Naming and Recognition Policy

Category: Board of Governors
Number: BO8
Responsibility: Board of Governors
Approval: Board, June 2017
Amendments: Every 5 years of as circumstances or legislation warrants

PREAMBLE
Algoma University benefits from generosity of many groups and individuals. Some donate money; others donate their time and talent; still others donate items such as books or works of art or trophies.

It is essential that the University recognize those who have made enduring contributions to the university.

It is also appropriate, in some circumstances, for the University to provide recognition for particular groups or individuals who have not been donors but who have distinguished themselves in ways that reflect fundamental values of the University.

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for the honouring of people or groups through the naming of buildings and other university assets and resources.

NAMES OF BUILDINGS
2.1 The Board of Governors of Algoma University has the sole authority to name new or existing buildings, or parts of buildings, that belong to the University. It may do so for any of the following reasons:

a) to recognize an outstanding contribution to the university by a member of the university community;
b) to recognize outstanding contributions by members of the broader community;
c) to express thanks for a major donation, usually a minimum of 25% of the value of the building.
Given the critical importance of donations to the construction or renovation of buildings, the Board accords a clear primacy to (c), especially in the case of new buildings.

2.2 Subject to any explicit agreement it has made with a particular donor, the Board may change the name of a building when and as it sees fit.

2.3 Proposals for the naming of a building may originate with the Board’s Fund Development Committee, or with any member of constituent group of the university community, but must be brought to the Executive Committee by the President for recommendation to the Board.

OTHER NAMES

3.1 The Board of Governors also has the sole authority to name the following:

a) places on campus, such as walks, lanes, walls, gardens, classrooms, labs, lounges, offices, playing fields and plazas;

b) endowed research chairs, professorships, lectureships and awards.

3.2 Proposals for the naming of anything under 3.1 may originate with the Board’s Fund Development Committee, or with any member or constituent group of the university community, but must be brought to the Executive Committee by the President for recommendation to the Board.

SHINGWAUK INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

4.1 As a function of the unique history of its campus and of its special mission, Algoma University will endeavour to use appropriate naming opportunities to commemorate the students of the Shingwauk Indian Residential School with consultation with appropriate bodies.

4.2 The primary focus for naming opportunities under 4.1 will be the offices, classrooms and corridors of the original Shingwauk Hall. New outdoor features of the campus, such as walks, walls, gates or gardens, may also be developed for this purpose as appropriate.

4.3 Recommendations for naming under this article will be developed in consultation with appropriate campus bodies and will be brought to the Executive Committee by the President for recommendation to the Board.

NAMING PROTOCOLS

5.1 If a feature has an Anishinaabe connection or is named for an Anishinaabe person, appropriate language should be used as a matter of decorum.

5.2 If a feature is named after a living person, they should be consulted as a matter of respect.

5.3 Naming must be mindful of the history of the site and of the feature.
SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

Algoma University raises money for scholarships and bursaries. In the course of its fundraising activities, the University has to be able to offer naming opportunities for those scholarships and bursaries. The University has the authority to approve named scholarships and bursaries for which it has raised money. On an annual basis, the Board’s Fund Development Committee shall inform the University Board of all new named scholarships and bursaries created by the University.