THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:Athletic Department – Football Stadium
Naming of the Team Locker RoomActionAuthorization to Name the Football Team Locker Room in Honor of the
J. Ira and Nicki Harris Family

Background:

The University of Michigan received a commitment of \$2.5 million from the J. Ira and Nicki Harris Foundation in support of the Michigan Stadium football team locker room expansion project.

J. Ira Harris (BBA, 59) and his wife Nicki have been outstanding supporters of University of Michigan Athletics, both as fans and donors. The Harrises' contribution through the J. Ira & Nicki Harris Foundation is an integral part in maintaining and improving the facilities for U-M football.

Ira Harris is the Chairman of J. Ira Harris Associates (*Palm Beach, Fl.*) private corporate financial advisors, and the Vice Chairman for The Pritzker Organization LLC, (*Chicago, Il.*) an investment arm of the Pritzker family's companies that includes the Hyatt Hotel chains, among other interests. Nicki Harris attended the University of Colorado and is a past member of the U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Visiting Committee. Ira and Nicki have three children, Jacqueline (AB, 89), Jonathan (BGS, 94) and Bradley.

The Harrises have a long and outstanding relationship with the University of Michigan, aiding the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, the J. Ira Harris Center for the Study of Corporate Finance and funding several endowed professorships in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

The U-M affiliations go beyond philanthropy. Ira Harris is a member of the Athletic Advisory Board, the Investment Advisory Committee, the President's Advisory Group, Chicago Major Gifts Committee (Co-Chair), Campaign Steering Committee (Co-Chair), Golf Course Leadership Committee and the past Campaign for Michigan National Committee. Ira Harris also gave the commencement address to the U-M Business School graduating class, spring 1989 and was the recipient of the Alumni Society Distinguished Alumni Service Award (1989). As a student, he belonged to the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity and was on the staff of The Michigan Daily.

In recognition of this significant commitment from J. Ira and Nicki Harris, <u>we</u> recommend the Regents formally designate the new Michigan Stadium football team locker room as the J. Ira and Nicki Harris Family Football Locker Room.

Respectfully submitted,

William C. Martin Director of Athletics

Timothy P. Slottov Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

November 2003