Policy Statement

The naming of buildings and other facilities, such as laboratories, classrooms, seminar rooms, auditoria, concert halls, clinics, and patient rooms of the U.T. System and its component institutions, whether for an individual or with a functional or historical designation, is the prerogative and responsibility of the Board of Regents and can be initiated by the Board when circumstances warrant. When recommendations for naming of buildings or other facilities originate at other than the level of the Board, such recommendations shall be forwarded to the Board of Regents with recommendations of the Chancellor, appropriate Executive Vice Chancellor, and appropriate chief administrative officer, accompanied by reasons for the recommendation, and campus consultations where appropriate.

Purposes for Naming of Buildings and Other Facilities

Buildings and other facilities may be named to memorialize or otherwise recognize substantial gifts and significant donors, individuals designated by donors, or individuals who have made exemplary or meritorious contributions to the System, component institution, or society. Such designation may be for a single gift, multiple gifts over time, or for a combination of gifts and other contributions and may take into account the ability of the gift to stimulate gifts by other donors.

Naming For Donor

Naming honors may be conferred for financial contributions in the following categories:

1. New buildings and other capital improvements:
   1. A significant contribution to the actual construction cost or the fund-raising goal, as appropriate.
   2. Cumulative giving to the University, representing a significant contribution to the actual construction cost or the fund-raising goal, as appropriate.
   3. A significant contribution to an endowment fund for continuing maintenance of the building or facility, or for on-going research or teaching activities in the building.

2. Existing buildings or facilities:
   1. A significant contribution equal to a major portion of the replacement or major renovation cost of the building or facility.
   2. Cumulative giving to the University, representing a significant portion of the replacement or major renovation cost of the building or facility.
   3. A significant contribution to an endowment fund for continuing maintenance of the building or facility, or for on-going research or teaching activities in the building.
3. Rooms or other parts of buildings and facilities
   1. Significant cumulative contributions to the University.
   2. A significant contribution to the cost of the building or facility, based on the actual cost of the construction and the size or significance of the area to be named.
   3. A significant contribution to an endowment fund for continuing activities in the building.

Naming in Honor of Individual

The naming of buildings and other facilities in honor of campus administrative officials, faculty, or staff or elected or appointed public officials shall normally occur after the campus employment or public service has concluded.

Naming Based in Fund Development Campaign

When the naming of buildings or other facilities is contemplated as part of a special private-fund development campaign, that campaign, the buildings to be named, and the associated private-fund contributions to be sought shall have prior approval of the appropriate Executive Vice Chancellor, the Chancellor, and the Board as required in Part One, Chapter VII, Section 2, Subdivision 2.44 of the Regents' Rules and Regulations. Recommendations by the Chancellor, appropriate Executive Vice Chancellor, and chief administrative officer regarding the naming of each building or facility included in a fund development campaign shall be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval as set forth in Subsection I, Policy.

No action, formal or informal, shall be taken to implement a recommendation for the naming of a building or other facilities until final approval is obtained from the Board of Regents. No commitment, direct or implied, shall be made to any party regarding the naming of a building or facility prior to receipt of approval by the Board of Regents of a private development plan which incorporates the naming of facilities as recognition of significant and substantial gifts, or of a singular recommendation for an individual building or other facility.

Reporting

The Chancellor will arrange for the Board of Regents to be briefed periodically by component chief administrative officers and System administrative officials via the annual budget process or other appropriate forum regarding buildings to be named and private-fund contributions to be sought. Unexpected naming opportunities not covered in such briefings should be reviewed with the Board via regular Board of Regents' briefings. No commitment regarding the naming of a building or facility is to be made prior to the briefings and approvals as required in this section.

Policy History

- Issued: 1997-05-05