

REMOVAL OF CÉSAR CHÁVEZ NAME FROM CULTURAL AND RESOURCE CENTER

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees remove the name of César Chávez from the cultural and resource center which currently bears his name. The center celebrates Latine culture while welcoming all students into a community of belonging and is located in the on-campus facility known as the Patton House.

BACKGROUND

In June 1995, acting on a recommendation from members of the campus community, the Board of Trustees approved the naming of what was then known as the Hispanic Cultural Center as the César Chávez Cultural Center. The name was selected by students in recognition of civil rights activist César Chávez.

In March 2026, allegations relating to Mr. Chávez’s legacy received public attention and prompted concerns within the campus community regarding the continued use of his name on the cultural center. Following the emergence of those allegations, students and other members of the campus community requested that the University consider removing the name from the center.

In response, a campus task force was convened to gather input and provide recommendations regarding the future name of the cultural center. The task force included students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community representatives and solicited campus feedback through surveys, focus groups, and other engagement efforts.

Following its review, the task force recommended that the name César Chávez be removed from the center and that the cultural center be known going forward as La Casita Cultural Center.

Because the name César Chávez Cultural Center was adopted by the Board of Trustees, formal Board action is required to remove the name. Because the proposed new name is not in honor or recognition of a specific individual, no further Board action regarding naming is required.



Responsible Staff

2026-05-27

Date

President

Date

Board Action

Date