

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: University of Michigan Herbarium  
Relocation

Action  
Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

The University of Michigan herbarium collection was established in 1921 to bring together various botanical collections that had been developing almost from the time of the University's founding in Ann Arbor in 1837. The collections have grown to include over 1,700,000 specimens. Since 1960, the Herbarium has occupied space in the North University Building. Two-thirds of this space is devoted to the specimen-collection range, and the remainder accommodates offices, a library, a specimen-preparation area, a class/conference room, storage, and other support spaces. We propose the relocation of the Herbarium to available M-Stores space on Varsity Drive until an appropriate central campus home for the collection is found.

A 31,000 gross square foot renovation is planned. The scope of this project includes the architectural, mechanical and electrical work necessary to accomplish these improvements. We anticipate a slight reduction in parking demand associated with the relocation of staff to this off-campus location.

The estimated cost of the project is \$1,750,000, with funding provided from central administration sources. The University of Michigan Department of Plant Extension - Architecture, Engineering and Construction will design the project. Construction is scheduled to begin in July 2001 and be completed in January 2002.

We recommend that the Regents approve the University of Michigan Herbarium Relocation project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding a construction contract providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Kasdin  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer

June 2001

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON

JUN 22 2001