

**The Florida Senate**  
**PROFESSIONAL STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: Higher Education Committee

BILL: CS/SB 1160

INTRODUCER: Higher Education Committee and Senator Dockery

SUBJECT: University Building Designations

DATE: March 23, 2007

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Harkey	Matthews	HE	Fav/CS
2.			GO	
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

**I. Summary:**

This bill authorizes the naming of four facilities at the University of Florida: the “Bispham Turfgrass Support Building,” the “Mark Bostick Golf Course,” the “L. Gale Lemerand Football Support Facility,” and the “Katie Seashole Pressly Stadium.”

The bill authorizes the naming of three facilities at the University of South Florida Tampa Campus: the “Frank and Carol Morsani Center for Advanced Health Care,” the “Glenn Burdick College of Engineering Building,” and the “Alfred and Rose Schiff Dean’s Conference Room.”

The bill authorizes the naming of four facilities at the University of Central Florida: the “Nicholson School of Communication,” the “Anthony and Sonja Nicholson Field House,” the “James and Annie Ying Academic Center,” and the “Burnett Biomedical Sciences Building.”

The bill authorizes the University of Florida, University of South Florida, and the University of Central Florida to erect suitable markers making the respective facility designations.

The bill creates 11 undesignated sections of Florida law. The Division of Statutory Revision will determine whether they are included in the Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

Section 267.062, F.S., requires approval in law before naming a state building or other facility for a living person. Thus, if a university wishes to name a building or facility after a living person, the designation must be approved by the Legislature.

**Paul J. “Jack” Bispham**

Jack Bispham’s family settled in Sarasota in the 1920s, when they traveled from Longboat Key with their cattle “herd”—two cows. Over time they expanded their operation into the Bayside Dairy Farm, and eventually bought land and a house where they raised their five children. The house—now on the National Register as an historic site—no longer belongs to the family, but Mr. Bispham retains 400 acres of the original farm land. The land is home to his current business, Bayside Sod, Inc.

Jack Bispham graduated from University of Florida in 1976 with a B.S.A. in Dairy Science. He transitioned from the dairy industry to the turfgrass and nursery industry in 1988. Mr. Bispham is also in partnership with his brother, Cy Bispham, Jr., in Stockyard Feed and Western Wear in Sarasota. He currently is a director of the Specialty Sod Growers Association and a member of the Florida Turfgrass Association. He is former Chairman, and continues to be a member of, the Citizen’s Advisory Committee of the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program.

Jack Bispham and former wife Nancy have five children: Paul; Shauna; Jacky-Lynn, who received her B.H.S. in Health Science and is currently a nursing student at UF; Stacey, who has a B.H.S. in Health Science; and Tiffany, who holds a B.S.A. in Horticultural Science. Jack Bispham married Elizabeth “Libby” Tyner in 2005.

**R. Mark Bostick**

R. Mark Bostick received a BA in Economics from the University of the South in 1976, and an MBA from Tulane in 1977. He is President of ComCar Industries, a private, family-owned business started by his father in 1953. Now one of the 15th largest trucking groups in the United States, Comcar Industries has five trucking firms situated across the nation.

Mark Bostick and his former wife Lucie Bostick have three children: Lucie Bostick Dryfuss who received her B.A. in Management from University of Florida in 2001; Barrett Bostick who received his B.A. in Business Administration in 2003; and Betsy Bostick. Mark Bostick, his current wife, Patti, and his father, Guy, are avid University of Florida fans.

Mark Bostick is currently chairman of the board of trustees for Winter Haven Hospital, Inc. He is a member of the Florida Council of 100 and was a founding owner of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays baseball team. Mr. Bostick has also served on boards for the University of Florida Shands Cancer Center, Mid-Florida Medical Services, Florida Power, and Nationsbank. He and wife Patti contribute time and financial support to such institutions as All Saints Academy, Elon University, and The Ritz Theatre of Winter Haven.

**L. Gale Lemerand**

Through his philanthropy, L. Gale Lemerand has provided support, not only to the University of Florida, but also to other educational institutions and civic organizations across the state. A native of Michigan, Mr. Lemerand grew up in a working class family. After serving in the Korean War, he began a career at Williams Insulation in Chicago in 1968. At the age of 40, he bought out his partner and renamed the business Gale Industries. Initially, the company operated out of a barn in Itasca, Illinois, but under his guidance, it moved to Daytona Beach in 1979. By 1990, Gale Lemerand had shaped the corporation into the largest insulation contractor in the

nation with more than 100 locations in 23 states. He eventually sold Gale Industries to the Masco Corporation in 1995, but stayed on as CEO and president until 2000.

In 1997, Mr. Lemerand donated resources to renovate the football coaches' offices, the first in a long line of gifts he would share with the University of Florida. The Lemerand Athletic Center is a 46,000 square-foot facility that opened in 1995 and houses multiple Florida athletic teams. The building possesses three full-sized volleyball courts and has equipment, training and locker room areas for Florida's baseball, volleyball, soccer, track and field and softball teams. The staffs of each sport have offices in the facility, and the sports medicine department is in a state-of-the-art area providing medical attention to athletes. Mr. Lemerand subsequently provided a generous donation to aid the construction of Florida's basketball complex. The 47,505 square-foot building houses both the men and women's basketball teams.

Gale Lemerand actively serves on numerous local community boards including those of Sun Trust Bank, WCEU Channel 15, Ormond Beach Memorial Hospital, and his alma mater in Michigan, Escanaba High School. He also supports local groups and charities such as the Boy Scouts of America, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, March of Dimes, and the United Way.

### **Kathryn Pressly**

Kathryn Pressly is a partner in Pressly Designs and was formerly an oncological therapist for Drs. Harris, McKeen & Rothschild. She has been a resident of Palm Beach for 33 years. She was past president of Palm Beach Tennis Association, and past vice president of Palm Beach County Junior Golf Association. She served as a board member of both Palm Beach Follies and Palm Beach Recreational Center. She is a Guild member and Eucharistic minister at St. Edward's Catholic Church. She earned a B.A. from the University of Florida in 1969, and is involved in Gator Boosters with the University of Florida Athletic Department. She has also served on the UF Foundation Board of Directors. In 1989, she graduated from Nova University with an M.S. in psychology.

Her husband, Jamie, is president of the law firm Pressly & Pressly, P.A. He is president-elect for the Gator Boosters. The couple has numerous ties to UF, including grandparents, parents, siblings, in-laws and their children: Page, who has a B.A. in Interior Design and an M.ED. in Mental Health Counseling; Grier, who holds a B.A. in History and a J.D.; and Barbara, who received her B.S.R. in Recreation.

### **Frank and Carol Morsani**

Frank Morsani is a native of Michigan and a graduate of Oklahoma State University. His wife Carol is a native of Oklahoma. They have lived in the Tampa area since 1970. Frank and Carol Morsani's significant philanthropy to the University of South Florida includes a gift to the center for Advanced Healthcare as well as a lecture series, scholarships, and support for research.

Frank Morsani is chairman of Automotive Investment, Inc., and is a trustee of the Frank and Carol Morsani Foundation, Inc. He served as chairman of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, bringing cultural and artistic events to the area. He has served on the University of South Florida Foundation Board of Trustees since 1995 and is past vice chairman of the board.

Carol D. Morsani is director of the Frank and Carol Morsani Foundation which supports education, the arts, and health care programs in the community. She was named the Cultural Contributor of the year in 2002 by the Tampa Chamber of Commerce.

**Glenn Burdick**

Dr. Glenn Burdick served as the second dean of the University of South Florida College of Engineering, from 1979 until 1986. Dr. Burdick was the driving force in the construction of Engineering Building II, a modern structure designed to provide state-of-the-art facilities for both computing and semiconductor research. Seeing the wave of the future, Dr. Burdick put the University of South Florida at the forefront of the computer age making the college of Engineering one of the first in the state to provide students access to mainframe computers via home computers.

Dr. Burdick stays in touch with the college and attends college functions several times each year. Together with his wife Joyce, Dr. Burdick established and funds the Burdick Endowed Scholarship, as an award offered to graduating seniors who are considering pursuing a master's degree at the College of Engineering.

**Alfred and Rose Schiff**

Alfred N. "Al" Schiff is chair of the University of South Florida College of Engineering Advisory Board. Under his leadership, board members were instrumental in supporting the construction of engineering Building III, the renovation of the Kopp Engineering Building, and the development of Nanotech I. Al Schiff and his wife Rose are generous supports of the University of South Florida. A conference room in Engineering Building III is named for them.

Al Schiff is a member of the University of South Florida Foundation Board. He is also a board member and past chairman of the Tampa Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI). Under his leadership, MOSI went through a \$38 million expansion that advanced it from a small regional science center into the large science center it is today. Al Schiff was honored as the fifth recipient of the College of Engineering Distinguished Service Award.

**Anthony and Sonja Nicholson**

Anthony J. Nicholson, a native of Illinois, has been a resident of Central Florida since 1968. He is the owner and president of Nicholson Homes. His community involvement includes support of Florida Hospital, the Coalition for the Homeless, and Central Florida Children's Hospital. He has been a supporter of the School of Communications at the University for many years.

The 1997 Legislature designated the School of Communications at the University of Central Florida as the "Anthony J. Nichols School of Communications." Tony and Sonja Nichols support the Quotes Advertising and Public Relations Club, in which both he and Mrs. Nicholson are honorary members. The Quotes Club hosts annually the Knight Images Awards Show to showcase the talents of the students in the Nicholson School of Communication.

**James and Annie Ying**

The late James Ying and his wife Annie were born in China and migrated to the United States in 1955. James Ying founded the China Group which, among other endeavors, owns and operates several China pavilions throughout the world. He was active in supporting the Nixon

administration in normalizing US-China relations. Annie Ying founded the first Chinese Buddhist Temple on the east coast of the United States. James and Annie Ying are recognized and honored in the United States and China.

James and Annie Ying's son, Nelson Ying, is one of Orlando's most successful businessmen. His company owns and operates the Epcot China Pavilion at Walt Disney World Resort. Nelson Ying has been a longtime benefactor to many community organizations in Central Florida, including the Heart of Florida United Way. Over a period of two decades he has generously supported the athletic programs, scholarships, and academic facilities of the University of Central Florida, and he has provided leadership on several boards and advisory groups. The International Student Center at the university is named in honor of his deceased wife, Barbara Ying.

### **Al and Nancy Burnett**

Al Burnett was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and graduated from Drexel University. He moved to Orlando in the 1960s and purchased a struggling Mercedes-Benz dealership. He developed that dealership as Mercedes became a popular car, and eventually owned 16 car dealerships in Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Florida.

Al Burnett and his wife Nancy live in Winter Park. They have supported the University of Central Florida through the gift of an eminent scholar chair in accounting, support for the Honors College for the school's highest achieving students, and support for the building of the presidential residence, called the Burnett House. Al and Nancy Burnett announced last year that they will donate \$10 million over four years to build a new biomedical college at the university.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill designates the Bispham Turfgrass Hall at the University of Florida as the "Bispham Turfgrass Support Building"; the golf course at the University of Florida as the "Mark Bostick Golf Course"; the support building on the football practice fields at the University of Florida as the "L. Gale Lemerand Football Support Facility"; and the softball stadium at the University of Florida as the "Katie Seashole Pressly Stadium."

The bill designates the complex being constructed at Magnolia and Holly Drive on the University of South Florida Tampa Campus as the "Frank and Carol Morsani Center for Advanced Health Care"; the College of Engineering Building II on the University of South Florida Tampa Campus as the "Glenn Burdick College of Engineering Building"; and the Dean's Conference Room in the College of Engineering Building II on the University of South Florida Tampa Campus as the "Alfred and Rose Schiff Dean's Conference Room."

The bill designates the Communications Building at the University of Central Florida as the "Nicholson School of Communication"; the athletic indoor practice facility at the University of Central Florida as the "Anthony and Sonja Nicholson Field House"; the building that houses the University of Central Florida Downtown Center at the University of Central Florida as the "James and Annie Ying Academic Center"; and the Biomedical Sciences Building at the University of Central Florida health sciences campus at Lake Nona as the "Burnett Biomedical Sciences Building."

The bill authorizes the University of Florida, the University of South Florida, and the University of Central Florida to erect suitable markers making the respective facility designations.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2007.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The cost of implementing the bill includes installing signage at each facility, road or field designating the name. The signage could stand alone or could consist of letters placed directly on the facility. The costs depend on the size, type and the materials used to construct the markers or signs. According to the Board of Governors of the State University System, the price can vary from \$500 to \$1,500 per facility, depending on how many markers are erected, the materials used, and the style. According to the board, these signs or markers can be funded from either operating or fixed capital outlay funds.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

## **VIII. Summary of Amendments:**

None.

---

This Senate Professional Staff Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

---