

Faculty Senate Resolution on a Name Change for UHD February 3, 2009

Whereas the campaign to change the name of University of Houston-Downtown:

- has failed to generate unequivocal support in either UHD or the UH System Board of Regents
- has pursued a deeply flawed and invalid process of determining degree of support from UHD students, alumni, faculty and has not yet offered adequate rationale for the change
- has not allowed sufficient time to determine relative viability of potential names
- commits UHD to financial obligations that the institution can ill afford in a declining economy

Therefore, be it resolved that:

- the Board of Regents not carry forward to the legislature any name change proposal during the current legislative session to allow sufficient time for UHD stakeholders to engage in an intellectually legitimate and transparent process for both ascertaining how much support exists for a name-change proposal and assessing the effectiveness of potential names
- if the Board of Regents does propose name-change legislation in the current session, it commits to indemnify UHD for any monetary costs attendant on the name-change process
- the UHD Faculty Senate urges the Texas Legislature to reject any name-change proposal presented to it on the grounds that such proposals are certainly not in the best interests of UHD at this time and will likely harm UHD without materially aiding UH
- UHD leaders actively solicit another state university system to absorb UHD so that we can retain as part of our name the only geographical designation (Houston) that is at all meaningful