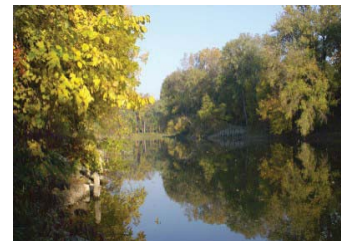




RISK SCIENCE CENTER

Health and Communication

www.umriskcenter.org



July 2008

Gelman Gift to Advance Public Knowledge of Risk Science

UMRSC Director Search

Future Objectives

News Bites

The University of Michigan Risk Science Center provides a forum in which researchers assemble to address scientific and social issues posed by human exposure to various health hazards.

*Acting Director:
Martin A. Philbert*

*Founding Director:
David Garabrant*

*Editor:
Susan Johnson*

Photos courtesy of:

*David Garabrant
Peter Smith Photography*

Gelman Gift to Advance Public Knowledge of Risk Science

Charles and Rita Gelman (*pictured below left*) of Ann Arbor have been supporters of the University of Michigan for more than 30 years and supporters

of the University of Michigan Risk Science Center (UMRSC) since its inception. Their gift of \$5 million provides immediate funding to expand the research agenda through addition of two new junior faculty, support of general operations and the establishment of a named professorship for the Center's director.

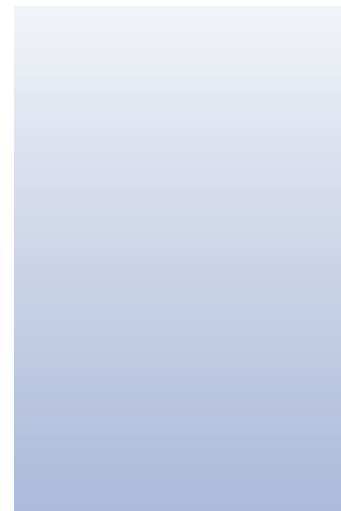
"Our vision is to help inform the public about how to properly assess the benefits and hazards posed by technology,

chemicals in particular," Mr. Gelman says of the gift. "We're in a position to leave a legacy, and we felt that supporting the Center was critical at this time. This gift and this Center, we hope, will make a difference."

Mrs. Gelman adds, "We are especially interested in educating future leaders in evaluating risk versus benefit." Scholarship support for graduate students provided in the gift complements the UMRSC summer fellowship program and the Risk Science Master's in Public Health curriculum.

"This center is exactly what public health should be all about—researching matters of concern to the public and communicating the findings, whatever they may be, so that citizens may be informed and policymakers can take this information into account when developing health policy," said Kenneth E. Warner, dean of the School of Public Health.

"The Gelmans have been tremendous supporters of the Center and we're very grateful for their visionary gift at this critical stage in our development," states Martin A. Philbert, Acting Director of the UMRSC. The Gelmans, Dean Warner and Prof. Philbert are pictured above. For more information and to view the press release, visit the UMRSC website at www.umriskcenter.org.



UMRSC Director Search

The Gelman gift provides an endowed professorship for the UMRSC Director. A search has been initiated to identify a scholar with the ability to continue to build the Center's strong national and international reputation in the risk sciences and orchestrate the next phase of growth. Current UMRSC Acting Director Martin Philbert is leading the search advisory committee. Watch the UMRSC website for more information at www.umriskcenter.org.

Future Objectives

The UMRSC is uniquely positioned to capitalize on the strength of UM faculty and



Profs. Philbert and Garabrant (back to camera) with UM Provost Sullivan and Gov. Whitman.

research in building teams to tackle important issues resulting from human exposure to health hazards. Center faculty combine excellence in research with communication of results to policy makers and the public through symposia, publication, and stakeholder involvement as in David Garabrant's dioxin exposure study. Our vision is to impact the lives of citizens in their daily decision-making regarding risk by:

- Educating the next generation of risk scientists,
- Expanding our research portfolio to include emerging priorities such as the risks inherent in food and consumer goods imported from countries with few or no regulations, and
- Offering educational opportunities for professionals in the field.

News Bites

UMRSC FACULTY MEMBER and Environmental Health Sciences Assistant Professor Niladri Basu is among ten Environmental Health Science Communication Fellows recently chosen by the non-profit Environmental Health Sciences (EHS) organization. He will work with writing staff at EHS to produce

original reviews and commentary on the broader implications of significant research.

UMRSC ACTING DIRECTOR and Professor of Toxicology Martin Philbert continues his work on the study of the "Role of Astrocyte Injury in Neuroprotection" with recently renewed support from the National Institutes of Health.

