


BOARD APPROVED
APRIL 12, 2019
JANICE INDRUTZ
CORPORATE SECRETARY

To: Board of Trustees

From: Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., President 

Re: Request to Name the *Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building*

Date: March 18, 2019

I am pleased to support the attached request from Amy Noah to approve the naming of the *Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building*. This request is an appropriate recognition of the remarkable generosity of Dr. Nils K. Nelson as outlined in the attached memos.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Cc: Steven Schultz



TO: Jay Akridge, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity
Bill Sullivan, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Amy Noah, Vice President for Development

DATE: March 13, 2019

RE: Request approval to name the *Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building*

The attached memo, from Chancellor Thomas L. Keon, details a request to officially name the *Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building*.

The *Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building* is an approximately 68,000 square foot new facility is being constructed on the PNW Hammond Campus. This facility will contain research and teaching labs and offices for the College of Nursing and Department of Biological Sciences on the PNW Hammond Campus. The request honors the generosity of Dr. Nils K. Nelson's estate gift of approximately \$8M, of which \$1M will support the Bioscience Innovation facility construction project.

As a member of the Purdue Naming Committee, I recommend we move this naming opportunity forward to the president for Board approval. I respectfully request your endorsement to name the *Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building*, as this naming is an appropriate recognition of Dr. Nils K. Nelson's dedication as a long time faculty member and his generosity to support PNW.

PURDUE NAMING COMMITTEE APPROVAL:




Amy Noah

Vice President for Development

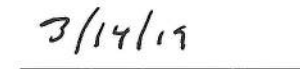


Date



Jay Akridge

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity

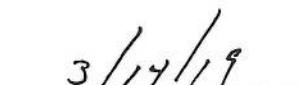


Date



William E. Sullivan

Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer



Date



PURDUE UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST

TO: Amy Noah
CC: Stephen Turner
FROM: Thomas L. Keon, Chancellor
DATE:
SUBJECT: Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building

Chancellor Thomas L. Keon, with the support of the Dr. Nils K. Nelson family, requests approval to name the Bioscience Innovation Building being constructed on the Purdue University Northwest Hammond campus, the Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building.

This request honors the generosity of the late Dr. Nils K. Nelson, who left a substantial estate gift to Purdue University Northwest ("PNW"). A total amount of **\$6,700,000.00** has already been received and the total distribution will be approximately **\$8,000,000.00**. **\$4,000,000.00** of the amount has been used to establish the Dr. Nils K. Nelson Memorial Scholarship. An **additional \$1,700,000.00 to \$3,000,000.00** is being utilized to create professorships in the College of Engineering and Sciences. After discussions with the family of Dr. Nelson, I am directing that the remaining **\$1,000,000.00** be used to support the new Bioscience Innovation Building.

Dr. Nils K. Nelson was a faculty member in the Division of Chemistry and Physics from 1962 to 1991. Dr. Nelson was appointed to the Purdue University Calumet faculty as an Assistant Professor in 1962 and promoted to Associate Professor in 1966. Professor Nelson was a native of St. Francois County, Missouri. After high school in Farmington Missouri, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla in 1946. He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana in 1947 and 1949.

Before coming to Purdue Northwest, Dr. Nelson was an instructor at the University of Maine at Orono for two years and a Research Chemist with the Shell Oil Company in Wood River, Illinois for eleven years. At Purdue Northwest, Dr. Nelson's first interest was teaching Organic Chemistry to students majoring in Chemistry, Biology, Pre-Med and related fields.

In 1967, Dr. Nelson taught a National Science Foundation course in Organic Chemistry for High School Chemistry teachers at Purdue West Lafayette. That same year, Dr. Nelson was nominated by the faculty for a special award as an Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher at the Calumet campus. In 1970, Dr. Nelson spent a one-year Sabbatical Leave at Cambridge University in England studying new developments in Organic Chemistry. He participated in lectures and seminars directed by Sir Alexander R. Todd, renowned British scientist who won the 1957 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. While at Cambridge, Dr. Nelson was designated as a Visiting Scholar at Darwin College.

The Bioscience Innovation Building is a 68,000 square foot facility being constructed on the PNW Hammond Campus. The \$40,000,000.00 structure broke ground on August 23, 2018. After an appropriation of \$35,000,000.00 in state funds, the private fundraising goal for the building is \$5,000,000.00. The gift from Dr. Nelson's estate represents (20%) of the fundraising goal.

According to Dr. Nelson's relatives, he was a humble, unassuming man who enjoyed teaching and inspiring his students. I believe naming the bioscience innovation building is an appropriate recognition of Dr. Nelson's generosity and his distinguished career in the Division of Chemistry and Physics and request your approval, and that of the Trustees of Purdue University, to name the structure the Nils K. Nelson Biosciences Building.