THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Dow Building Addition

Action Requested: Approval of Revised Project Scope, Design, and Budget; and Authorization to Solicit Bids and Award a Construction Contract

Background:

In order to accommodate research laboratories and faculty offices needed by the Departments of Chemical and Materials Science Engineering, the College of Engineering proposes to erect a three story addition to the Herbert H. Dow Building on North Campus. An earlier design for this building was presented to the Regents in February 1997, when the project was approved at an estimated cost of $7,000,000.

As work on the project progressed, it became clear that, by reconfiguring and enlarging the building, a more efficient floor plan could be achieved. Furthermore, the mechanical system could be enlarged to provide a higher degree of program support. There also has been continuing work to improve the aesthetics of the building. The resulting facility will be approximately 43,600 gross sq. ft. in size. The addition will still provide a receiving area for heavy equipment access to the ground floor of the Dow Building. Exterior work will be brick and glass systems topped by a metal-skinned penthouse. Interior work will include standard interior architectural finishes, laboratory casework and fume hoods with typical laboratory mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems. The building structure will be specially designed to minimize the transmission of vibration in order to accommodate current electron microscope standards. A new electrical substation will be installed to meet the increased power requirements of the Dow Complex.

The revised design has been prepared by Moore/Andersson Associates of Austin, Texas in collaboration with the University of Michigan Facilities Planning and Design Office. Construction documents will be prepared by the Ann Arbor firm of Hobbs + Black Associates in conjunction with Facilities Planning and Design. There will be a presentation of the project at the September Regents meeting.

The project is estimated to cost $18,000,000, with funding from the College of Engineering. The construction cash flow may be financed, all or in part, by increasing the commercial paper issuance under the $120 million program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Regents. Construction is expected to begin in Spring 1999 and take approximately two years to complete.

We recommend the Regents approve the revised project scope, design, and budget as described and authorize soliciting bids and awarding a construction contract to the successful bidder providing the project remains within the approved budget. Bid tabulation results will be reported to the Regents at a future meeting following the award.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Kasdin
Executive Vice President

September 1998

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON SEP 1 7 1998