



The State University  
of New York

**Office of the Chancellor**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**June 2, 2026**

**TO: Members of the Board of Trustees**

**FROM: Dr. John B. King Jr., Chancellor**

**SUBJECT: Naming of an Endowed Fund at the State University of New York's  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry**

**Action Requested**

The proposed resolution names the Edna Bailey Sussman Fund at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF).

**Resolution**

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

**Whereas** the Edna Bailey Sussman Fund has been a long-time annual donor to ESF, supporting graduate student research and professional development; and

**Whereas** the Edna Bailey Sussman Fund has received dissolution approval from the NYS Attorney General, and as part of such dissolution the ESF College Foundation will be a beneficiary of one-third of the Fund's assets; and

**Whereas** these funds will be used to establish an endowment with ESF College Foundation for perpetual support of purposes similar to the Fund's annual designation; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved** that, in recognition of the philanthropic commitment by the Edna Bailey Sussman Fund, the ESF Edna Bailey Sussman Fund is hereby named.

### **Background**

The late Margaret L. Sussman's estate created the Edna Bailey Sussman Fund in 1982 in honor of her mother Edna Bailey Sussman. Ms. Sussman was a 1934 graduate of Smith College. Her father, Dr. Otto Sussman was president and director of The American Metal Company, Ltd which later became AMAX, Inc. and was acquired by Freeport McMoRan. Margaret developed an interest in environmental issues during her frequent travel in the American west with her father.

The Edna Bailey Sussman Fund has been a charitable trust organized to support "the preservation of wildlife, the control of pollution, and preservation of natural land resources by funding internships for individuals engaged in a field of study at an institution of higher education in an area that significantly impacts upon the environment."

The funds received following the dissolution will be used to establish an endowment at the ESF College Foundation that will support ecological purposes. Honoring the donor's intention, these funds will create an endowment focused on experiential learning opportunities for students. The ESF College Foundation will establish a permanent endowed fund to continue supporting educational ecological purposes.