

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents
November 17, 2006

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Street Naming

Action

Requested: Authorization to Name Street on East Medical Campus in Honor of Hermann Kiefer

Background:

The entrances into East Medical Campus from Earhart and Plymouth Roads have been unnamed drives. With the increase in the number of buildings on this campus and the number of patients and visitors to the facilities, a new entrance has been created that aligns with Whitehall Drive to the north. This new intersection, with traffic signal, has recently been constructed. Because this is now a more formal entrance to East Medical Campus, it is desirable that the drive into the campus be given a name to aid in wayfinding. The name should be one that has significance to the university. The proposed name would also be assigned to the entrance off Earhart (see attached map), and as additional development occurs on East Medical Campus, the road connecting the two entrances will carry the same name.

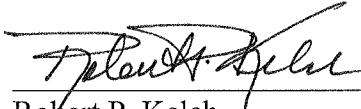
University practice in regard to naming of streets is that they be named in honor of regents by election (after 1852), and who have been deceased for some time. It is desirable to look to those influential in the earlier history of the university, as they often had significant impact on the growth of the university. The name of Hermann Kiefer emerged as the most appropriate for a street naming in this location. A regent of the University of Michigan from 1889 to 1902, Dr. Kiefer was deeply interested in medical affairs at the university and particularly influential in the development of the Medical School.

Hermann Kiefer was born in Sulzburg, Baden, Germany in 1825, and was licensed as a physician and surgeon in 1849. He emigrated to the United States in October of 1849, settling in Detroit and immediately opening a medical practice. Dr. Kiefer was a highly respected and notable figure in public health in Detroit and was known as the "Dean of Detroit Physicians." The Hermann Kiefer Hospital in Detroit was named in his honor. Dr. Kiefer was a member of the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Medicine, and the Michigan State Medical Society.

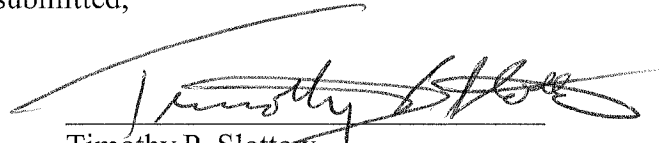
In March 1889, Dr. Kiefer was appointed regent of the University of Michigan to fill a vacancy, and in 1894 he was elected to a full eight-year term. During his years as regent he was chairman of the Regents' Committee on the Department of Medicine and Surgery, and it was largely through his efforts that the new medical building was procured (completed 1903, now called Dana Building). He was an outspoken champion of the Medical School's interests and devoted much of his time as regent to the strengthening the school. The regents granted Dr. Kiefer an honorary Doctor of Medicine degree in 1902, and also appointed him Professor Emeritus of the Practice of Medicine and Surgery.

In recognition of Regent Kiefer's distinguished service to the University, his significant role in the growth and development of the Medical School, and his importance in the field of public health in Michigan, we recommend that the Regents formally designate the street on East Medical Campus as Kiefer Drive.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert P. Kelch
Executive Vice President
for Medical Affairs



Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

November 2006
Attachment

