

June 25, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Urman Peace Garden

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees authorize the naming of the planned improved green space adjacent to the Homer Babbidge Library the "Urman Peace Garden."

BACKGROUND:

The approximate 12,000 square foot space proposed for the Peace Garden is located along Academic Way between the east side of the Homer Babbidge Library and the Weston A. Bousfield Psychology Building. The Garden was jointly conceived by Dr. Jeffrey D. Urman '67 and his friend and former UConn classmate, Dr. Lewis M. Cohen, '66.

The design is expected to incorporate a sculpture that features three stainless steel columns at the center of a spiral-shaped lawn to create a reflective space to promote tolerance and open-mindedness.

Dr. Jeffrey D. Urman earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University's School of Pharmacy in 1967. After earning his medical degree from Cornell University, Dr. Urman returned to UConn for a residency, which he completed in 1977. A Founders Society member, Dr. Urman's UConn philanthropy has established endowments and provided operating funds for the design and construction of the garden space.

Dr. Urman's gift is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

On June 11, 2025, the Institutional Advancement Committee recommended approval to the full Board.