



MEMORANDUM

March 23, 2017

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor

SUBJECT: Naming of Art Conservation Department at Buffalo State College

Action Requested

The proposed resolution approves the action taken by the Buffalo State Council on December 13, 2016 naming the Art Conservation Department at Buffalo State College the "Patricia and Richard Garman Art Conservation Department."

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Resolved that the action taken by the Buffalo State Council naming the Art Conservation Department at Buffalo State College, the "Patricia and Richard Garman Art Conservation Department" be, and hereby is, approved.

Background

The proposed resolution approves the December 13, 2016 decision of the Buffalo State Council (resolution attached) to name the Art Conservation Department at Buffalo State College, the "Patricia and Richard Garman Art Conservation Department." The Buffalo State Council's action was taken in recognition of a significant gift of \$4 million to Buffalo State College from the Garman family.

Buffalo State College wishes to recognize and acknowledge the significance of the Garmans' generous donation which will be used to establish a \$3.5 million fund for student fellowships and a \$500,000 fund to support faculty development. The gift will also satisfy the College's remaining fund-raising needed to qualify for a Mellon matching grant of \$1.5 million.

Buffalo State's Art Conservation Department (the Department") is one of only four such programs in the country. The Garmans have been longtime

supporters of the Department, and have met and interacted with both the professors and students who restore and stabilize paintings, sculpture, paper and other objects. The Garmans' relationship with the department became even closer several years ago when an ancient terra cotta sculpture they had purchased arrived broken. The Garmans engaged the Department to repair the sculpture and, according to the Garman family, did so flawlessly.

Richard Garman is a former president of R&P Oak Hill, LLC, a real estate company, former president of Newbery Alaska, Inc., an electrical contractor, and former managing partner of R.E.G. LLC, a private investment company. He also is a former board member and chair of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Merchants Insurance Group and the Associated General Contractors of America. Prior to July 19, 2000, Mr. Garman was president and chief executive officer of A.B.C. Paving Co., Inc. and Buffalo Crushed Stone, Inc. Buffalo Crushed Stone was listed among the top 500 construction companies by Engineering News Record.

Throughout his career, Mr. Garman continued to buy, grow, and lead construction and construction-related companies. These companies evolved into a diverse group of enterprises operating in the fields of highway and heavy construction, aggregate and materials production, utility construction, industrial development, and construction management. In 2000, Mr. Garman sold these companies - not to the highest bidder - but for millions less to an entity which agreed to keep all productive employees for at least 10 years.

Mr. Garman managed companies bound together by a common set of business values: customer satisfaction, quality workmanship, and employee enrichment. In 1999, Mr. Garman received the Niagara Lutheran Healthcare Humanitarian of the Year award. In 2002, he received the Philanthropist of the Year award from the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County's Alexis de Tocqueville Society.

Patricia Garman passed away in January 2104. She had been a registered nurse, a professor of psychiatric nursing, a therapist for children and families, and a philanthropist. She established the Patricia H. Garman Behavioral Health Nursing Endowment Fund at the University of Buffalo to support the School of Nursing on issues related to mental health. She received the Dr. Philip B. Wels Outstanding Service Award. She was a founding member of the Compeer Greater Buffalo board of directors, a member of the Western New York Women's Fund, and a member of the Niagara Lutheran Health Foundation, UB Foundation, and Mental Health Association.

The Garmans have made numerous donations to many community organizations, some of which Mrs. Garman helped found. Their gift to Buffalo State is the largest single gift ever received by the College.

Attachment

RESOLUTION

At its December 13, 2016 meeting, the Buffalo State College Council recommended; and President Conway-Turner approved; that the Buffalo State College Art Conservation Department be named in honor of Patricia and Richard Garman.

Whereas the donor wishes to support the Art Conservation Department; and

Whereas, the donor has pledged to give \$4 million to Buffalo State, with \$3.5 million designated to endow the Patricia H. and Richard E. Garman Art Conservation Fellowship Fund and \$500,000 designated to endow the Patricia H. and Richard E. Garman Art Conservation Faculty Development Fund; and

Whereas, the donor has irrevocably given to the Foundation the sum of \$1 million in December of 2016 and \$1 million in January of 2017 toward the fulfillment of this pledge and has promised to give \$1 million in January of 2018 and \$ 1 million in January 2019 to complete the pledge as stated in the signed irrevocable pledge;

This honor is given in consideration of a gift made to Buffalo State by the Patricia and Richard Garman family, and in recognition of many years of service as members of the Buffalo State College community.



Linda A. Dobmeier, '71, Chair, Buffalo State College Council



Bonita R. Durand, Secretary to the College Council