Date: September 22, 1980
From: Office of the Chancellor
Subject: Board of Trustees Naming of Buildings and Grounds Policy

Recently, it has been brought to my attention that there needs to be some clarification of the SUNY Board of Trustees policy on the naming of buildings and grounds.

In order to provide this clarification, and because we have many new Presidents who may be unaware of the policy, I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Trustees' policy statement.

In accordance with the Board's directives, this policy is applied in a consistent manner with exceptions considered only in accordance with the provisions of the last paragraph of the policy. Guidelines concerning what constitutes a "substantial gift" within the meaning of the policy are also attached.

Please note that recommendations for the naming of buildings or grounds on any State-operated campus should be forwarded to Miss Martha J. Downey, Secretary of the University, who is chairing a new Chancellor's Advisory Committee for the Review of Gifts, Bequests and Naming of Buildings and Grounds. This Committee is responsible for making advisory recommendations prior to my submission of the matter to the State University Board of Trustees.

I should like to point out that this policy applies to buildings and grounds only, and therefore would not preclude the naming of rooms within a building for living persons. This can be accomplished by action of a council, or in the case of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry its Board of Trustees, and does not require approval by the Chancellor or the University's Board.

Requests for action on the acceptance of gifts and bequests should be handled, as in the past, by initially contacting either the Office of University Counsel or the Office of Finance and Business.

Clifton R. Wharton, Jr.
Chancellor

Attachments
Memorandum to Presidents
September 22, 1980

This memorandum addressed to:
Presidents, State-operated Campuses
Chairmen, College and University Councils
Chairman, Board of Trustees, College of
Environmental Science and Forestry

Copies for information only sent to:
Members, Board of Trustees of State University
President Neville
Vice Provost Spencer
NAMING OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS POLICY OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Whereas in accordance with § 356, subdivision 4, paragraph f, of the Education Law, the council or board of each state-operated institution administered by State University of New York, shall make recommendations for the naming of buildings and grounds, in accordance with rules established by the State University Trustees; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that all newly established State-operated institutions of the University shall be named in accordance with standard nomenclature; and, further, that when any State-operated institution of the University desires to name buildings or grounds after a person, such buildings or grounds shall be named after prominent local or State deceased persons; and, further, that local councils shall be requested to make recommendations for the naming of buildings and grounds to the Chancellor of State University for his consideration and for submission to the State University Trustees for appropriate action; and, be it further

Resolved that the Board of Trustees will consider requests for exceptions to this policy in the event that a local council deems it appropriate to honor a living person or organization responsible for a substantial gift made for the benefit of the State University of New York either directly or through a campus-related foundation.

The original policy adopted November 2, 1950 by Resolution 50-122, was amended on July 10, 1969 by Resolution 69-222 and further amended on January 23, 1980 by Resolution 80-8.