UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
NAMING POLICY

This Policy applies to all naming by the University of Pennsylvania and its operating divisions and subsidiaries (the “University” or “Penn”) for recognition purposes, whether occurring before or after the effective date of this Policy.

This Policy specifically applies to the naming of all types of spaces, such as (but not exclusive to) buildings, facilities, halls, classrooms, other parts of buildings or facilities, roads, paths, common areas, courtyards, plazas and other physical structures or spaces, and also applies to all other naming, such as (but not exclusive to) academic units, colleges, schools, departments, centers, institutes, professorships, scholarships, fellowships, funds, honoraria, honorary degrees, deanships, funding structures, groups, programs, symposia, seminars, classes, honors or positions.

GENERAL:

It is the policy of the University to confer names as described above in honor of donors, educators, scholars, leaders, and others who have made substantial contributions to the University or its mission. Each such name shall be referred to in this Policy as a “Penn Name.”

GUIDELINES:

The following guidelines shall apply to all Penn Names:

With respect to any proposed Penn Name, the appropriateness of the name in a public context should always be taken into consideration, recognizing that every Penn Name is conferred by the University subject to its continuing obligation to protect the University’s traditions, mission and values.

Any proposed Penn Name that involves a pledge or payment by a donor of over $25,000 or involves the naming of any building or space (“Donor Naming Opportunities”) shall be set forth in a gift agreement that conforms to University standards. In the case of a proposed Penn Name for any building or space, the gift agreement shall provide that the name will be retained until the funded building or space requires significant renovation or replacement, at which time the University retains the discretion to rename any such building or space, while continuing to recognize the original gift in an appropriate way.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:

The University’s policy is that a Penn Name may be changed or removed on the request of the original donor and with University approval. Similar requests by a donor’s family or other party asserting an interest in such change or removal will generally not be permitted.

The President of the University (“President”) shall have the authority to remove any Penn Name not conferred in connection with a gift.
In addition, the President shall have the authority to remove any Penn Name if there has been a material breach of the terms of any gift agreement establishing a Penn Name, or if the President determines that continued name association between the University and the individual (or entity) holding a Penn Name compromises the public trust or is detrimental to the traditions, mission or values of the University.

In connection with any such determination, the President shall consult with any of the most senior officer of Penn overseeing Development and Alumni Relations, General Counsel, Provost, or the Board of Trustees or any of its Committees, as the President shall determine in the President’s sole discretion.

Effective May 15, 2019; Revised February 7, 2020; Revised September 16, 2020.