

UNF Board of Trustees

February 27, 2006

Issue: Naming of Brooks College of Health

Proposed action: Approval

Background information:

In accordance with the policy proposed for naming opportunities and unanimous approval from the Finance and Audit Committee, the University of North Florida requests that the Board of Trustees ratify naming the College of Health (COH) the Brooks College of Health (BCH).

The University wishes to name the College of Health in honor of the Brooks Rehabilitation System and its founder, Dr. J. Brooks Brown, because of their long standing and steadfast commitment to our institution.

In 1996, Brooks Rehabilitation System (formerly Genesis Health, Inc.) gave the University of North Florida Foundation a gift of \$1,400,000 which was matched by the State of Florida. In recognition of this gift, the University of North Florida named Building 39 J. Brooks Brown Hall. This gift has been used to support scholarships for students and distinguished research professorships for faculty.

Most recently, the Brooks Rehabilitation System Board has voted to give the College of Health an additional gift of \$3,600,000 which will also be matched by the State of Florida for a total endowment of \$10,000,000 for both gifts. This second gift will be used in the best interest of the College of Health for academic programs that address the health care needs of the region and state.

Dr. J. Brooks Brown has served on the College of Health Dean's Council for many years, and was Chair of the group during from 2001-2004. Currently, Doug Baer, CEO, is also on the College of Health Dean's Council, as well as Dr. Brown. They both provide much guidance to the overall vision of the College. Students in the College enjoy clinical experiences at Brooks and many of our COH graduates are currently employed by Brooks.

Naming the College of Health in honor of the Brooks Rehabilitation System is an ideal way to recognize the long standing relationship between the System, Dr. Brown and the College of Health. The organization is pivotal in the success of the college. We are deeply indebted for their generosity.

Supporting documents: None