

Buildings and Landmarks Review – Research Team Report May 13, 2021

Process

In [November 2020](#), the Buildings and Landmarks Committee made four recommendations to the campus administration. They were:

1. Recommended action on immediate findings from research committee. The Research Team researched and reviewed 23 buildings and identified no major concerns at this time. One landmark was reviewed, the Abraham Lincoln statue in the Centennial Student Union, and was identified as a major concern. Change is recommended. Please see the Research Team report for more details.
2. Recommendation for university policy development. The advisory team recommends that the President and Provost consider the need for a campus policy and process that would guide potential challenges to the suitability of a building or landmark name. Colleges and Universities around the country have developed such policies and processes in the past decade. We further recommend that any new naming on campus be aligned with the principles above.
3. Representation of people of color and their accomplishments should be the top priority for the naming of any new buildings that are not philanthropically funded. The committee also recommends that acknowledgement of these individuals could be done through the naming of signature rooms/locations on campus (i.e., CSU Ballroom and Armstrong Lecture Halls) and/or statues, monuments, etc. This will help us acknowledge the individuals in a timelier fashion while not having to wait years before a new building is constructed.
4. Recommend that remaining named outdoor spaces and landmarks be reviewed.

Following presentations to Meet and Confers in February 2021, the Research Team of the Buildings and Landmarks Committee began implementing recommendation four, continue reviewing named spaces on campus.

The Research Team utilized the same research and review process as developed in fall 2020 and described in the [November 2020 report](#).

Review

The Research Team researched and reviewed 19 campus named spaces in the spring of 2021.

Below is a chart that very briefly documents what was reviewed, why individuals were recognized, and if the Research Team identified concerns. All compiled research material and meeting notes are available upon request.

Minor concerns – An action or statement was identified that does not reflect current University values but based on current information and the research questions posed it does not indicate that change is needed at this time. These are indicated with a footnote, so the minor concern is documented. No further action is recommended unless new information is identified.

Major concerns – An action(s) and/or statement(s) was identified that does not reflect current University values and the research questions posed indicate significant concerns. These are specifically addressed following the chart.

No named spaces reviewed as part of this report were identified as having major concerns.

Name of Building or Landmark	Individual(s) Researched	University Affiliation	Reason for Recognition	Concerns
(Bill) Bresnan Arena	Bill Bresnan	Friend of university	Donor	None at this time.
(Dean) Bowyer Field	Dean Bowyer	Faculty; Coach	Outstanding years of service	None at this time.
Charles Cooper Conference Room	Charles Cooper	President	Outstanding years of service; lower campus building named after him	None at this time.
Effie R. Conkling Art Gallery	Effie R. Conkling	Faculty	Outstanding years of service	Minor concern at this time. ¹
Elias J. Halling Recital Hall	Elias J. Halling	Faculty; Administrator	Outstanding years of service	None at this time.
Elizabeth & Wynn Kearney International Center	Elizabeth Kearney Wynn Kearney	Friend of university	Donor; Volunteerism/support of international students	None at this time.
James R Lloyd Sports Information Center	James R. Lloyd	Alumni	Unclear	None at this time.
Jane Rush Gathering Place	Jane Rush	Wife of University President	Service to university	None at this time.
(Jean) McCarthy Way	Jean McCarthy	Faculty; Coach	Outstanding years of service	None at this time.
Jim Chalgren Center (LGBT Center)	Jim Chalgren	Alumni; Staff	Founder of LGBT Center	None at this time.
Marie Bruce Student Activities Center	Marie Bruce	Administrator	Outstanding years of service	None at this time.

¹ Effie Conkling helped organize the Colonial Ball at least once in the 1930s. At that event some students wore blackface as “negros.” The depth of her involvement is unclear.

Name of Building or Landmark	Individual(s) Researched	University Affiliation	Reason for Recognition	Concerns
Marso-Schmitz Plaza	Mary Marso-Schmitz	Alumni; MSU Foundation Board President	Donor	None at this time.
Nichols Conference Room	Marvin Nichols	Faculty	Service to university; lower campus building named after him; died as result of accident in Chemistry lab	None at this time.
Ostrander Auditorium	Lloyd Ostrander	Alumni	Unclear	None at this time.
Ostrander-Student Memorial Bell Tower	Lloyd Ostrander	Alumni	Donor	None at this time.
Ruth Schellberg Gym	Ruth Schellberg	Faculty	Outstanding years of service	None at this time.
Shurson Garden	Judy Shurson	Staff	Service to university; revitalization of courtyard/garden	None at this time.
Ted Paul Theatre	Ted Paul	Faculty	Outstanding years of service	None at this time.
Viola Holbrook Exercise Physiology Center	Viola Holbrook	Faculty	Outstanding years of service	None at this time.

Research Team - Buildings and Landmarks Committee – Spring 2021

Daardi Mixon, University Archivist
 Qendresa Isniqui, Archives Graduate Assistant
 Adam Smith, Archives Technician
 Rhonda Dass, Professor of American Indigenous Studies
 Chad McCutchen, Assistant Professor of History
 Christopher Corley, Interim Dean of Library and Learning
 H. Matthew Loayza, Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences