Cleveland, married in fall 1941, and he practiced law there for more than 50 years. The couple was devoted to helping those less fortunate than themselves, supporting their local community as well as many Jewish organizations in the United States and Israel. They instilled a profound sense of service to society in their family.

Edward and Rosalie’s son William and his wife Inger have carried on the commitment to community service. As philanthropists and loyal supporters of the university, they have given more than $16 million to U-M to support the Division of Student Life; the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; the School of Music, Theatre & Dance; the William L. Clements Library; and the Rackham Graduate School.

In addition to the original endowment establishing the Ginsberg Center, they gave a $1 million endowment to establish the William B. Ginsberg and Inger G. Ginsberg Graduate
Student Assistant Fund, providing aid for graduate students working through the Ginsberg Center to support faculty and community-engaged scholarship. They established the Rosalie Ginsberg Scholarship for Community Service Scholars Fund for U-M juniors and seniors from their hometown of Cleveland who share the Ginsbergs’ love for service and learning. In addition, they established the Rosalie Ginsberg Community Fellows Fund which supports undergraduate leaders of tomorrow who carry with them an ethic of service and community problem solving.

In recognition of the Ginsbergs’ exceptional generosity to U-M and this significant commitment, we recommend that the Board of Regents approve the naming of the Edward and Rosalie Ginsberg Building in honor of William’s parents, effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

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Martino Harmon                        Thomas A. Baird
Vice President for Student Life        Vice President for Development

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Geoffrey S. Chatas
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

March 2022