FAU
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Florida Atlantic University

Item: Va. SP: A-1.

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

SUBJECT: Re-naming of the Charles E. Schmidt College of Biomedical Science to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine

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PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve the re-naming of the Charles E. Schmidt College of Biomedical Science to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On Saturday, May 15, 2010, Florida Governor Charlie Crist signed legislation authorizing the establishment of the University's independent medical education program. This approval came after the doctor of medicine (MD) program was approved by the Florida Board of Governors in April and received approval by this Board in February.

The mission of the Charles E. Schmidt College of Biomedical Science will now be to grant our own MD degrees. The change of name will avoid confusion to the outside world as to our mission. It also provides the University with the prestige of being one of 130 universities with a medical college. This name change was approved by the Steering Committee, acting on behalf of the University Faculty Senate, on May 17, 2010.

The honoree of the college will remain unchanged; i.e., it will still bear the name of our original honoree Charles E. Schmidt. Charles E. Schmidt was a successful businessman from Illinois who, with his wife, Dorothy F. Schmidt, moved to Boca Raton in the 1960s after selling the company that he founded and led for many years, Tractor Supply Company. The Schmidts became two of the earliest patrons of the University, contributing generously to the arts, nursing, engineering, and science programs and establishing many student scholarships. In 1998, the Schmidt Family Foundation provided a significant charitable gift to the University to advance biomedical research and technology for the establishment of a teaching and research department of biomedical science. As a part of that gift agreement, the University agreed to name any medical school or college pertaining to medical education as "The Charles E. Schmidt" school or college. As such, the College of Biomedical Science now carries his name and his name would continue under the renamed College of Medicine.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

Upon Board approval.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Supporting Documentation: N/A

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