THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Display Technology and Manufacturing Building

Renovations for Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) Laboratory

Action

Requested:

Approval of Project and Authorization to Appoint Architect

Background:

To take full advantage of the latest advances in fMRI, the University proposes to create a functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Laboratory dedicated to basic research studies of cognitive processes. The development of neuroimaging tools to study basic cognitive processes has accelerated at a rapid pace during the past 15 years. At the outset, only positron emission tomography (PET) was available to investigate changes in hemodynamic response, and PET has yielded substantial progress in understanding the brain bases of cognitive processes. More recently, functional use of magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) has permitted more detailed studies of neural activity because it provides better spatial and temporal resolution for the localized brain signals, better ability to study responses in single individuals, lower cost studies, and less invasive imaging.

The newly created fMRI Laboratory will be one of the important initiatives to promote large-scale development of research in the life sciences at the University. The fMRI Laboratory, to be co-directed by a cognitive neuroscientist and a biomedical engineer, will be housed in newly renovated space in the Center for Display Technology and Manufacturing on North Campus (map attached). It will provide facilities for researchers from cognitive neuroscience, biomedical engineering, physics, biostatistics, linguistics, computer science, radiology, and psychiatry to explore basic issues in perception and cognition.

This project proposes to renovate a 3,400 gross interior square foot area on the west side of the building for the fMRI suite plus approximately 1,300 gross interior square foot area for the reconfiguration of existing Engineering College programs. Some infrastructure components of the 45-year-old building are nearing the end of their life cycle, therefore the roof, windows, air handling units, chiller, primary electrical and piping systems are under consideration for replacement or upgrade. There will be no net effect on parking since this is a renovation of existing space.

Ann Arbor Architects Collaborative of Ann Arbor has completed a preliminary study that included programming and a feasibility study for locating the fMRI in the west end of the existing Display Technology and Manufacturing Building. At this time we wish to commission the Ann Arbor Architects Collaborative to prepare construction documents for both the program and infrastructure components of the project. We would then return to the Regents to seek approval for establishing a project budget and release of the project for construction.

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON OCT 2 1 1999

We recommend the Regents approve initiating the design of the proposed Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Laboratory in the Display Technology and Manufacturing Building and appointing Ann Arbor Architects Collaborative as the architect.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Kasdin

Executive Vice President

October 1999 attachement

