

Board Meeting  
March 16, 2016

NAME THE OLGA M. JONASSON, M.D., CLASSROOM, LIBRARY OF THE  
HEALTH SCIENCES, CHICAGO

**Action:** Name the Olga M. Jonasson, M.D., Classroom, Library of the Health Sciences

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois recommends the naming of the large classroom on the first floor of the Library of the Health Sciences, 1750 West Polk Street, in recognition of the late Olga M. Jonasson, M.D. Dr. Jonasson's bequest created an endowed fund supporting the Library of the Health Sciences. Dr. Jonasson also bequeathed her home at 1514 West Jackson Boulevard in Chicago, which is the current residence of the Chancellor at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Dr. Olga Jonasson was a transplant surgeon who earned her medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 1958 and completed her graduate medical education in surgery at the University of Illinois Hospital in 1964. Dr. Jonasson was a professor of surgery at the University of Illinois College of Medicine from 1975 until 1987. She subsequently served as the head of the Department of Surgery at The Ohio State University College of Medicine.

Dr. Jonasson developed one of the first clinical transplantation services in Illinois and set up a statewide histocompatibility-testing laboratory for donor-recipient matching. As a clinician and researcher, she was interested in immunological questions in organ transplantation, especially in kidney and pancreas transplants. In that field, she studied antirejection drugs that fool the body's immune system into accepting unfamiliar tissue and organs. Dr. Jonasson was also a respected educator of residents and surgeons in training.

It has been the shared desire of Dr. H. Constance Bonbrest, the executor and close friend of Dr. Jonasson; Mary Case, University Librarian and Dean of Libraries; and Kathryn H. Carpenter, Associate University Librarian for the Health Sciences and Associate Dean that the accumulation of the payout from the endowed fund, totaling \$274,000, be used to support the current renovation of the Library of the Health Sciences. Foremost, Dr. Olga Jonasson identified herself as an educator and Dr. Bonbrest believes that she would have been honored to have her generosity recognized with her name on the large classroom in this renovated space.

The Library of the Health Sciences is undergoing a significant transformation of a 30,000-square foot space on the first floor to provide an environment designed to meet the needs of students in the health science fields. The renovated space includes several valuable elements promoting learning and collaboration, which includes individual and group study spaces that meet different preferences with regard to privacy, comfort, sound, and learning tools. One component of the space is a large classroom that

can be divided into two smaller rooms. Library faculty will use this space to teach health science students important concepts in information literacy and evidence-based practice.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The President of the University concurs.