Office of the President  
June 9, 2009

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Dr. Mark Lawrence Kornbluh as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 1, 2009.

Background: Dr. Steven L. Hoch resigned as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in June 2008. A search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The search committee considered approximately 40 candidates and two finalists were interviewed on campus. Dr. Kornbluh received excellent endorsement within the college and from the search committee.

Dr. Kornbluh currently serves as professor and Chair of the Department of History, professor of Computer Science, and Director of MATRIX, Center for the Humane Arts, Letters, and Social Sciences Online, at Michigan State University. He received a bachelor’s degree (1977) from the University of California, Berkeley and a master’s degree (1979) and Ph.D. (1988) from the Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Kornbluh is an interdisciplinary scholar who has spent the last fifteen years working to develop the field of humanities and social science technology. He was one of the founding editors and Executive Director of H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online, the world’s largest on-line scholarly society. He has been a member of numerous national and international advisory committees including the National Academy of Science, Computer Science and Technology Board’s Committee on Digital Archiving and the National Archives and Records Administration that advised the National Archives on the creation of an electronic records program. Dr. Kornbluh has been the recipient of over $15 million in grants from a wide range of federal and state agencies and private foundations. He is author of Why America Stopped Voting: The Decline of Participatory Democracy and the Emergence of Modern American Politics.

Action taken: ☑ Approved  ☐ Disapproved  ☐ Other ______________________