THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Walgreen Drama Center

Action

Requested: Authorization to Appoint an Architect

Background:

At the May 2000 meeting, the Regents approved the Walgreen Drama Center project and the site located just east of the Power Center. The Regents were advised that a selection process was underway to recommend an architect for approval at a future meeting.

We reviewed proposals from several firms having international reputations. We narrowed the list, interviewed three of these architectural firms, and are recommending the firms of SmithGroup, Inc., and Michael Wilford Architects, Limited located in London, England for your approval. We propose SmithGroup, Inc. as the architect of record, and Michael Wilford Architects, Limited to lead the design of the building. Mr. Wilford has designed a number of important buildings in his career, most recently the new British embassy in Berlin Germany, and is currently working at Rice University on their Fondren Library project.

We recommend the Regents authorize the appointment of SmithGroup, Inc. as the architect of record, and Michael Wilford Architects, Limited to lead the design of the building for the Walgreen Drama Center project.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Kasdir

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

February 2001