

February 22, 2023

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Gladstein Family Human Rights Institute

RECOMMENDATION:

That in honor of Gary Gladstein and his family's legacy of philanthropic and volunteer service to the human rights programs, the Board of Trustees authorize the naming of the Human Rights Institute, in the Office of Global Affairs, the "Gladstein Family Human Rights Institute."

BACKGROUND:

The Human Rights Institute (HRI) operates within the Office of Global Affairs. The Institute's mission is to advance human rights knowledge and practice through research, teaching, and engagement. As a university-wide program under the Office of Global Affairs, HRI supports interdisciplinary inquiry into the most pressing human rights questions and prepares the next generation of human rights advocates across a range of fields.

Over the past twenty years, Mr. Gary Gladstein and his family have generously supported the Human Rights Institute through personal philanthropy and multiple volunteer positions. Through their philanthropy, the Gladsteins have provided generous unrestricted support and established key endowment funds including the Judi and Gary Gladstein Distinguished Chair in Human Rights, the Gary and Phyllis Gladstein Fund for the Human Rights Institute, and the Marsha Lilien Gladstein Visiting Professor in Human Rights. Most recently, the Gladsteins generously contributed to the creation of the Wiktor Osiatyński Chair in Human Rights. The Gladsteins have also encouraged others in the UConn community to make human rights programs part of their philanthropy by supporting two dollar-to-dollar matches, the most recent of which was completed in December 2022.

In addition to his philanthropy, Mr. Gladstein has served in many volunteer roles with the Foundation and the University. He is a Director *emeritus* of the Foundation, having served from 1998 to 2008. During his tenure on the Foundation Board, he was a member of the Investment Committee and Chair of the Audit Committee. Mr. Gladstein is also a Life Member of the Alumni Association and a former member of the UConn Foundation Campaign Steering Committee, the CLAS Advisory Board (2011 to 2014), the Governing Board of UConn Hillel, and the UConn Technology Transfer Board. This past December, Mr. Gladstein, and his daughter, Mindy Grafstein, became founding members of the Dodd Advisory Board, which provides advisory support for Dodd Human Rights Impact Programs.

Through Mr. Gladstein and his family's legacy, the Human Rights Institute has established one of the largest and most vibrant interdisciplinary human rights studies programs in the country. The Institute is among the top programs in the country in terms of the number of students enrolled in its Human Rights major. HRI has also launched a Master's in Human Rights Program and is preparing to offer a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Holocaust and Genocide Studies in collaboration with Judaic Studies and the Neag School of Education. The Institute has hired new faculty and staff, adding four new faculty members in recent years (two jointly appointed with the School of Fine Arts) and two additional administrative support staff members. The Institute is in an active search for the new Wiktor Osiatyński Chair in Human Rights, which will rotate among UConn faculty who are distinguished teachers and scholars in human rights education. The Institute is also conducting a search for an endowed Christopher J. Dodd Chair in Human Rights Practice, who will direct Dodd Impact programs. The Human Rights Institute is poised to solidify its prominence through expanded programs, including a Human Rights Research and Data Hub, a faculty research cluster in Arts and Human Rights, and other new public engagement and outreach programs through Dodd Human Rights Impact.

The Gladsteins' contributions have enabled the Institute to grow substantively, yielding one of the finest programs in the world through their transformational support. The proposed naming recognizes Mr. Gladstein and his family's legacy of philanthropy and volunteer service to the University in support of human rights programs and is consistent with the amount recommended under the University's *Named Gift Guidelines* to name this institute.

The Institutional Advancement Committee approved this recommendation on February 7, 2023.