



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

Item: VI. c. v.

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024

**SUBJECT: APPROVE NAMING OF UNIVERSITY ELEMENTS**

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approve naming of the Hillel of Broward and Palm Beach (“Hillel”) space on the Boca Raton campus the Newman Bernstein Hillel at Florida Atlantic University.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Donation:**

Hillel launched a capital campaign to upgrade the Hillel space on the FAU campus into a modern state-of-the-art facility.

Hillel has requested that FAU approve a naming recognition opportunity to name the FAU Hillel space for its lead donor, Debbie Newman Bernstein, as a legacy to Ms. Bernstein’s generosity and commitment to Hillel at FAU. As provided in the Agreement between FAU Foundation and Hillel, this naming recognition must be approved by FAU.

Hillel will make a grant to FAU Foundation for the full final construction cost of the facility updates (the current estimate is approximately \$2.6 million).

**Purpose:**

The Newman Bernstein Complex will serve students, alumni, and the community. The grant will support the construction and renovation of the Hillel space on the Boca Raton campus. Plans include expanding and upgrading the current space, including a new secured main entrance and an outdoor covered seating area on the north side.

**Donor's Background:**

**Hillel of Broward and Palm Beach, Inc.**

Hillel of Broward and Palm Beach, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that was established in 2004.

According to their website, Hillel of Broward and Palm Beach is “the focal point for Jewish life at Florida Atlantic University, Lynn University, Nova Southeastern University, Broward College, and Palm Beach State College.” Hillel of Broward and Palm Beach, Inc. is an affiliation of Hillel International.

Established in 1923, Hillel International is a nonprofit organization based on college campuses in the United States, and outside of the United States they are affiliated with cities rather than with colleges or universities. In addition to the United States, Hillel International supports Jewish student in Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, France, Georgia, Germany, Israel, Moldova, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, and Uruguay.

**Debra “Debbie” Newman Bernstein**

Debra “Debbie” Newman Bernstein is President and Director for The William and Anita Newman Foundation, a family foundation established by William Newman in 1985. Previously, she had served as Assistant to the Vice President for Financial Reporting for New Plan Excel Realty Trust, Inc. In 2010, Ms. Bernstein became a director for The William and Anita Newman Foundation. She became President after her father’s death in 2019. The other directors are Melvin D. “Mel” Newman and Bruce A. Rosen, CPA. The foundation primarily supports Judaic organizations in Florida and New York.

Ms. Bernstein has three adult children, Samantha L. Bernstein Itzkovitz, Matthew A. Bernstein, and Lauren E. Bernstein.

Ms. Bernstein resides in White Plains, New York and has a seasonal residence in Boca Raton.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Cost of signage and installation – TBD

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE**

Implementation date is to be determined.

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**Presented by: David Green**

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