

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

**Approved by the
Regents
February 20, 2014**

Subject: New Biological Science Building

Action

Requested: Approval of Project and Authorization to Appoint an Architect

Background:

The College of Literature, Science, and the Arts is proposing to construct a new teaching, research, and museum facility for the biological sciences and exhibit museums. The Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology (MCDB) and the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB) are currently located in the Edward Henry Kraus Building (Kraus), built in 1915, that has reached its limit in terms of ability to allow contemporary research and the number of researchers it can support. EEB is also located in the Alexander G. Ruthven Museums Building (Ruthven) which has even greater limitations to meet the needs for contemporary research and has very significant deferred maintenance needs. Ruthven also houses the Anthropology, Natural History, Paleontology, and Zoology museums. In addition, a portion of Herbarium specimens and dry collections remain in Ruthven and will be relocated into the new Biological Science Building (BSB), but most of those holdings have been moved from Central Campus to the Varsity Drive Building.

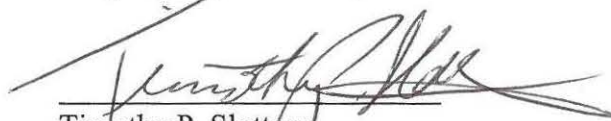
The proposed project will include a new BSB of approximately 300,000 gross square feet with a connection to the Life Sciences Institute (LSI) Building to increase the utilization of its dock and vivarium functions. A small renovation to LSI will also be necessary for vivarium and related support activities. The new building will house research laboratories, associated support functions, offices, classrooms, vivarium services, and the four museums listed above. The laboratories will be constructed in an open plan to allow for much greater collaboration than what can be achieved in the existing buildings, increased flexibility, space utilization and better management. The proposed site of the BSB is adjacent to LSI where both North Hall and the Museums Annex currently exist (see attached). The scope of this project includes the architectural, mechanical and electrical work necessary to accomplish these improvements. There will be no impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is \$261,000,000. Funding will be provided from the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts resources and Office of the Provost resources. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by bond proceeds or increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Board of Regents. The architectural firm of SmithGroupJJR will design the project. The project is expected to provide an average of 256 on-site construction jobs.

The relocation of MCDB and EEB from Kraus and EEB and the museums from Ruthven into the new BSB will require some relocation of programs and the demolition of North Hall and the Museums Annex, and provides the opportunity for a series of future renovations and repurposing of space over the next seven or eight years. After we have gathered the appropriate level of data, we will return to the Board of Regents with each project as appropriate to obtain approval before performing demolition or construction. In October 2013 we received approval to relocate the Army, Naval, and Air Force Officer Education Programs from North Hall to the Chemistry Building and Ruthven. We anticipate returning to the board in 2014 to request the demolition of North Hall and the Museums Annex. We will return with a construction schedule for BSB when we seek approval of schematic design, and we expect a five-year time frame to complete construction, activation, and relocation of all groups into BSB. Following the relocation of MCDB and EEB from Kraus into BSB (estimated by 2019), we anticipate renovating Kraus for the School of Kinesiology and expansion space for the School of Information. After the School of Kinesiology has been relocated to Kraus, the officer education programs will be moved from the Chemistry Building into the current Kinesiology Building, with some additional space provided in the Central Campus Recreation Building. Over the next several years as this plan moves forward, we will evaluate the potential future use or demolition of Ruthven based on university needs, the building's suitability to house those needs, and a financial plan appropriate to address those needs, deferred maintenance, and university priorities.

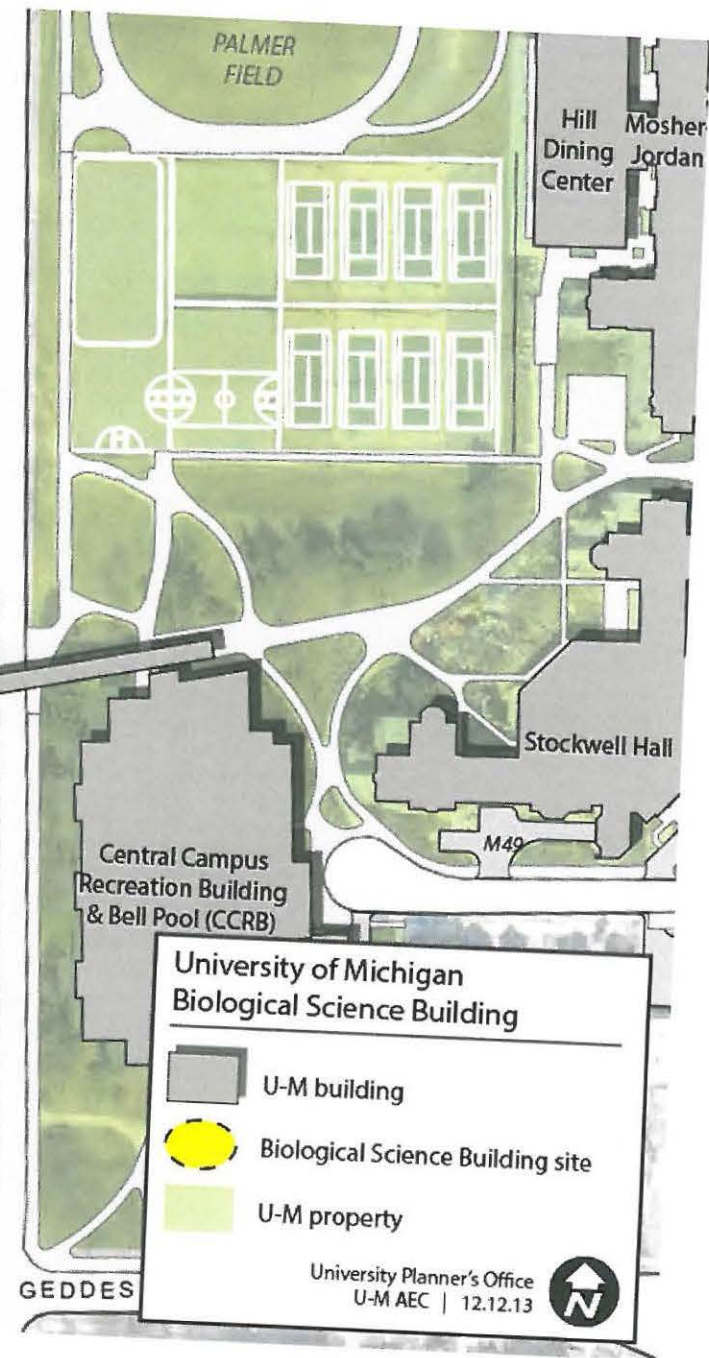
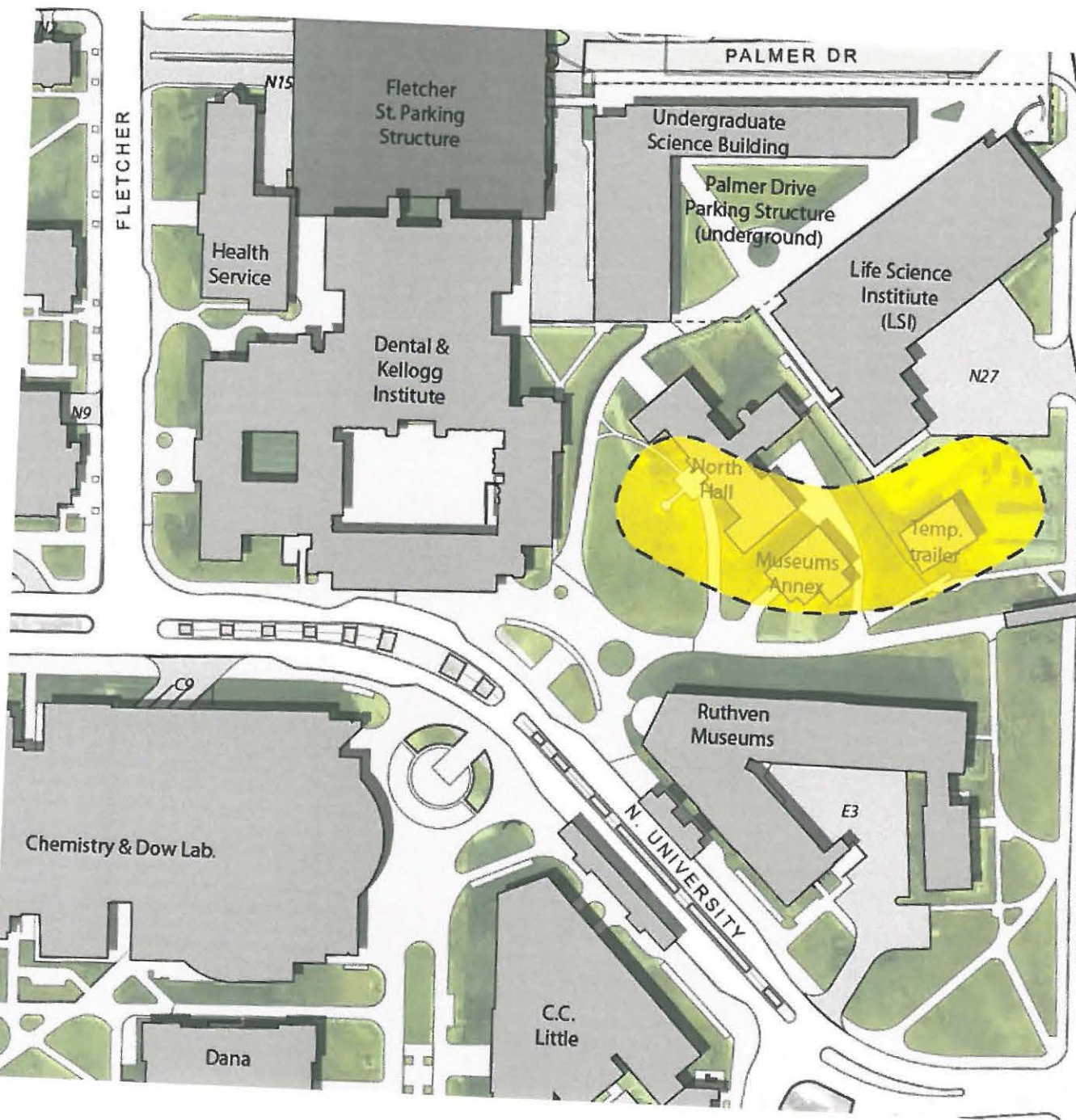
We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the New Biological Science Building project as described and authorize commissioning SmithGroupJJR for its design.

Respectfully submitted,






Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

February 2014
Attachment



**University of Michigan
Biological Science Building**

-  U-M building
-  Biological Science Building site
-  U-M property

University Planner's Office
U-M AEC | 12.12.13

