FAU
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Florida Atlantic University

Item: SP: A-4.

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

SUBJECT: RENAMING OF "CONTINUING EDUCATION HALL" ON BOCA RATON CAMPUS

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve the renaming of the "Continuing Education Hall" on the Boca Raton Campus to the "Ely Meyerson Continuing Education Hall."

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Dr. Ely Meyerson served from1995-2008 as Director of the Lifelong Learning Society of Florida Atlantic University. During those thirteen years, LLS enrollments more than doubled, and the FAU program became a national model for excellence in adult enrichment education. Under Dr. Meyerson's guidance, LLS was expanded successfully to the MacArthur Campus in Jupiter and the Treasure Coast Campus in Port St. Lucie. Renaming one of the facilities built under his leadership is a fitting way to honor the memory and dedication to the FAU of Dr. Ely Meyerson.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

N/A

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Supporting Documentation: 6.15.09 Memorandum from Ken Jessell, Senior VP for Financial Affairs, to Frank Brogan, President

Presented by: Norman Kaufman, Associate Provost Phone: 561-297-3061

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Approved

MEMORANDUM

TO: Frank T. Brogan
President

FROM: Kenneth A. Jessell, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Financial Affairs

SUBJECT: Renaming "Continuing Education Hall"

DATE: June 15, 2009

Attached is a memorandum from Virginia Huntzinger, Interim Associate Provost for the Lifelong Learning Society, and John Pritchett, University Provost, requesting that "Continuing Education Hall" be renamed in honor of the late Ely Meyerson. The proposed new name is "Ely Meyerson Continuing Education Hall."

Considering the accomplishments of Ely Meyerson during his thirteen year history as the Director of the Lifelong Learning Society at Florida Atlantic University, I can think of no better way to honor his memory and dedication to the university. I enthusiastically support this and recommend your approval.

KAJ/lae

Attachments

cc: John Pritchett, University Provost
Norman Kaufman, Associate Provost

Original to K Miller for Committee +/or BOT processes.

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6/18

Florida Atlantic University
JUN 16 2009
President's Office

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FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

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MEMORANDUM

To: Frank T. Brogan, University President
Through: John F. Pritchett, University Provost
From: Virginia M. Huntzinger, Interim Assistant Provost, Lifelong Learning
Date: May 21, 2009
Subject: Renaming of "Continuing Education Hall" to "Ely Meyerson Hall"

This memo requests approval for the renaming of Continuing Education Hall (Building 31D) to Ely Meyerson Hall in recognition of the enormous contributions to the growth, stature, and success of Lifelong Learning programs at Florida Atlantic University made by Ely Meyerson.

During Ely Meyerson's thirteen year tenure as the head of Lifelong Learning, LLS enrollments more than doubled and, under his guidance and tutelage, the program was expanded successfully first to the MacArthur Campus in Jupiter and recently to the Treasure Coast Campus in Port St. Lucie. It is safe to say that the name Ely Meyerson and lifelong learning have been inextricably intertwined at Florida Atlantic University. Ely's mark will undoubtedly define lifelong learning activities for years to come. Therefore, I am pleased to forward this request, which is made on behalf of the Lifelong Learning Society Board of Advisors (motion ratified September 11, 2008).

In keeping with the tenets laid out in University Policy 1.8, "Naming of University Elements," I would like to provide my own analysis of the ways in which Ely Meyerson made a world of difference in Lifelong Learning at Florida Atlantic University. In point of fact, I believe that the terms "Lifelong Learning" and "Florida Atlantic University" have come to define one another largely through Ely Meyerson's achievements.

Ely came to this University in August of 1995. At this point in LLS history, the LLS building campaign was in disarray and the campus of undergraduates and graduates was growing. "Where will the lifelong learners go?" he pondered. After some exploration, the Greek Church, Town Center Movie Theater and the Unitarian Church became satellite centers for the Lifelong Learning Program. Out of this less than satisfactory solution arose a renewed desire to revive the floundering building campaign and build an LLS "home" on the FAU campus.

Three years later and with the confidence of major donors and other LLS students, the Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center opened its doors on the Boca Raton Campus. Ely loved being the unofficial overseer of this project and each day would find him wandering among the construction and checking the details with the official supervisors.

Of course, "status quo" was not an appropriate expression for Ely. The number of courses, faculty and students increased with each passing year and the 10,000 registrants in 1995 became 20,000 in 2008. No sooner was the paint on the auditorium dry when a joint venture among Florida Atlantic University, the now-defunct Division of Continuing Education and the Lifelong Learning Society produced an office and classroom two-story building. It is this building that we seek to rename in Ely's memory.

Shortly thereafter when FAU established the MacArthur Campus in Jupiter, the newly formed Lifelong Learning program in Jupiter decided to begin a campaign to build an LLS complex. Armed with all of the recent experiences of strategy plans and construction, Ely became the guiding light behind this venture, too. As Florida Atlantic University developed beyond Jupiter, Ely worked closely with individuals on the Treasure Coast to get their LLS programs off the ground with financial support from the Boca Raton program and his personal guidance in program, faculty, and audience development.

Ely Meyerson's legacy goes well beyond the physical structures. He developed an adult education and enrichment program that is acknowledged as being the finest in the country; he recruited and mentored a faculty in ways that would be envied by any teaching institution; he nurtured the "best" staff and gained the support of FAU's Administration. He was a frugal fiscal manager and the LLS cash reserve grew, enabling him and the Board of Advisors to provide over a million dollars to FAU endowments, scholarships, professorships and buildings. Ely's legacy is much like an erector set in motion. Build, build and build. Whether it was structures, people, programs, loyalty and commitment his mental energy and genuine caring made the world a better place for everyone as he passed through it. Ely will long be remembered by the people he served, the institution he supported, and the community of lifelong learners he attracted.

With these thoughts in mind, I sincerely request your consideration and approval of this request for the naming of "Ely Meyerson Hall."

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia M. Huntzinger
Interim Assistant Provost
Lifelong Learning
On behalf of the LLS Board of Advisors