



LSA Student Government Statement Regarding the Clarence Cook Science Building

September 22, 2017

Fellow University of Michigan Students,

For years now, the name of the Clarence Cook Science Building, colloquially known as “CC Little”, has been a topic of hot debate. Serving as President of the University of Michigan from 1925-1929, CC Little’s tenure at the University is noted for its exceptional level of unproductivity, and the corruption of his position to advocate for his private eugenicist agenda both inside and outside the University. By utilizing his position as President of the University of Michigan to actively advance this agenda, he has tied this university to every effort and initiative he fought for - from advocating for forced sterilizations of those he deemed “unfit”, to calling for enhanced restrictions in *The Exclusion Acts*, to the speeches held at “Third Race Betterment Conference” of 1927.

The University continuing to have a building named after an individual who believed that a large percentage of the students who currently attend the University of Michigan should not have been allowed to have been born not only goes against the values that the University community holds dear, but further grants Clarence Cook Little and his ideas an implicit endorsement.

It is one thing to remember our history – both its dark moments and its finer ones – and a completely separate notion to put on top of a pedestal those whose actions and views not only go against the fabric of the values of the University, but who also actively undermined the positions of authority they were entrusted with.

LSA Student Government wholeheartedly supports and endorses the proposal put forward by LSA Professors John Carson, Matthew Countryman, Martin Pernick, Alexandra Stern, and LSA senior Joshua Hasler to rename the Clarence Cook Science Building, and encourages other groups and institutions on campus to do the same.

Always fighting to Put Students First.

- LSA Student Government