

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENT'S COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Establishment of a Joint Academic Department

DEPARTMENT NAME: Biomedical Engineering

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 2012

The College of Engineering and the Medical School request approval to establish a joint Department of Biomedical Engineering. Biomedical Engineering has been a department in the College of Engineering since 1996. The leadership and faculty of both schools enthusiastically support this new organizational structure that will facilitate the close collaboration necessary to advance a modern discovery program geared toward innovation and practical application. The goals of the joint department are to bring educational programs, laboratory research and clinical practice systematically into close partnership. Success will lead to medical practitioners who are better prepared to incorporate technology, and engineers who better understand medical needs. This will enhance the University's ability to move research from one stage of technology development to the next. Innovations will be more quickly created, tested and transferred to practice.

Significant research collaborations already exist between the College of Engineering and the Medical School. A joint Department of Biomedical Engineering grounded in the two schools will further enhance this partnership by leveraging the strengths of both schools and will bring outstanding value to the teaching, research and service mission of the department, including:

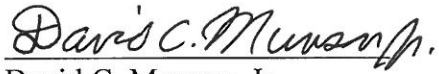
- Growth opportunities in faculty lines, student enrollment, and funded research
- Enhanced research collaborations among faculty in the two schools, including earlier participation in new research initiatives and enhanced translational research with direct impact on patient care
- New educational opportunities for students, including new master's programs, Ph.D., and Ph.D.-M.D. programs
- Greatly enhanced visibility for the department, the two schools and the University

The Deans of the two schools, and their Executive Committees believe that the establishment of a joint Department of Biomedical Engineering is critical to sustaining and enhancing the University's reputation of excellence in this field. The recommendation to establish the joint Department of Biomedical Engineering was approved by a vote of the faculty in the College of Engineering on February 16, 2012 and by a vote of the executive faculty in the Medical School on April 18, 2012.

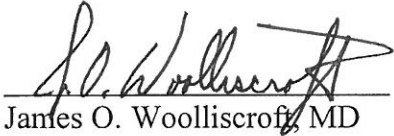
It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the establishment of the joint Department of Biomedical Engineering.

Recommended by:

Recommendation endorsed by:



David C. Munson, Jr.
Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering
College of Engineering



James O. Woolliscroft, MD
Dean
Medical School



Philip J. Hanlon, PhD, Provost
and Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, MD
Executive Vice President for
Medical Affairs

July 2012