

Resolutions of the University at Buffalo Council

June 1, 2026

**John F. and Marietta A. Briggs Professorship in Glaucoma Research Naming**

- Whereas Mr. John F. Briggs is deeply committed to advancing the mission and impact of the Ross Eye Institute at the University at Buffalo’s Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; and
- whereas Mr. Briggs is a grateful patient of the Ross Eye Institute and has developed a deep and enduring connection to UB through his personal experience receiving care for glaucoma; and
- whereas Mr. Briggs’ philanthropic commitment is inspired by his longstanding clinical relationship with Dr. Sandra F. Sieminski, Clinical Associate Professor, Interim Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology, and Director of Glaucoma Services, whose compassionate care, clinical expertise and scholarly dedication left a lasting impression on Mr. Briggs and his family; and
- whereas Mr. Briggs is deeply committed to advancing the mission and impact of the Ross Eye Institute by supporting basic science research in glaucoma that is aimed at expanding knowledge, enhancing clinical outcomes and improving the lives of patients facing vision-threatening disease; and
- whereas Mr. Briggs’ generosity reflects both his gratitude for the exceptional care he received and his broader dedication to advancing scientific discovery, medical education and patient-centered innovation within the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for this support, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the John F. and Marietta A. Briggs Professorship in Glaucoma Research in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **Frank H. and Marilyn D. Clement Chair in AI Business Analytics Naming**

- Whereas Frank H. Clement, BS '66, and the late Marilyn D. Clement were longtime, engaged donors and advocates for the University at Buffalo and the School of Management, and Mr. Clement remains actively engaged with UB; and
- whereas Mr. Clement earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the UB School of Management and built a distinguished career spanning technology and finance, beginning in computer-related roles at Eastman Kodak before embarking on a long and successful tenure at Paine Webber (later UBS Financial Services), where he rose to vice president and served from 1975 until his retirement in 2002; and
- whereas Mr. Clement has maintained a strong relationship with UB, serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Management; and
- whereas Mr. Clement and the late Mrs. Clement built a remarkable legacy at the University at Buffalo, generously contributing time, expertise and philanthropic support to champion students and faculty alike, and strengthening the School of Management through visionary leadership; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for the philanthropic commitment of Mr. Clement and the late Mrs. Clement, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Frank H. and Marilyn D. Clement Chair in AI Business Analytics; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **William R Kenan Jr. Scholars Program Naming**

- Whereas The William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust wishes to empower human potential through education and whole community investment by funding innovative projects in areas that give people the tools and opportunities to realize their goals; and
- whereas the Kenan Charitable Trust seeks to address the nursing workforce shortage by supporting the University at Buffalo's School of Nursing accelerated nursing degree program through scholarship and student-experience funding; and
- whereas the Kenan Charitable Trust does so with the intention of strengthening healthcare systems, expanding access to quality patient care, and ensuring that future nurses are equipped with the skills and compassion necessary to serve diverse communities; and
- whereas the Kenan Charitable Trust's investment in the University at Buffalo's accelerated nursing program reflects its commitment to advancing educational opportunities that directly respond to urgent workforce needs; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation of the William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust's generosity, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the William R Kenan Jr. Scholars program in the School of Nursing; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **McMillen Elliot Medical School Scholarship for Tonawanda Naming**

- Whereas Marvin A. McMillen, BA '71, MD '75, and Victoria B. Elliot are deeply committed to advancing the mission and impact of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo; and
- whereas Dr. McMillen earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in history and philosophy in 1971 and his Doctor of Medicine degree in 1975 from UB, establishing a strong foundation in both humanistic inquiry and medical science; and
- whereas Dr. McMillen completed extensive postgraduate training in internal medicine, general surgery and surgical critical care at the University at Buffalo, the University of Minnesota and Yale University, including a fellowship focused on long-term culture of bone marrow stem cells; and
- whereas Dr. McMillen has devoted more than four decades to general surgery and surgical critical care, beginning in 1983, with a focused commitment to the care and recovery of critically ill and high-risk surgical patients through both clinical excellence and holistic healing practices; and
- whereas Dr. McMillen and Ms. Elliot are committed to advancing medical education by establishing an endowed scholarship to support local medical students who intend to work in the Tonawanda area in Western New York after the completion of their education; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for their support, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the McMillen Elliot Medical School Scholarship for Tonawanda in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **Richard and Charlene Osborne Chair in Faculty Innovation Naming**

- Whereas Richard C. Osborne, BS '69, and Charlene L. Osborne have been generous donors and active supporters of the School of Management at the University at Buffalo; and
- whereas Mr. Osborne earned his associate's degree in industrial engineering from Erie College, completed his bachelor's degree in business at the University at Buffalo and went on to earn his MBA from the University of Illinois, establishing an academic foundation that propelled a distinguished career; and
- whereas Mr. Osborne's career in global manufacturing leadership began at The Pillsbury Company, and he advanced through senior executive roles at Household International and Scotsman Industries as CEO, Chairman and President, and later at Madison Industries as Senior Managing Director; and
- whereas the Osbornes have created a remarkable legacy at UB by giving generously of their time, expertise and philanthropic support, championing both students and faculty, strengthening the School of Management and investing in education one person at a time; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for the longstanding philanthropic commitments of the Osbornes, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Richard and Charlene Osborne Chair in Faculty Innovation; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## Stevens Family Equipment Support Fund Naming

- Whereas Scott Stevens, BS '79, and Coleen Stevens, BS '79, have been longtime, dedicated supporters, advocates and friends of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at the University at Buffalo; and
- whereas Scott and Coleen are proud UB alumni—with Scott earning his degree in civil engineering and Coleen earning her degree in physical therapy—and both credit their UB education as formative in developing the communication, problem-solving and leadership skills that have shaped their lives and careers; and
- whereas they are deeply committed to sustainability, environmental responsibility and ethical engineering practice, values reflected both in their personal lives and in the operations of their company, Dimension Fabricators; and
- whereas they have maintained a strong and enduring relationship with UB through continued engagement and service, including participation on the Boldly Buffalo campaign volunteer steering committee, and through Scott's service on the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, as well as his receipt of numerous alumni honors; and
- whereas through their generosity of time, expertise and philanthropic support, Scott and Coleen have created a remarkable legacy at UB by championing both students and faculty and strengthening the mission and impact of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for Scott Stevens and Coleen Stevens and their exceptional support of engineering education, sustainability and the University at Buffalo, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Stevens Family Equipment Support Fund; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

### **Dr. A. Scott and Jo Ann Weber Professorship Naming**

- Whereas Dr. A. Scott Weber and Mrs. Jo Ann Weber have been longtime supporters, advocates and friends of the University at Buffalo's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; and
- whereas Dr. Weber and Mrs. Weber met at Virginia Tech in 1976 and went on to graduate together, Dr. Weber with a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering in 1977 and a Master of Science in Sanitary Engineering in 1978, and Mrs. Weber with a Bachelor of Science in biology in 1976; and
- whereas Dr. Weber then graduated with his PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis in 1983, joined UB's engineering faculty that same year, and subsequently has held numerous senior leadership roles, including Chair of the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education, Vice President for Student Life and, most recently, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs; and
- whereas Mrs. Weber has enjoyed a successful 20-year career in the classrooms of Heim Elementary School in the Williamsville Central School District and, for more than three decades, has devoted her time and talents to supporting women in education and raising funds to support students throughout their educational journeys; and
- whereas together, the Webers exemplify a proud family tradition of civil engineering, with several family members being civil engineers, including both of their children; and
- whereas Mrs. Weber played a significant role in establishing and sustaining a welcoming and inclusive culture for faculty and students within UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering during Dr. Weber's tenure as chair; and
- whereas together, they fostered a welcoming and inclusive culture within UB's engineering community, and have made a lasting impact through their generosity of time, expertise and philanthropic support benefiting students, faculty and programs across the university; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for the philanthropic commitment of Dr. Weber and Mrs. Weber, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Dr. A. Scott and Jo Ann Weber Professorship in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## Christopher A. Wightman Chair Naming

- Whereas Christopher A. Wightman, BA '95, JD '99, has been a longtime, dedicated volunteer, generous donor and active supporter of University at Buffalo School of Law; and
- whereas Mr. Wightman earned both his bachelor's degree and his Juris Doctor from the University at Buffalo and, during law school, served on the editorial board of the *Buffalo Law Review*; and
- whereas Mr. Wightman has had a distinguished career in corporate governance and shareholder engagement, beginning at Damon and Morey as a corporate attorney, then as a securities regulation attorney at Vanguard, advancing to leadership of Vanguard's global corporate governance and proxy oversight function before co-founding CamberView Partners and later becoming a partner at PJT Camberview following its acquisition in 2018; and
- whereas Mr. Wightman—who received the Law Alumni Association's 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award for Business—has maintained a strong and enduring relationship with UB, including serving on the Boldly Buffalo campaign volunteer steering committee and as the chair of the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Law; and
- whereas Mr. Wightman has built a remarkable legacy at UB, generously contributing his time, expertise and philanthropic support to champion students and faculty alike, and strengthening the School of Law through visionary leadership, including the establishment of the first named chair in law school history; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for the philanthropic commitment of Mr. Wightman, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Christopher A. Wightman Chair in Law; and be it further
- resolved that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **Frank H. and Marilyn D. Clement Endowed AI Innovation Fund Naming**

- Whereas Frank H. Clement, BS '66, and the late Marilyn D. Clement were longtime, engaged donors and advocates for the University at Buffalo and the School of Management, and Mr. Clement remains actively engaged with UB; and
- whereas Mr. Clement earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the UB School of Management and built a distinguished career spanning technology and finance, beginning in computer-related roles at Eastman Kodak before embarking on a long and successful tenure at Paine Webber (later UBS Financial Services), where he rose to vice president and served from 1975 until his retirement in 2002; and
- whereas Mr. Clement has maintained a strong relationship with UB, serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Management; and
- whereas Mr. Clement, whose career bridged computing and financial services, and the late Mrs. Clement demonstrated a shared commitment to forward-thinking initiatives that strengthen the School of Management and expand opportunities for future generations of students; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for the philanthropic commitment of Mr. Clement and the late Mrs. Clement, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Frank H. and Marilyn D. Clement Endowed AI Innovation Fund, which will advance cutting-edge initiatives in artificial intelligence, support experiential learning opportunities and accelerate the integration of emerging technologies within the School of Management; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **David Kountz, MD, Classroom for Inclusive Excellence Naming**

- Whereas David S. Kountz, MD '85, is a distinguished graduate of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo, as well as a longtime donor and engaged supporter of the university; and
- whereas Dr. Kountz has devoted his distinguished career to advancing medical education and health equity, mentoring countless physicians and championing innovative approaches to training future physicians through senior leadership roles at Hahnemann University, Temple University and Robert Wood Johnson medical schools; and
- whereas Dr. Kountz has demonstrated national leadership as the immediate past president of the International Society on Hypertension in Blacks and through service on the Board of Directors of the Alliance for Independent Medical Centers and the Board of Trustees of Georgian Court University; and
- whereas Dr. Kountz is a highly respected scholar, having authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, editorials and abstracts, and having served as a principal or co-investigator on more than 20 research grants, including initiatives addressing behavioral health integration in primary care; and
- whereas Dr. Kountz gratefully acknowledges the world-class education he received at UB that prepared him for a successful career with boundless opportunities; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for his support, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the David Kountz, MD, Classroom for Inclusive Excellence in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **Leslie and Rebecca Chung Laboratory for Materials Research Naming**

- Whereas Dr. Lan K. Wong has demonstrated a longstanding and meaningful commitment to advancing the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at the University at Buffalo; and
- whereas Dr. Wong earned a Bachelor of Science in chemistry, graduating summa cum laude from San Fernando Valley State College (now California State University, Northridge) in 1973 and completing a National Science Foundation research fellowship at UCLA as an undergraduate before receiving his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and
- whereas Dr. Wong built a distinguished career in pharmaceutical research, pioneering the application of gas chromatography–mass spectrometry during his doctoral work at MIT and, serving as a tenured professor of pharmaceutical sciences, he earned recognition for excellence in research and teaching as well as for fostering collaborations between the United States and China in the pharmaceutical field; and
- whereas Dr. Wong’s wife, Dr. Deborah Chung, is a SUNY Distinguished Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the University at Buffalo who has dedicated her career to advancing materials science and engineering; and
- whereas Dr. Wong wishes to honor Dr. Chung’s parents, Leslie and Rebecca Chung, in recognition of their unwavering support of her throughout her life, including her pursuit of education, and to recognize the remarkable legacy Dr. Chung has established at UB; be it therefore
- resolved that in deep appreciation for the generous philanthropic commitment of Dr. Wong, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Leslie and Rebecca Chung Laboratory for Materials Research; and be it therefore
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

## **Jonathan A. Dandes 2026 Posthumous Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medalist Selection**

- Whereas Jonathan A. Dandes, '74, was a devoted alumnus and champion of the University at Buffalo and a dedicated member of the UB Council; and
- whereas Mr. Dandes was, in fact, the longest-serving member of the UB Council, first appointed in 1994 and subsequently reappointed four times; and
- whereas Mr. Dandes' engagement with UB started when he was a student, as president of the university's Student Association, and he later served as president of the UB Alumni Association; and
- whereas Mr. Dandes, a graduate of UB's School of Management, had a highly successful career as the corporate vice president of government relations and special projects for Rich Products Corporation and, prior to that, president of Rich Baseball Operations, executive vice president of the Rich Entertainment Group, vice president/general manager of Stadium Services, director of restaurant operations, and product manager;
- whereas throughout his career, Dandes was actively involved in the city and region, serving on and chairing boards of cultural and regional organizations; healthcare, educational, athletic and law enforcement foundations, in addition to serving his profession as a past president of the New York State Restaurant Association and a member of the Stadium Managers Association, among other entities; and
- whereas in his role as a UB Council member, Mr. Dandes always brought thoughtful leadership and genuine passion to every discussion and decision, and he worked tirelessly to strengthen UB's role as a driver of opportunity, innovation and public good; and
- whereas the University at Buffalo is stronger today for Mr. Dandes' participation, his commitment and his resolute focus on advancing UB's mission of excellence and impact; and
- whereas the UB Council concurs that Mr. Dandes embodied former UB Chancellor Charles P. Norton's characterization of an individual whose accomplishments "dignify the performer and Buffalo in the eyes of the world;" be it therefore
- resolved the UB Council wholeheartedly and unanimously recommends Mr. Jonathan A. Dandes for selection as a posthumous recipient of the Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal; and be it further
- resolved that the UB Council marks his permanent place of prominence in its endeavors and traditions by presenting the Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal to his children, Leo and Arin; and be it further
- resolved that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council, and that a copy be presented publicly to Mr. Dandes' children.