Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees  
April 17, 2012

SUBJECT: Resolution to Name Holmes Hall Faculty and Staff Lounge the “Dr. Susan M. Blanchard Faculty and Staff Lounge”

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Adopt resolution to recommend approval by Board of Governors

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since 2005, Dr. Susan M. Blanchard has served first as the founding director of the U.A. Whitaker School of Engineering, and, since August 2011, as the founding dean of the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering. During this time FGCU has established four Engineering degree programs (Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Bioengineering, and Software Engineering), designed and constructed Holmes Hall, and achieved ABET accreditation (for three of the four degree programs). Just seven years after its creation as a School within the Lutgert College of Business, enrollment in the College of Engineering today stands at nearly 700 students. Dr. Susan Blanchard will retire on June 30, 2012. To honor her significant contributions in leading the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering, the University proposes to name the Faculty and Staff Lounge in Holmes Hall as the “Dr. Susan M. Blanchard Faculty and Staff Lounge.”

The naming recommendation is presented in accordance with FGCU Policy 1.011 “Namings of University Buildings and Facilities.” Pursuant to section “Non-Gift-Related Naming – A.3” of the Policy, the building or facility naming for an active member of the State University System (faculty, staff, student, or trustee) must be approved by the Board of Governors.

Supporting Documentation Included: (1) Pinnacle Story regarding Dr. Blanchard & Whitaker College of Engineering, & (2) Resolution for Recommended Action

Prepared by: Associate Provost for Planning and Institutional Performance  
Paul Snyder

Legal Review by: N/A

Submitted by: President Wilson G. Bradshaw
A Resolution of the
Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees

WHEREAS, in 2005 Dr. Susan M. Blanchard was selected to serve as the Founding Director of the U.A. Whitaker School of Engineering within the Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University – and ultimately served as the Founding Dean of the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Blanchard’s leadership of the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering has been marked by exceptional growth and achievement; and

WHEREAS, the College under Dr. Dean Blanchard’s leadership witnessed myriad accomplishments including growth in student enrollment from 0 to nearly 700 Engineering students; the recruitment and hiring of an outstanding cadre of faculty and staff; the creation of four Engineering degree programs; the design and construction of Holmes Hall, and the achievement of ABET accreditation for the civil, environmental, and bioengineering degree programs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Susan M. Blanchard has announced her retirement from Florida Gulf Coast University effective June 30, 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees wishes to recommend to the Board of Governors approval of the naming of the Faculty and Staff Lounge within Holmes Hall as the “Dr. Susan M. Blanchard Faculty and Staff Lounge” in lasting tribute and recognition for Dr. Blanchard’s exceptional contributions to Engineering education for generations of students to come at Florida Gulf Coast University.

DULY ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF APRIL IN THE YEAR 2012.

SIGNED:

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Larry D. Hart, Chair
Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees