

Board of Governors

Development of 2004 Legislative Issues January 22, 2004

Issue: Naming Buildings

Issue Summary: University boards of trustees want to name their university facilities, including roads, parks, etc., for living persons.

Background: Unlike the community colleges, the universities must seek legislative approval to name university buildings for living persons (ss. 267.062 and 1013.79, F.S.). For several years, the university "naming bills" seeking the required authorization have not passed, frustrating university efforts to raise private dollars for buildings, honor its benefactors and distinguished alums, and recognize individuals who have attained achievements of extraordinary and lasting distinction and who have made a significant contribution to the State or the university.

SUPA recommended to the BOG that the university boards of trustees, who are charged with developing university policies for naming buildings, colleges and schools, should be vested with the full authority to implement such policies without legislative approval. They want the university boards of trustees to be treated in a manner consistent with the treatment of community colleges boards of trustees in this matter.

Staff Recommendation: Amend ss. 267.062 and 1013.79, F.S., to remove the requirement for the university boards of trustees to obtain legislative approval prior to naming university buildings, or other property, for living persons.

