

1 **R W2016.02**

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3 **A Resolution in Favor of Naming the New Biological Sciences Building after President Emerita Mary Sue**  
4 **Coleman**

5  
6 *A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government*

7  
8 13 January 2016

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10 Sponsors: Nicholas Fadanelli, Yong-Joon Kim, and Reid Klootwyk

11  
12 **Whereas**, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is  
13 to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic  
14 life”;<sup>1</sup> and,

15  
16 **Whereas**, the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (hereafter LSA) is building a new Biological Sciences  
17 Building which is anticipated to be completed by January 1, 2018<sup>2</sup>; and,

18  
19 **Whereas**, the new Biological Sciences Building will be housing the LSA Department of Molecular, Cellular, and  
20 Developmental Biology (hereafter MCDB), the LSA Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (hereafter  
21 EEB), the University of Michigan Museum of Natural History, and numerous LSA and University of Michigan  
22 biological research laboratories<sup>3</sup>; and,

23  
24 **Whereas**, currently there is no planned name for the new Biological Sciences Building other than the “Biological  
25 Sciences Building”; and,

26  
27 **Whereas**, the University of Michigan has a long history of naming buildings after former University of Michigan  
28 Presidents; and,

29  
30 **Whereas**, the only former presidents without buildings named after them are Presidents Emeriti Lee Bollinger and  
31 Mary Sue Coleman; and,

32  
33 **Whereas**, underrepresentation of women in Science, Technology, Math, and Engineering (STEM) fields has long  
34 been known to be an issue in academic settings; and,

35  
36 **Whereas**, there are currently no academic buildings on the University of Michigan Campus solely named after a  
37 woman; and,

38  
39 **Whereas**, there have been numerous influential and important women who served as faculty and staff members of  
40 the University of Michigan that are deserving of academic buildings named in their honor; and,

41  
42 **Whereas**, one of these is President Emerita Mary Sue Coleman; and,

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<sup>1</sup> The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.lsa.umich.edu/ummnh/about/newmuseumproject>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

1 **Whereas**, President Emerita Mary Sue Coleman received her undergraduate degree in chemistry from Grinnell  
2 College, her doctorate in biochemistry from the University of North Carolina, and is a published biomedical  
3 researcher<sup>4</sup>; and,  
4

5 **Whereas**, during her years of service as the President of the University of Michigan, President Emerita Mary Sue  
6 Coleman was highly regarded and respected by University of Michigan students and others, being named one of the  
7 top ten university presidents by TIME magazine in 2009<sup>5</sup>; and,  
8

9 **Whereas**, under President Emerita Mary Sue Coleman's leadership, the University of Michigan has increased and  
10 developed international partnerships with universities in China, Ghana, South Africa, Brazil and India<sup>6</sup>, and  
11 corporate partnerships, chief among them the University of Michigan's partnership with Google<sup>7</sup>; and,  
12

13 **Whereas**, the University of Michigan and its students have been positively impacted by President Emerita Mary Sue  
14 Coleman's numerous initiatives, including the purchase of the Pfizer property for the North Campus Research  
15 Complex, the initiation and expansion of sustainability-related scholarships and research<sup>8</sup>, to name just a few; and,  
16

17 **Whereas**, after her career as President of the University of Michigan, President Emerita Mary Sue Coleman went on  
18 to be appointed the President of the Association of American Universities<sup>9</sup>; and,  
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20 **Whereas**, throughout her career, President Emerita Mary Sue Coleman has served as a national leader in higher  
21 education, serving as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as a Fellow of the  
22 American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and having been selected by United States President Barack Obama as  
23 one of six university presidents to help launch the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership<sup>10</sup>, to name a few of her  
24 many accomplishments.  
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26 **Be it therefore resolved**, LSA SG recommends naming the new Biological Sciences Building after President  
27 Emerita Mary Sue Coleman; and,  
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29 **Be it further resolved**, LSA SG shall work to advocate for LSA students, faculty, and administrators in any future  
30 discussions regarding the naming of the new Biological Sciences Building and/or any other LSA building; and,  
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32 **Be it further resolved**, the sponsors of this resolution will work in association with the Central Student Government  
33 to pass a similar resolution through their legislative assembly; and,  
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35 **Be it finally resolved**, LSA SG will send a copy of this resolution and a signed letter of support, written by the LSA  
36 SG Executive Board in consultation with the sponsors, to the University of Michigan Board of Regents, Chair of the  
37 Board of Regents Katherine White, University of Michigan President Mark Schlissel, Associate Vice President for  
38 Facilities and Operations Hank Baier, Executive Director of Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Marina  
39 Roelofs, Provost Martha Pollack, LSA Dean Andrew Martin, LSA Associate Deans Angela Dillard and Douglas  
40 Richstone, Program of Biology Director Laura Olsen, MCDB Department Chair Robert Denver, EEB Department  
41 Chair Diarmaid Ó Foighil, Museum of Natural History Director Amy Harris, and President Emerita Mary Sue  
42 Coleman.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.kavlifoundation.org/mary-sue-coleman>

<sup>5</sup> [http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1937938\\_1937933\\_1937916,00.html](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1937938_1937933_1937916,00.html)

<sup>6</sup> <http://ns.umich.edu/new/releases/23165-aau-names-mary-sue-coleman-as-its-next-president>

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/06/mary\\_sue\\_coleman\\_10\\_defining\\_issues.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/06/mary_sue_coleman_10_defining_issues.html)

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> <http://ns.umich.edu/new/releases/23165-aau-names-mary-sue-coleman-as-its-next-president>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.societyforscience.org/author/mary-sue-coleman>