

The University of Michigan
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

EXH	MOTION <i>Brandon</i>
	SECOND <i>Taylor</i>
	ACTION APPROVED BY THE REGEN
NOTE:	JUL 21 2005

Subject: Delores S. and William K. Brehm Center for Type I Diabetes
Research and Analysis

Action Requested: Approval of New Center

We propose the establishment of a new University of Michigan center for diabetes research. In recognition of a generous gift from Delores and William Brehm, we ask that the center be named the Delores S. and William K. Brehm Center for Type I Diabetes Research and Analysis. The Medical School Executive Committee approved the formation of the center in April 2005.

Background

There are currently two diabetes research centers at the University of Michigan—the Michigan Diabetes Research and Training Center and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Center for the Study of Complications in Diabetes. The Brehm Center will complement these entities and create a complete diabetes care and research hub here at the University. The new center will enhance and unite laboratory and clinical research with clinical care work currently underway in other areas of the medical campus, increase the University's ability to continue breaking new ground in type I diabetes care and treatment, and create an ideal collaborative environment for the type I diabetes research to flourish.

Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the Brehm Center is to advance and accelerate medical research related to type I diabetes mellitus in the interests of finding its cure or a permanently effective treatment and to lessen the burden of disease on those currently afflicted. It will do this by

- **focusing on the quality, quantity, and speed of research,**
- **exploring a new paradigm for the medical research process** that explicitly incorporates systems analysis, program management, and modern medical informatics with a working concept in which information scientists with appropriate biological understanding may become equal partners in the administrative and scientific phases of the research process,
- **devising incentives and recognition concepts** that encourage focus, collaboration, and results, thereby supporting the new paradigm and the search for an early cure of type 1 diabetes,
- **creating a diversified team of leaders and scientists,** recruited both from within and from outside the University, who are committed to the new paradigm and who include outstanding men and women who, while not now working directly in the field of diabetes, have the skills and experience to expand and enrich the search for the cure,

- **forming collaborative working relationships** with funding agencies and other research institutions in the United States and abroad that are committed to the accelerated search for the cure of type 1 diabetes and that can contribute complementary skills, collaborative intentions, and resources to the search, and
- **designing, constructing, and equipping a major Type 1 medical research center and facility** that inherently reflects and supports the new research paradigm and is linked with other institutions facilitated by modern medical informatics.

Resources

Delores S. and William K. Brehm have pledged \$43.65 million through outright and bequest gifts to launch the center: \$30 million is designated for the construction of laboratory resources, and the remainder is allocated for endowment and expendable funds for infrastructure, research, and Medical School faculty positions. The University of Michigan Health System has committed to building new space to house the Brehm Center, and in the interim it will provide temporary space in existing facilities for the faculty and laboratories of Brehm faculty. The Brehm Center designation is not confined to a building and will carry over to whatever space the work of the Brehm Center is being conducted in.


Organization

The center will be led by a director, to be appointed by and report to the dean of the Medical School.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the establishment of the Delores S. and William K. Brehm Center for Type I Diabetes Research and Analysis.

Recommended by:

Recommendation endorsed by:



Robert P. Kelch, M.D.
Executive Vice President
for Medical Affairs



Paul N. Courant, Ph.D., Provost and
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs



Allen S. Lichter
Dean, Medical School

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