



**Council of Trustees Resolution
Pennsylvania Western University**

**RESOLUTION RENAMING THE THOMAS E. MORGAN LEARNING AND RESEARCH
CENTER (MORGAN HALL) THE THOMAS M. AND KAREN L. RUTLEDGE INSTITUTE FOR
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (RUTLEDGE HALL).**

The Council of Trustees of Pennsylvania Western University, upon recommendation of the president, hereby approve the resolution renaming the Thomas E. Morgan Learning and Research Center (Morgan Hall) the Thomas M. and Karen L. Rutledge Institute for Early Childhood Education (Rutledge Hall).*

As approved by action of the Council of Trustees during the quarterly meeting held on October 1, 2026.

WHEREAS, Thomas and Karen Rutledge are the largest lifetime donors to both the PennWest California campus and PennWest University, with \$16.7 million in contributions supporting scholarships, internships, operations, and early childhood education;

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Rutledges donated \$4.2 million to establish the Thomas M. and Karen L. Rutledge Institute for Early Childhood Education on the PennWest California campus;

WHEREAS, the Rutledge Institute operates through a collaboration between the university and The Village, providing preschool and prekindergarten education for children ages 3 to 5 and hands-on learning opportunities for PennWest students;

WHEREAS, in August 2023, the Rutledges made an additional five-year commitment of \$2.6 million to support the institute, its students, and the children and families it serves;

WHEREAS, the Rutledges committed an additional \$5.5 million to fund the full cost of renovations to Morgan Hall, building upon their support for renovations completed in 2018;

WHEREAS, the proposed renaming is in accordance with PennWest University's Naming of University Facilities and Program Centers Policy (Policy AD006) and recognizes the Rutledges' significant commitment to early childhood education, teacher preparation, and community service;

WHEREAS, Morgan Hall was dedicated Sept. 12, 1974, as the Thomas E. Morgan Learning and Research Center, and a commemorative display will preserve the history of the building and recognize its original namesake; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees of Pennsylvania Western University, upon recommendation of the president, approves renaming the Thomas E. Morgan Learning and Research Center (Morgan Hall) the Thomas M. and Karen L. Rutledge Institute for Early Childhood Education (Rutledge Hall); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be included as a matter of formal record in the minutes of the Council of Trustees.

AS APPROVED BY ACTION OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES DURING THE QUARTERLY MEETING AT WHICH A QUORUM WAS PRESENT AND PROPER NOTICE WAS GIVEN AS REQUIRED BY LAW ON THIS 1ST DAY OF OCTOBER 2026.

**PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN UNIVERSITY
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES**



Dr. James Fisher, Interim President

10/01/2026

Date



J.D. Dunbar, Chairperson
Council of Trustees

10/01/2026

Date

*The final facility name will be determined in consultation with the Rutledge family.