

Submitted by: William R. Decatur, Vice President, Finance and Business Operations
Chacona W. Johnson, Vice President, Development and Alumni Affairs
President, Wayne State University Foundation

NAMING OF FACILITIES

Tierney Alumni House

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors authorize the naming of the recently acquired Hecker House for which the University has received significant private funding from donors that come with the expectation of naming rights as follows:

Tierney Alumni House

It is also recommended that the name be reflected in WSUCA 2.85.07, the Board statute that lists the names of facilities.

Background

On September 24, 2014 the University purchased the historic Hecker House located at 5510 Woodward Avenue. It was purchased with the intent to relocate the current alumni affairs and annual giving staff residing in the Alumni House on Gilmour Mall. The University has now received a generous pledge of \$2 million from Thomas T. and Elizabeth C. Tierney to name this facility the Tierney Alumni House.

Thomas T. Tierney earned a bachelor of arts in business administration from Wayne State University and a master of science from the Air Force Institute of Technology. He served in the Air Force from 1960 to 1971, including a tour of duty in Vietnam during the Tet Offensive. After completing his tour, Tierney was one of only seven military officers appointed as a Pentagon research associate at the Rand Corporation.

From 1971 until last month Tom Tierney was president of Vitatech Nutritional Sciences, Inc. in Tustin, California where he oversaw the expansion of this nutritional supplement company. Currently he is chairman and co-founder of BeeHive.Com, LLC, a web-based networking enterprise and the director of CNS Response, a science-based predictive analytics company with a focus on posttraumatic stress disorder and head trauma professional support strategies.

Elizabeth Carr Tierney received an undergraduate degree from California State University and a masters of arts from Chapman University. She is a former educator and a social worker. Elizabeth serves on the Claire Trevor School of the Arts Dean's Council and is a leader in the arts campaign, the Social Sciences Dean's Ambassadors Council and the Women's Opportunity Center Advisory Council. The Tierneys are trustees of the University of California, Irvine Foundation, and he is a former chair.

The Tierneys have a long and impressive history of giving both financially and of their time and talent. Together, they have endowed numerous scholarships in the arts, social sciences and humanities. They co-chaired the capital campaign for the 480,000 square foot University of California, Irvine Medical Center and made a substantial lead gift in support of the project.

They also named the Thomas T. and Elizabeth C. Tierney University House, the chancellor's residence at UCI. The couple received the Lauds and Laurels Awards for University Service in 1989, the 1990 UCI Medal and the Extraordinarius Award in 1999. In addition, they were honored with the 2001 Giving is Living Award presented by the Volunteer Center of Orange County and the Los Angeles Times.

Tom and Elizabeth Tierney have made this significant pledge to support Wayne State University and provide funds for the upgrade and maintenance of the Tierney Alumni House. The Tierney's total commitment is \$2 million. The pledge will be paid within five years, with the first million dollars being paid this year and the remaining million to be paid in three equal payments in years 2017, 2018 and 2019. Half of these funds will be placed into an endowment for maintenance of the Tierney Alumni House. The use of the balance of the funds will be determined at the discretion of the President based on the priority needs of the University.