

Dr. Mark S. Schlissel
Office of the President
University of Michigan

March 27, 2018

Dear President Schlissel,

With the upcoming Board of Regents vote on Thursday, we would like to express our collective support for renaming the C. C. Little Building. Many of us signed the petition as individuals last Fall; the importance of this issue now compels us to act as a unit to lend our collective voice to this cause. We encourage you and the Board of Regents to rename the C.C. Little Building as soon as possible.

We understand that the building received its name as part of an effort to honor all former University of Michigan presidents. We do not find this a compelling rationale for naming a building, nor do we think that Clarence C. Little was deserving of this honor.

We cringe that the building in which we work and teach is named for an active and vocal eugenicist. As scientists, we are also disgusted by Little's other dangerous legacy, as a representative of the tobacco industry, in cultivating doubt in the causal links between cigarette smoking and cancer.

Both of these issues are incredibly relevant today.

The University of Michigan supports a diversity of voices, backgrounds and cultures. It supports science and public policies based on evidence. It must take continued and meaningful action to demonstrate its support of these principles. Renaming the C.C. Little Building is an easy and meaningful way to do this.

When the building was renamed in 1968 to bear C.C. Little's name, our predecessors in the Geology Department opposed it. C. C. Little's legacy was not worth recognizing in 1968 and is still toxic today.

As occupants of the building, we carry an additional burden by our association with its name. A name that we print on our letterhead, send through our correspondence, and project on our website and social media. We do not want our identity to be defined any longer by the repugnant actions and beliefs of our building's namesake. It is time for a change.

We put our full support behind re-naming the C.C. Little Building.

Sincerely,

Individual members of the faculty, students and staff
Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences
University of Michigan

see following 2 pages for list of signees

Individual members of the faculty, students and staff who sign the above letter:

Aaron Kurz	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Adam Simon	<i>Associate Professor</i>	EES
Adrianna Trusiak	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Alexander Tye	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Alyssa Abbey	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Andrew Vande Guchte	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Anne Hudon	<i>Student Affairs Program Manager</i>	EES
Ben van der Pluijm	<i>BR Clark Collegiate Professor</i>	EES,
Benjamin Passey	<i>Associate Professor</i>	EES
Brad	<i>GSI-Earth</i>	SEAS
Chris Malvica	<i>Project Coordinator</i>	EES
Chris Poulsen	<i>Professor</i>	EES
Christopher Skinner	<i>Assistant Research Scientist</i>	EES
Dale Austin	<i>Communications Coordinator</i>	EES, EEB
Daniel C. Fisher	<i>Collegiate Professor, Director</i>	EES, EEB, Museum of Paleontology
Derek Smith	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Elizabeth Crowther	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Emily Beverly	<i>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</i>	EES
Eric A Hetland	<i>Associate Professor</i>	EES
Gabrielle Farina	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Gerald Smith	<i>Professor Emeritus</i>	EES
Gregory J. Dick	<i>Associate Professor</i>	EES
Henry Pollack	<i>Professor Emeritus</i>	EES
Ian Winkelstern	<i>Research Fellow</i>	EES
Ingrid Hendy	<i>Professor</i>	EES
James Saulsbury	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
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Jenna Munson	<i>Outreach Speciaist</i>	EES
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Jeroen Ritsema	<i>Professor</i>	EES
Jiang Zhu	<i>Research Fellow</i>	EES
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Julia Cole	<i>Professor</i>	EES
Juliana Mesa	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Julie Haggerty	<i>Chief Administrator</i>	EES
Katharine Loughney	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Kathryn Rico	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Kendra E. Murray	<i>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</i>	EES
Kevin Meyer	<i>Postdoctoral Fellow</i>	EES
Kirk Townsend	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Kyle Meyer	<i>Research Associate, Alumnus</i>	EES

Laura C. Motta	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Leyi Li	<i>Visiting student</i>	EES
Lija Treibergs	<i>Senior Research Technician</i>	EES
Logan Knoper	<i>Research Assistant</i>	EES
Lora Wingate	<i>Laboratory Research Specialist Senior</i>	EES
Margaret Veitch	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Maria C Marcano	<i>Research Fellow, Alumna</i>	EES
Mark Robbins	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Matt Friedman	<i>Associate Professor, Associate Curator</i>	EES, Museum of Paleontology
Michela Arnaboldi	<i>Lecturer</i>	EES
Molly Ng	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Molly Range	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Naomi Levin	<i>Associate Professor</i>	EES, PitE
Nathan A. Niemi	<i>Associate Professor</i>	EES
Nathan Sheldon	<i>Associate Professor, Associate Director</i>	EES, PitE
Nikita La Cruz	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Nikolas Midttun	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Owen Neill	<i>Lab Manager</i>	EES
Phoebe Aron	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Rebecca Dzombak	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Rebekah Stein	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Rose Cory	<i>Associate Professor</i>	EES
Samuel Haugland	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Selena Smith	<i>Assistant Professor</i>	EES, PitE
Shaopeng Huang	<i>Associate Research Scientist</i>	EES
Sharon Grim	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Sierra Petersen	<i>Assistant Professor</i>	EES
Sophia Macarewich	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Stacy Wilkin	<i>Executive Secretary</i>	EES
Theodore C. Moore, Jr	<i>Professor Emeritus</i>	EES
Tristan Childress	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Udo Becker	<i>Professor of Earth Materials</i>	EES
Will Bender	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
William Medwedeff	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Yi Wang	<i>Graduate Student</i>	EES
Yihe Huang	<i>Assistant Professor</i>	EES
Youxue Zhang	<i>James R. O'Neil Collegiate Professor</i>	EES

EES = Earth & Environmental Sciences, EEB = Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, PitE = Program in the Environment