

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Establishment of an Institute

Action

Requested: Authorization to create the institute for cancer discovery within the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center and name it in honor of Sidney and Madeline Forbes.

Background:

The University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center is nationally recognized for research and patient care. It is one of 45 centers designated as “comprehensive” by the National Cancer Institute, and one of 26 institutions that make up the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, which sets national guidelines for consistent, high-quality and cost-effective cancer care. The goal of this new institute will be to encourage scientists across the university to undertake high-risk, high-reward initiatives with the potential to drive new advances in cancer research. The intent is to fuel rapid development of innovative technology and new therapies, bringing better, more targeted treatments to the 1.6 million Americans diagnosed with cancer each year.

The institute will foster collaboration across the entire university, a hallmark of the Cancer Center whose members come from 48 university departments across nine schools, demonstrating a breadth of interdisciplinary collaboration not seen elsewhere.

Madeline and Sidney Forbes have made a commitment of \$17.5 million for cancer research, the largest private donation for cancer research in the University of Michigan’s history. The funds will:

- stimulate innovative technology and new therapies to move science from the laboratory to patients;
- offer team research awards for cross-disciplinary efforts;
- create Senior Forbes Scholars and Emerging Forbes Scholars programs in cancer discovery;
- support the previously established Madeline and Sidney Forbes oncology professorship in the Comprehensive Cancer Center held by Max S. Wicha, M.D.

The Forbes Family has a history of generous support and volunteer leadership at the U-M. Sidney Forbes serves on the Health System Advisory Group, and their children – Nancy Katzman, Nate Forbes, and David Forbes -- serve on the Greater Detroit Campaign Leadership Council for the Victors for Michigan campaign. Nate and Catherine Forbes serve on the Victors for Michigan Campaign Leadership Board and are generous supporters of the Athletic Department, the UM Museum of Art, and the Comprehensive Cancer Center’s research on breast cancer.

In addition to this gift, the family will lead a fundraising effort to increase the number of scholars and interdisciplinary teams that receive funding for high-risk, high-reward research.

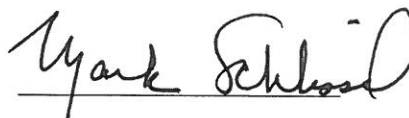
Leadership of the institute for cancer discovery within the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center will be provided by a director appointed by the president of the University with approval by the executive vice president for medical affairs of the UM Health System and dean of the Medical School. An Executive Committee of the institute will also be appointed by the president on recommendation from the executive vice president for medical affairs.

Therefore, we recommend that the Board of Regents approve the creation of the institute for cancer discovery and in recognition of their generous gift designate it as the Forbes Institute for Cancer Discovery within the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Respectfully submitted,



Marschall S. Runge
Executive Vice President
For Medical Affairs and
Dean, Medical School



Mark S. Schlissel
President

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