

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the
Regents
April 17, 2014

ACTION REQUEST: Renaming of an Institute
CURRENT NAME: Institute for Human Adjustment
EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

The dean and executive committee of the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies request approval to rename the Institute for Human Adjustment (IHA) as the Mary A. Rackham Institute, effective July 1, 2014.

Through a gift of one million dollars in 1935, Mary A. Rackham established an endowment to fund the Regentally-created Institute for Human Adjustment at the University of Michigan under the administration of the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies. The mission of IHA was to provide social and rehabilitative services to individuals from the University and surrounding communities to address “those areas which concern the adjustment of the individual with respect to his or her personal well-being and place in the community.” Mary Rackham’s vision continues to flourish today under the leadership of the current Institute director, Dr. Cheryl King. While IHA has a rich history of training, research and service, the term “Human Adjustment” is language from an earlier time that has now become stigmatizing.

The primary mission of the Institute today is to serve the University of Michigan and surrounding region with evaluation and intervention programs of the highest quality to assist individuals, couples and families with mental and behavioral health concerns and difficulties related to language, literacy and communication. A second primary mission is to provide excellent educational opportunities and training programs for graduate and postgraduate students in these areas, including training in the delivery of evidence-based clinical services integrating science and practice. The IHA also provides community education and outreach services in these areas. A revision to Section 11.24 of the Regents’ Bylaws is recommended to incorporate this change.

The name change will honor Mary A. Rackham’s gift in 1935 to aid scientific and humanitarian advances in education. We are therefore pleased to recommend the renaming of the Institute for Human Adjustment in the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies as the Mary A. Rackham Institute.

RECOMMENDED BY:



Janet A. Weiss
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Graduate
Studies, and Dean, Horace H. Rackham
School of Graduate Studies

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:



Martha E. Pollack
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs

April 2014