

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™

SRSU Policy: Facilities Named in Honor of...

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Sul Ross State University has honored persons who have made significant contributions to the University by naming facilities in their honor. Persons so honored include two former Governors, five former Presidents of the University, six former faculty members, seven friends and supporters of the University and two alumni of Sul Ross State University.

- A. Lawrence Hall was constructed by the Public Works Administration in 1938 as a dormitory for women. It was named for Texas Governor Lawrence Sullivan Ross for whom the University was named. In 1996 a major renovation was completed and Lawrence Hall was converted for use as an academic facility, housing the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences.
- B. Marquis Hall (originally Marquis Annex) was named for Robert Marquis, the second President of Sul Ross, who served the University from 1920-1923. The residence hall was removed from service in 2004 and razed to make room for the construction of new student housing.
- C. Another residence hall named for a former president of Sul Ross is Thomas J. Fletcher Hall. This building was originally designated as Morelock Hall but was renamed in 1988 to continue the use of the name Fletcher. Thomas J. Fletcher was the President of Sul Ross State University from 1917-1920. The building serves as a residence hall.
- D. The Horace W. Morelock Academic Building was originally the Library Building and was designed by the renowned architects Trost & Trost of El Paso. It was the third academic building on the Alpine campus and was completed in 1930. After a major remodeling in 1971, it was named the Education/Liberal Arts Building. In 1988 the building was named for Horace W. Morelock, the third president of Sul Ross who served from 1923-1945.
- E. The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library was built in 1969 and was named for Bryan Wildenthal, fifth President of Sul Ross who served from 1952 until his death in 1965. It was renovated and expanded with the addition of a third story with construction completed in 2000. The building was rededicated January 26, 2012.
- F. One of several buildings named for former faculty members is Smith Hall, named for Victor J. Smith, who supervised the construction of the Administration Building and the President's Home, organized the Industrial Technology program, and designed many buildings on campus. He was a member of the original faculty and retired in 1951. Smith Hall was removed from service in 2004 and razed to make room for the construction of new student housing.

- G. Another building named for a former faculty member is Ferguson Hall, named for Annie Kate Ferguson, a member of the faculty from 1929 to 1947. Miss Ferguson was head of the Drama Department, founder of Sachems Literary Society, and the Mask and Slipper Club. The original building was occupied in 1951 with an addition added in 1960. It served as a residence hall until its most recent renovation, completed in 2001
- H. Two former coaches were honored with the naming of the Graves-Pierce Complex (originally named the Graves-Pierce Health and Physical Education Building in 1978). B. C. Graves was the first athletic director and football coach of Sul Ross, serving from 1923 to 1939, and again in 1958. Paul Pierce coached at Sul Ross from 1946 to 1952 and returned as Chairman of the Health and Physical Education Department in 1968. He retired in 1977 after coaching football in 1976 and 1977. In 2002 the newly renovated building opened as the Graves-Pierce Recreational Sports Center.
- I. In 1979, the Science Building was named for Barton H. Warnock, member of the Biology Department faculty from 1946 to 1979, Chairman of the Department and Director of the Division of Science for many years. The building was dedicated in May 1960 in conjunction with a meeting on the Sul Ross campus of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Within the Warnock Science Building, there are three collections named for former faculty members. The A. Michael Powell Herbarium was named in honor of Dr. Powell, a faculty member from 1963-2003, who was designated as a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biology. The Herbarium name was changed on August 21, 2003. The James F. Scudday Vertebrate Collection was named for Dr. Scudday on August 13, 1998. Dr. Scudday, a 1959 graduate of Sul Ross, who was a member of the Biology faculty from 1962-1995, was designated as a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biology upon his retirement in 1995. The Jim V. Richerson Invertebrate Collection was so named to honor Dr. Richerson on April 3, 2001. Dr. Richerson, who was a faculty member from 1979-1999, was named a Professor Emeritus of Biology following his death in 1999. The most recent renovation was completed in 2003.
- J. The Range Animal Science Center was named for Everett E. Turner in 1979. Dr. Turner was a member of the department from 1946 to 1977 and served as the chair of the Range Animal Science Department for many years. Construction on the building began in June 1973. It was completed in August 1974. The most recent renovation on the facility began in 2002 and was completed in 2003.
- K. One of the University facilities to bear names of friends and supporters of the University is Jackson Field, named for Alpine businessman, rancher, and civic leader, J. D. Jackson. Jackson was instrumental in getting Sul Ross established in Alpine and in securing support during the early years. He also served as a member of the Board of Regents. The first grandstand was built by faculty, students and Boy Scouts in 1922. Numerous improvements have been made over the years.
- L. The other facility to bear the name of friends of the University is Kokernot Lodge, named for the family of John W. Kokernot, Jr. and Lee Glenn (Bebe) Kokernot, an Alpine ranching family who in 1929 donated 35 acres of land to the University for recreational purposes. The property includes historic Kokernot Springs, earlier known as Burgess Springs. A lodge used for special events and an outdoor theatre used for the Summer Theatre of the Big Bend have been constructed on the land.

- M. In 1987, the Administration Building was renamed the Dolph Briscoe, Jr. Administration Building. Governor Briscoe served two terms as Governor of Texas during 1973-1979. The building, completed in 1920, was the first permanent structure constructed on the Sul Ross campus. It was originally known as the Main Building.
- N. The Sul Ross State University Lecture series was renamed in 1985 to honor Mary Thomas Marshall, a good friend of the University. On February 21, 1992, the Board of Regents, Texas State University System, approved renaming the Main Auditorium of Sul Ross State University, located in the Horace W. Morelock Academic Building, to the Marshall Auditorium in recognition of Mrs. Marshall's numerous contributions to the University.
- O. Constructed in 1950 and last renovated in 1980, the Fine Arts Building was named in 1999 in honor of long-term benefactors James W. and Margaret A. Francois.
- P. The Becky Ramos Espino Conference Center, within the Morgan University Center, was named on February 8, 2001, in honor of Becky Ramos Espino, B.S. 1974, M.B.A. 1984, the first Sul Ross State University graduate to serve on the Board of Regents of the Texas State University System (1991-1997) and as Chair of the Board (1996-1997).
- Q. The Pete P. Gallego Center is an 81,000 square foot multi-purpose special events facility named for Texas state representative and 1982 Sul Ross graduate, Pete P. Gallego in recognition of his work in the Texas Legislature on behalf of Sul Ross State University. It houses the offices of the Department of Physical Education and the Athletic Department.
- R. Originally constructed in the late 1930s, the Big Bend Memorial Museum served first to house and museum and later as the Student Union Building. In 2002, Emmett and Miriam McCoy donated to SRSU its largest private contribution commitment which launched a fund-raising campaign to renovate and restore the native rock building to once again serve as the home of the Museum of the Big Bend. In honor of these benefactors, the renovated facility is named the Miriam and Emmett McCoy Building.
- S. The Vic and Mary Jane Morgan University Center was named in honor of the Tenth President of Sul Ross State University, R. Vic Morgan and his wife Mary Jane. Built on the site of the original Student Union Building, the University Center opened in January 2000. It houses the University Post Office, the Bookstore, Dining Services, Student Life and other offices and the Becky Ramos Espino Conference Center. It was the first major construction at Sul Ross during the tenure of President Vic Morgan. The Board of Regents of the Texas State University System named the building for the Morgans on June 5, 2009.