

AGENDA

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Meeting: 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 26, 2024
Glenn S. Dumke Auditorium

Anna Ortiz-Morfit, Chair
Douglas Faigin, Vice Chair
Diego Arambula
Raji Kaur Brar
Jean Picker Firstenberg
Mark Ghilarducci
Jonathan Molina Mancio
Yammilette Rodriguez
Jose Antonio Vargas

- Consent** 1. Approval of Minutes, *Action*
Discussion 2. Naming of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Learning Center –
Sonoma State University, *Action*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT**

**Trustees of the California State University
Office of the Chancellor
Glenn S. Dumke Auditorium
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California**

January 30, 2024

Members Present

Anna Ortiz-Morfit, Chair
Douglas Faigin, Vice Chair
Diego Arambula
Raji Kaur Brar
Jean Picker Firstenberg
Mark Ghilarducci
Yammilette Rodriguez
Jose Antonio Vargas

Wenda Fong, Chair of the Board
Mildred García, Chancellor

Trustee Arambula called the meeting to order. He congratulated the campuses who were recipients of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District VII Awards, with special recognition for those teams who won global accolades in the CASE Circle of Excellence Awards.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 12, 2023, were approved as submitted.

Naming of the Braddock Center for Science and Innovation – California State University, East Bay

Steve Relyea, executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer, reported that the proposed naming recognizes the \$5 million contribution by Robert Braddock, Jr. and Cheryl Keemar to support the construction of the applied learning facility for STEM education at California State University, East Bay. This 21,000-square-foot facility will serve as an annex to the existing

science buildings and features four labs, five instruction spaces and a student support space. This building will expand opportunities for students to work alongside their professors in interdisciplinary, open-concept labs and accommodate the rapid enrollment growth in STEM programs.

Cal State East Bay President Cathy Sandeen recognized the Braddock family for their generosity, dedication to East Bay and the exciting future of science education made possible by their gift. Chair Fong and Trustee Arambula thanked the Braddock Family for carrying on the vision and generosity of their parents, R.C. and Lois Braddock.

The committee approved the proposed resolution (RIA 01-24-01) that the applied science facility at California State University, East Bay be named the Braddock Center for Science and Innovation.

Annual Report on Donor Support for 2022-2023

Executive Vice Chancellor Relyea presented the annual report on donor support for 2022-23. This past fiscal year, the California State University system secured more than \$557 million in gift commitments and nearly \$466 million in gift receipts. The donors designated 98% of the gifts to support programs, including faculty support and academic enrichment, student scholarship, athletics, academic research, student affairs and student life programming, and other universities priorities that speak to the donors' philanthropic passions. This leaves only 2%—roughly \$7.4 million—unrestricted by donors to be used to address the areas of greatest need.

He shared that these systemwide philanthropic totals are commendable given that it has only been since the early 1990s that Advancement became an integral part of the CSU's priorities. CSU Advancement programs have blossomed to secure philanthropic gifts of all types, including annual, corporate, foundation, capital and estate giving. Further, almost all CSU universities have conducted a comprehensive campaign, surpassed their fundraising goals and elevated their national profiles.

He presented additional highlights from the report before introducing Cal State Fullerton President Sylvia Alva, who shared the life-changing impact of the Guardian Scholars Program. This donor-funded initiative supports current foster youth and those exiting the foster care system. Founded at Cal State Fullerton, the program is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Their program inspired others to develop similar projects that have expanded to 90 colleges and universities, including all 23 CSUs.

President Alva shared that according to the National Foster Youth Initiative, only 3-4% of former foster youth obtain a four-year college degree because it is uncommon for students to have the financial resources, mentorship, support, stability and guidance they need to complete

postsecondary education. She stated that it is remarkable that given the challenges the Guardian Scholars have overcome, their graduation rates are comparable to the campus average. In particular, the graduation rate for transfer scholars is nearly 80%, essentially eliminating the gap between them and the general student population at Cal State Fullerton.

She shared the story of a student in the foster care system who was admitted to Cal State Fullerton and turned 18 while at summer camp. When she returned to her group home, she found her belongings in a black garbage bag and was told to find somewhere else to live. The university was able to draw on the philanthropic support from the Orangewood Foundation and Alumnus Ron Davis to help the student secure housing. This planted the seed for Guardian Scholars.

Chris Simonsen, CEO of the Orangewood Foundation, shared additional background and history on the foundation's support and the program's founding.

Becky Wells, a Cal State Fullerton alumna and the first Guardian Scholars graduate, shared her powerful story and the transformational impact the program has had on her life.

Trustees Arambula, Firstenberg and Simon thanked the presenters as well as presidents and their staff for all the hard work in fundraising for programs such as Guardian Scholars. Trustee Adamson shared that one out of every six who walked through his mission in Skid Row Los Angeles came from foster care. He stated that the largest untapped resource for giving is the CSU's 4.1 million alumni. Trustee Gilbert-Lurie would like a deeper dive on advancement staffing levels and a strategy for how the board can help achieve fundraising goals. Trustee McGrory believes the CSU has so much fundraising potential and is currently underperforming the market. Trustee Brar asked if there are any systems in place for those exiting the foster care system. Deputy Vice Chancellors Nathan Dietrich and Dilcie Perez will provide more information but shared that there are support processes in place and campuses proactively reach out to foster youth to offer workshops and assistance with the application and financial aid processes. Trustee Vargas would like to explore how the CSU can leverage its alumni and tell the CSU story.

The committee recommended approval by the board of the proposed resolution that the Annual Donor Report for 2022-2023 be adopted for submission to the California Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the California Department of Finance (RIA 01-24-02).

Trustee Arambula adjourned the meeting.

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Naming of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Learning Center – Sonoma State University

Presentation by:

Greg Saks
Vice Chancellor
External Relations and Communications

Ming-Tung Lee, Ph.D.
President
Sonoma State University

Summary

This item will consider naming the existing visitor center at Sonoma State University's (SSU, University) Fairfield Osborn Preserve (Preserve) as the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR, Tribe) Learning Center.

This proposal, submitted by Sonoma State University, meets the criteria and other conditions specified in the Board of Trustees Policy on Naming California State University Facilities and Properties, including approval by the system review panel and review by the campus academic senate.

Background

The proposed naming is in recognition for a gift of \$2.85 million from the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to transform the existing facilities at Fairfield Osborn Preserve, roughly half the cost of the renovation, with the goals of increased capacity, accessibility and safety.

The project consists of:

- Refurbishment of the 2,800-square-foot visitor center, including new paint, roof, flooring and modifications to make the space useable by multiple groups simultaneously;
- New outdoor conversation space to facilitate dialogue and group activities;
- Accessibility features such as parking, walkways, building entrances and restrooms; and
- Increased parking capacity and usability by school buses

This project is of particular significance to the Tribe because the Preserve rests on Sonoma Mountain, their ancestral homeland. This new partnership will open doors for cultural land management, integration of tribal perspectives into educational programs, and improved interpretation of the Tribe's relationship and legacy on Sonoma Mountain.

The Preserve, managed by SSU's Center for Environmental Inquiry, currently hosts 3,500 visitors annually, and this renovation will allow SSU to double that number, increasing the number of people who come to learn, conduct research, and reflect on the interconnectedness of all living things in the natural environment. Each year, the Tribe provides additional funding for local school children to visit the Preserve on educational field trips.

The 450-acre Fairfield Osborn Preserve lies on the northwest flank of Sonoma Mountain, a 15-minute drive from campus. In the 1950s, Joan and William Roth purchased the property as a summer home. In 1972, they donated the southern 200 acres to The Nature Conservancy (TNC), naming the property after Joan's father, Fairfield Osborn Jr. TNC ran outdoor education and docent training programs for 25 years. In 1997, TNC donated the property to SSU under a conservation easement. An additional 210-acre donation from the Roth family doubled the Preserve's size in 2004, and a final donation of 40 acres was made in 2013.

Recommended Action

The following resolution is recommended for approval:

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the California State University, that the visitor center at Sonoma State University's Fairfield Osborn Preserve be named the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Learning Center.