



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

Item: VI. b.c

Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2024

**SUBJECT: APPROVE NAMING OF UNIVERSITY ELEMENTS**

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**PROPOSED Board ACTION**

Approval of naming the Ocean Sciences and Conservation Lab within the AD Henderson University School/FAU High School Complex the “Wahoo Bay Ocean Sciences and Conservation Lab”.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATON**

**Donation:**

Shipwreck Park, Inc. dba Wahoo Bay Park is donating \$100,000 to name the Ocean Sciences and Conservation Lab within the AD Henderson University School/FAU High School Complex, the “Wahoo Bay Ocean Sciences and Conservation Lab”.

**Gift Purpose:**

The gift will support development of conservation and environmental K-12 education curriculum that can be shared with other schools and provide funding for research opportunities in these fields with the ultimate goal of producing student-led research publications. The gift will allow students opportunities to engage in off-campus partnerships at Wahoo Bay (Shipwreck Park) and other marine learning centers.

**Donor's Background:**

The Shipwreck Park, Inc. (dba Wahoo Bay) is a not-for-profit organization established in May 2015. The mission of Shipwreck Park, Inc. is to create an underwater park system that establishes artificial reefs, utilizing public art to raise awareness of the need to preserve and conserve the natural coral reef system.

The Board of Directors of Shipwreck Park, Inc. includes Thomas "Tommy" DiGiorgio, Robert Wyre, Ulrich Green, Jean McIntyre, Brian Donovan, Katherine Hendrickson, and Suzette Sibble. Katherine Hendrickson is a Research Coordinator at Florida Atlantic University on-site lab school, A.D Henderson University School, and FAU High School.

Robert "Rob" Wyre spent much of his professional career in the hotel and casino industry. He worked at various locations, including Foxwood Development Company and Harrah's Pompano. He attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, earning a Bachelor of Business Administration.

Mr. Wyre has had a passion for the ocean for many years. In the early 2010s, Mr. Wyre decided to take his interest in the ocean and channel it towards something purposeful. Together with co-founder Thomas DiGiorgio, they started, The Shipwreck Park, Inc.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Cost of signage and installation – TBD

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE**

Installation of signage: TBD

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**Presented by: David Green**

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