

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

ACTION REQUEST: Approval of a New Institute

TITLE: Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research
(MICHR)

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 2006

In accordance with Regents' Bylaw 6.03 on institutes and centers, we are proposing to establish the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICHR). This will be an academic unit reporting to the executive vice president for medical affairs. The Medical School Executive Committee approved the formation of the institute on October 19, 2006.

The primary mission of MICHR will be to leverage UM's enormous resources and national leadership in the basic sciences by enabling "bench to bedside" and "bedside to practice" translation. This will be accomplished by developing a common infrastructure and organizational framework to connect scientists across the organization with the goal of bringing science and discovery to its practical application at the bedside. Specifically, MICHR will leverage existing strengths in basic sciences; create a "virtual" home for faculty and staff undertaking translational research; provide a "think tank" of renowned scientists from across the University to re-think how basic research can move to the bedside and from the bedside into practice as well as identify opportunities for translational research; strengthen educational programs in this new area of research; and harness the potential for novel discoveries. This will all be accomplished by pulling scientists across traditional boundaries to stimulate ideas and look for innovative applications for work that is underway.

The formation of MICHR represents a strong institutional statement supporting and facilitating this initiative, and will dramatically speed the pace of advances in human health. Over the past year, more than 200 faculty have participated in the planning process to generate the vision of MICHR. The Schools of Business, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Information, and Public Health, the Colleges of Engineering, Pharmacy, and LS&A, the Division of Kinesiology, the Institute of Social Research, and the Life Sciences Institute have already expressed strong support for an entity like the MICHR. Together, 33 separate schools, departments, and centers have pledged authority over 98 FTEs in faculty time each year, \$19 million in total pilot funds, \$8 million in total recruitment packages, and \$28 million in other institutional commitments to cover renovation costs, informatics infrastructure development, and staff and faculty support over the first 5 years.

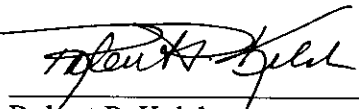
This direction represents a national movement toward bringing basic science to the bedside. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has recognized that the increasing complexities involved in conducting clinical research are making it more difficult to translate new knowledge to the clinic -- and back again to the bench. These challenges are limiting professional interest in the field and hampering the clinical research enterprise at a time when it should be expanding. Indeed, clinical and translational research is an integral component of the NIH Roadmap: *Enhancing the Discipline of Clinical and Translational Science*. In an attempt to improve the ability to translate research from the bench to the bedside, the NIH will sponsor a limited number of Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) over 5 years. Twelve CTSA awards have already been granted to institutions that have made commitments to transforming the research culture, creating trans-institutional 'homes' for clinical and health research training, education, and career advancement. With the creation of MICHHR, UM will be well positioned to join the ranks of national CTSA awardees.

The director of the MICHHR will be appointed by the president and will report to the executive vice president for medical affairs. The MICHHR will be governed by an executive committee, appointed by the president in consultation with the executive vice president for medical affairs and dean of the Medical School.

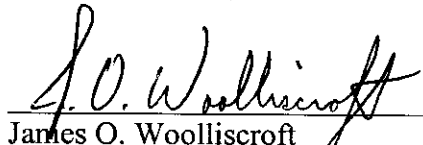
Space currently occupied by the Center for the Advancement of Clinical Research (CACR) will provide the core for MICHHR. Additional space has been identified for renovation, and funds for the renovations have been identified. The Health System has provided financial support for developing the information technology infrastructure.

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the establishment of the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research effective December 1, 2006.

Recommended by:

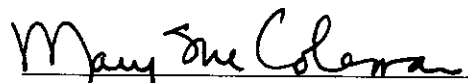


Robert P. Kelch
Executive Vice President for
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James O. Woolliscroft
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Recommendation Endorsed by:



Mary Sue Coleman
President

November 2006