## UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

## **ACTION REQUEST**

Subject:

**Building Naming** 

Action

Requested:

Authorization to Name the New Drama Center in Honor of Charles R. Walgreen, Jr.

## Background:

The University of Michigan received a commitment of \$10 million from Charles R. Walgreen, Jr., in support of the new drama center to be constructed on North Campus. The drama center will house the Arthur Miller Theatre, as well as the School of Music's Department of Theatre and Drama. The center will provide classrooms, rehearsal spaces, a scene shop, and faculty offices.

Charles Walgreen, Jr., and his family are long-time supporters of the University of Michigan. Generous contributions by the family have included several professorships in the College of Pharmacy; the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; and the School of Education. Additional gifts have supported endowed scholarships, facilities, and programs in Pharmacy and Music. Mr. Walgreen has three degrees from the University of Michigan. He received a degree from the College of Pharmacy in 1928, an honorary master's degree of science in 1951, and an honorary doctorate of humane letters in 1992.

At an early age, Mr. Walgreen assumed responsibility for the Walgreen Company, on the early death of his father. During his tenure, he developed the company into a chain of over six hundred pharmacies. He pioneered the self service drug stores containing separate prescription pharmacies. One of his many achievements was shortening the long hours worked by pharmacists, instilling in them a sense of professionalism, and improving their stature in retail establishments. His values helped the Walgreen Corporation become an innovative force in American pharmacy, health care, and business.

Mr. Walgreen has been active in professional, civic, and educational areas. He served as a member of the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education Survey Committee, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the University of Illinois, Honorary National Chairman of the Steering Committee of the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy, Trustee of the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine at Denver, and Honorary Director and Past President of both the National Association of Chain Drug Stores and the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education.

In recognition of this significant commitment from Charles R. Walgreen, Jr., in support of the new drama center, <u>we recommend</u> the Regents formally designate the new building as the Charles R. Walgreen, Jr. Drama Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Kendall

Dean

School of Music

Timothy P. Slottow Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

September 2005

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON