The Committee to Review Namings in Honor of
Indiana University’s Seventh President David Starr Jordan

Report and Recommendations

to the
President, Provost, and Naming Committee
Indiana University

Bloomington, Indiana
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Introduction and Executive Summary

A number of structures and places on the Indiana University Bloomington campus are named after Indiana University’s seventh president, David Starr Jordan. Recently, Jordan’s legacy and views have come under scrutiny and criticism, with requests made that his name be removed from the building that houses Bloomington’s Department of Biology (Jordan Hall) and from other locations on the campus (Jordan River, Jordan Avenue, and the Jordan Avenue Parking Garage). In response to these requests, President Michael McRobbie constituted a committee to review the Jordan namings pursuant to the University’s Institutional Naming Policy UA-06. He charged the Committee with preparing a written report and recommending whether the University should remove or keep using Jordan’s name. This is the requested report.

Jordan was “a leading ichthyologist, educator, and peace activist.” In addition to serving as the University’s seventh president, he was the first and long-standing president of Stanford University. For some, his legacy is framed by “the brilliance of his triple career as a naturalist, teacher, and ‘minor prophet of democracy.’” Jordan was a “great teacher” and a “prolific writer,” whose “honors were legion,” and who “rightfully occupies a place in the pantheon of American university builders.” More recently, however, his legacy has been revealed to be more complex. Jordan has been described as “a ‘kingpin’ of the eugenics movement,” and a “vocal advocate for white supremacy.” The faculty of the Department of Biology assert that he was “a vociferous and avowed eugenicist who espoused racist views of non-white people,” while others characterize him as an

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1 See, e.g., Letter from Faculty Members of the Biology Department (June 12, 2020) (signed by 76 members of the Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington); IU Student Body Resolution, USG 19-20-68 (June 22, 2020); Letter from Concerned Scientists at Indiana University (July 1, 2020); Letter from Faculty Members of the School of Education’s Special Education Program (July 15, 2020); Petition to Rename Jordan Hall, Jordan Avenue, and Jordan River on Indiana University’s Campus (author Megan Chapman) (Summer 2020).  
2 Appendix C.  
5 Roger L. Geiger, David Starr Jordan, AMERICAN NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY (1999); see also Edward Mccall Burns, David Starr Jordan: Prophet of Freedom v (1953) (“Yet in the range and originality of his achievements, Jordan surpassed nearly all these contemporaries among college presidents...”).  
7 Letter from Faculty Members of the Biology Department (June 12, 2020).
“unabashed racist,”⁸ who “remained an ardent eugenacist until his dying day.”⁹ The Committee finds that these descriptions are largely accurate; that he was all these things.

Despite his significant contributions—and recognizing that he lived at a time when eugenics was widely accepted—the Committee recommends that the University no longer use the Jordan name on structures and places on the Bloomington campus, nor on scholarships, fellowships, or other awards.¹⁰ The Committee concludes that continuing to honor Jordan would be contrary to Indiana University’s strong commitment to inclusion and fairness, to honest and complete scholarship, and in turn to its educational and research missions. The Committee reached this conclusion after completing a fact-finding investigation, considering the impact on the University and its community if the University kept or removed the Jordan namings, and assessing whether retaining the Jordan name “would compromise the public trust and reflect adversely upon the university and its reputation.”¹¹

While Jordan was once most known as a leading ichthyologist and innovative president, his public persona is now almost entirely tied to the significant role he played in the U.S. eugenics movement.¹² That movement—aligned with scientific racism and spurred in response to immigration¹³—had and continues to have a profound impact. It led to thousands of forced sterilizations in the United States, and its focus on hereditarianism shares disturbing historical parallels with the ideology that underlay Nazi social policies and racial hygiene laws.¹⁴ The Indiana University community has been reminded of these facts;¹⁵ a popular book recently brought to light Jordan’s promotion of negative eugenics and his significant involvement with leading eugenic organizations;¹⁶ and, in July, the Sierra Club emphasized Jordan’s racist views in a widely covered

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⁸ Letter from Concerned Scientists at Indiana University (July 1, 2020).
⁹ Lulu Miller, Why Fish Don’t Exist (Simon & Schuster 2020). Even those who lavish him with praise recognize this problematic aspect of his legacy. See, e.g., Burns, supra note 5, at v (“To be sure, he had blind spots, particularly in his overemphasis upon race and heredity....”).
¹⁰ The Committee understands that no such awards currently exist.
¹¹ Appendix B, UA-06, D.S.
¹² For a detailed discussion of Jordan’s beliefs in degeneracy theory and negative eugenics, see Eben Axelson, Unfit: History of a Bad Idea 188-192 (2001) (Chapter 11, A Minor Prophet of Democracy is dedicated to describing Jordan, his social philosophy, and his impact on the eugenics movement).
¹⁴ For analysis of how the U.S. eugenics movement influenced Nazi Germany policies, see Stefan Kühn, The Nazi Connection: Eugenics, American Racism, and German National Socialism (1994); Edwin Black, War Against the Weak: Eugenics and America’s Campaign to Create a Master Race (2012); see also James Q. Whitman, Hitler’s American Model: The United States and the Making of Nazi Race Law (2017); Paul Crook, American Eugenics and the Nazis: Recent Historiography, 7 The European Legacy 363 (2002). For a short overview, see Alex Ross, How American Racism Influenced Hitler, The New Yorker, April 23, 2018.
¹⁵ Supra note 1 (letters and petitions).
¹⁶ Miller, supra note 9.
announcement. Refocused attention to the legacy of eugenics and its proponents has also occurred because of increased attention to institutional racism and its origins. Keeping the Jordan name as an honorific would lead some mistakenly to question the University’s unequivocal commitment to anti-racism.

Other related considerations also influence the recommendations in this report. The Committee finds it relevant that the faculty most affected, at least as to the naming of Jordan Hall—those from the Department of Biology—desire a name change. It was important in the Committee’s deliberations that the key historical evidence was not ambiguous or scant, so the danger of oversimplifying or revising history was lessened. It was relevant to the Committee that those who originally decided to name fixtures after Jordan did not consider his significant work with eugenics at the time of the namings. The Committee is also convinced that the Naming Committee would not name a building after Jordan if a naming were proposed today.

This is not to say that the University should ignore, forget, or erase history. Recognizing the complexity of historical figures and open-mindedly examining the impact, positive and negative, of their contributions is crucial at a university committed to seeking knowledge and truth. Although we believe the University should not celebrate Jordan with honorific namings, the University should not ignore his time as a professor of zoology or as president. Jordan made meaningful positive contributions to the field of ichthyology, to Indiana University, and to higher education. In some ways, his tenure as president was transformative. The University should remember that history. So too it is important not to forget his involvement with the U.S. eugenics movement, how theories of better breeding led to forced sterilizations and other practices, and how eugenics thinking at the turn of the century—and the ableism and racism associated with it—continues to be implicated or finds parallels in contemporary practices. The University should save, study, and share that history as well.

This report begins with an overview of the Committee’s charge and the process by which the Committee conducted its review. The report then sets out the relevant standards from the Institutional Naming Policy. Adhering to the fact-finding investigation requirements of that policy, the report sketches out Jordan’s biography, describes his many contributions, and assesses his troubling eugenics advocacy. After setting out this background, the Committee analyzes the relevant considerations from the Institutional Naming Policy. The report concludes with a description of the Committee’s unanimous recommendations.

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17 Brune, supra note 6.
Committee Charge and Process

On July 2, 2020, President Michael McRobbie appointed a review committee to evaluate the namings on the Bloomington campus related to David Starr Jordan. He appointed the Committee in light of requests made to remove Jordan’s name from the building that houses the Department of Biology and from other locations on the Bloomington campus. The President tasked the Committee with evaluating the Jordan namings pursuant to the criteria set forth in Indiana University’s Policy of Institutional Naming UA-06. The Committee was to conduct its review and submit a report with recommendations for any actions to the president, provost, and Naming Committee by September 1, 2020.

The Committee began meeting in late July. As part of its assessment and fact-finding function, members of the Committee reviewed a wide range of primary and secondary source material related to Jordan and his research and writings, as well as contemporaneous records related to the Bloomington campus namings. In addition to historical materials related to Jordan, the Committee read emails, letters, petitions, and other materials submitted from students, faculty, alumni, and other members of the community. It also considered information related to the history of eugenics in the United States, materials on eugenic sterilizations, and recent naming review decisions at other universities, including renamings involving individuals active in or who led the eugenics movement, including former university presidents. The Committee met weekly as a full committee to formally discuss archival materials, deliberate, exchange views, and develop its recommendations.21

Committee members spoke with a number of people to add context to the materials submitted or to obtain additional information relevant to the factors set forth in the Institutional Naming Policy. This included meetings with Professor Gregory Demas, the Chair of the Department of Biology at Indiana University Bloomington; Professor Alexandra Minna Stern of the University of Michigan, a nationally recognized expert in the history of eugenics and eugenic sterilization programs; Professor Elof Carlson, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus of the Biology Department of the State

18 Appendix C. This included a review of the namings for Jordan Hall, Jordan River, Jordan Avenue, Jordan Avenue Parking Garage, and any scholarships, fellowships or other awards that bear Jordan’s name. See also Appendix B, UA-06, D.2 (appointment of a special committee).
19 See Appendix D.
20 The Committee adhered to its charge and the criteria established in the Institutional Naming Policy; it did not consider other names that community members recommended for consideration, which would be under the purview of the Naming Committee should the University adopt the recommendations of this report.
21 The records reviewed by the Committee, as well as a copy of this report will be available for public review through the University Archives.
University of New York at Stony Brook, an expert on genetics and a historian of science; Rachel Aranyi, the 2020-21 IU Bloomington Student Body President; Dakota Coates, the 2020-21 IU Bloomington Graduate and Professional Student Government President; and current student members of the Indiana University Bloomington Cabinet of Student Leaders. The Committee did not send out an additional open call for comments because the Committee’s formation was widely publicized and students, faculty, and alumni provided input by submitting a significant amount of material in the form of letters, emails, and petitions. The Committee also was mindful of its charge, which focused on a fact-finding investigation of Jordan’s role in the eugenics movement, and that members of the community would be able to submit comments to the University in response to the Committee’s report.

The Committee is grateful for the assistance of Kelly Kish, Deputy Chief of Staff and Bicentennial Director, Office of the President, and of James Capshew, University Historian and Professor, Department of History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine, who were instrumental in securing materials from the University archives and developing the historical record. The Committee could not have completed the report in a timely manner without their extraordinary assistance.

Indiana University Naming Standards and Principles

The University’s Institutional Naming Policy governs the removal of honorific namings on the Bloomington campus. Effective as of 2010 and then updated in 2019, the “[p]olicy applies to the naming of all permanent physical facilities and permanently established organizations of Indiana University for the purpose of commemorating persons . . .” 22 The University can remove or change a name “under extraordinary circumstances when the continued use of the honoree’s name would compromise the public trust and reflect adversely upon the university and its reputation.” 23 The removal of a name “must not be undertaken lightly,” and the University must approach any proposed renaming “with respect for the considered judgments of the past, especially when exercised by the contemporaries of the honoree, and with an awareness of the fallibility of our own judgments.” 24

Indiana University’s policy on name removals is consistent with the policies at other universities and emerging norms in higher education related to building renaming. 25

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22 Appendix B, UA-06, Scope § A
23 Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5.
24 Id.; see also Appendix C.4 (“This policy reflects the fact that removing a name from a building is a serious matter that should not be undertaken without thorough research and the preparation of a detailed report . . .”).
25 For a discussion of some of the considerations, see Alfred L. Brophy, The Law and Morality of Building Renamings, 52 S. TEX. L. REV. 37 (2010).
Those policies often begin with the presumption that “renaming on account of values should be an exceptional event.” As others have emphasized, “continuity in names at a university has value: it allows for symbols through which students and alumni can develop lifelong connections and bonds.” The presumption against renaming is designed to avoid “the risk of undue debate over names, and recognizes that people are morally complex and that no generation ‘stands alone at the end of history with perfect moral hindsight.’” Review of a naming must be done carefully as it can be too “easy to blame those in the past for lacking the knowledge, wisdom, and values that we seem to possess.”

The Institutional Naming Policy also provides specific criteria by which to assess any renaming request. In addition to articulating the specific behavior or course of conduct on which the name removal is based, the Committee was required to conduct “[a] fact-finding investigation of the specific behavior(s) or course(s) of conduct, including an examination of contemporaneous records related to the consideration of the name, and the historical, personal, and (if relevant) academic context, of the behavior(s) or course(s) of behavior.”

In considering whether to retain or remove an honoree’s name, the Committee was instructed to give “thoughtful consideration of the impact on the university and the university community.” Specifically, the Institutional Naming Policy required that the Committee consider six factors:

1. The nature of the specific behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct;
2. The centrality of those behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct to the honoree’s life as a whole;
3. The prominence or role of the named facility or organization in the daily life of the university;
4. The relationship of the honoree to the university’s history;

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26 John Fabian Witt et al., Yale University, Report of the Committee to Establish Principles on Renaming 18 (Nov. 21, 2016), available at https://president.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/CEPR_FINAL_12-2-16.pdf (“Yale Principles”) (There is a strong presumption against renaming a building on the basis of the values associated with its namesake. Such a renaming should be considered only in exceptional circumstances.”).


28 “Id. (quoting the Yale Principles); see also Principles and Procedures for Renaming Buildings and Other Features at Stanford University, available at https://campusnames.stanford.edu/renaming-principles/ (“Stanford Principles”) (“Renaming, . . . represents a sufficiently serious expression of condemnation and change to the University’s original decision that it should be undertaken only where warranted by all the circumstances.”).

29 Letter from Terrence J. McDonald, Chair, President’s Advisory Committee on University History, to Mark Schlissel, President, University of Michigan, January 6, 2017 (Committee Views on Possible Review of University Space Names), available at https://president.umich.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2017/01/POUH-memo-on-naming-1-23-17.pdf (“Michigan Principles”).

30 Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5(a) & (b).
5. The degree to which retaining the name will interfere with the ability of the university community to teach, work, learn, and live in the community; and

6. Whether retention of the honoree’s name compromises the university’s mission or conflicts with the university’s fundamental values.\textsuperscript{31}

The policy also authorized the Committee to consult with immediate relatives or heirs of the honoree, or with individuals involved in the original naming decision.\textsuperscript{32}

**Overview and Fact Finding**

Jordan was a complex man and a complicated figure. While one of the nation’s foremost ichthyologists and influential in higher education during his day, he was also prominent in the eugenics movement.

1. Jordan’s Career and Contributions

Born in 1851, Jordan came from humble beginnings. He grew up in Gainesville, New York, alongside teachers and farmers, and obtained his secondary education in the Gainesville Female Seminary.\textsuperscript{33} He entered Cornell University on a scholarship in 1869 and graduated with a M.S. in 1872 for his work in botany. After teaching at several high schools in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana,\textsuperscript{34} he became a professor of biology at Butler University in Indianapolis (then named North Western Christian University).\textsuperscript{35} During this time, he first earned his M.D. from Indiana Medical College and later a PhD from Butler University.

Jordan joined Indiana University in 1879 as a professor of natural sciences.\textsuperscript{36} After just five years, at the age of 33, he was named the University’s seventh president and the first leader of the zoology department.\textsuperscript{37} He was the youngest person as well as the first non-clergyman to hold the presidency. He also was the youngest university president at

\textsuperscript{31} Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5(c)(i)-(v).

\textsuperscript{32} Id. § D.5(c). Jordan died in 1931, and there were no immediate heirs to consult.

\textsuperscript{33} Geiger, supra note 5.

\textsuperscript{34} Shor, supra note 4, at 169.

\textsuperscript{35} Geiger, supra note 5.

\textsuperscript{36} Frank N. Young, *A Brief History of Biology at Indiana University*, 92 *Indiana Academy of Science* 297, 297-98 (1982); cf. Shor, supra note 4, at 169 (describing his appointment as a professor of natural history).

\textsuperscript{37} Young, supra note 36, at 298-99. Born on January 19, 1851, he was named president at the end of 1884 and took office on January 1, 1885.
the time in the country, and the only president “who was a practicing scientist.” He remained Indiana University’s president for six and a half years until 1891 when he went to California to become the first president of the recently established Leland Stanford Junior University (now Stanford University). At Stanford, he served as president (1891-1913), then chancellor (1913-16), and finally chancellor emeritus until his death, at the age of 80, in 1931. In sum, he served for almost four decades in the academy as a professor and as a president.

Jordan as a Scholar, Ichthyologist, and Naturalist: Jordan was a prolific writer. One account describes him as “the author of 1,818 essays, poems, scientific papers, books, and articles.” Others note that “his bibliography lists 645 separate books and articles.” Moreover, his interests were varied. He wrote poetry, children’s books, and was a nature-essayist. From 1908 to 1910, he served as the U.S. International Commissioner of Fisheries for the conservation of fisheries along the Canadian border, was a charter member of the Sierra Club, served on the California State Fish Commission, and was a leading member of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

For his academic research, he was most known for his work in ichthyology, the branch of zoology devoted to the study of fish. He had been inspired by and was a mentee of Louis Agassiz, and beginning in the 1870s he made extensive field trips throughout the United States and Europe. As of 1890, Jordan had “collected fishes in every considerable river basin in the United States, and on most of its coastline, as well as in Europe, Cuba, and Canada.” By one account, “his efforts led to the naming of a total of 1,085 genera

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38 David H. Dickason, *Jordan as a Literary Man*, 37 INDIANA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY 345, 351 (1941). A letter from Indiana University Professor Anzi Atwater in 1888 indicates that the oldest member of the faculty was not yet 50 years of age. The university, the academy, research, science, and other modern ideals and understandings of higher education were all in their nascent stages of development during Jordan’s tenure.

39 Geiger, supra note 5. Another account describes him as one of two scientists to serve as President. William M. Gering, David Starr Jordan: Spokesman for Higher Education in Indiana 65 (1963) (“[H]e became the youngest college president and, with the exception of Charles W. Eliot of Harvard, the only scientist to hold such an office.”).

40 Dickason, supra note 38, at 345.


42 Geiger, supra note 5.

43 Dickason, supra note 38, at 345.


45 The vast majority of his writings and work related to the study of fish. Evermann, supra note 3, p.329 (noting that there are more than 450 titles from Jordan’s papers and books on fishes).


47 George S. Myers, David Starr Jordan, Ichthyology, 1851-1931, 4 STANFORD ICHTHYOLOGICAL BULLETIN 1, 2-3 (1951) (describing how Jordan became “the most active American ichthyologist” traveling throughout the U.S. and Europe).

and more than 2,500 species of fishes, together with broader classifications of them."59 His *magnum opus, The Fishes of North and Middle America*, “consisted of four thick volumes, in very fine type, comprising some 4,000 pages.”60 Much of this work occurred at Indiana University as “[b]efore going to Stanford, Jordan had 246 publications on fishes.”51 Jordan was also “responsible for one, perhaps two, of the many ‘rules’ that are found in biology with respect to the relationships or responses to organisms to environmental factors,” including one that was named “Jordan’s Law.”52 In the early 1900s, his “biological textbooks were known everywhere,”53 his students were some of the most respected ichthyologists in the nation,54 and he was revered by them.55

His contributions in ichthyology were significant. For some observers, “no other naturalist [through his time] ever had so great an influence on the progress of the study of the fishes of the Pacific Ocean as David Starr Jordan.”56 He was credited with discovering nearly a fifth of all fish known in his day,57 and has been described as the “greatest of American ichthyologists.”58 Current day ichthyologists explain that the “impact of David Starr Jordan has been so pervasive that it is difficult, if not impossible, to measure…. Almost all systematic ichthyologists in North America can trace their scientific or intellectual descent to him.”59 Jordan, along with two other professors, was credited with bringing “zoology at Indiana University to national if not international preeminence”60 and catapulting Stanford to the forefront of ichthyology.61 Consistent in the assessment of Jordan’s legacy is the number of his protégés: Jordan “left a continuing and indelible imprint on the ichthyology of the entire world, not least as teacher of the greatest school of disciples of ichthyology . . . ever seen.”62

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49 Encyclopedia Britannica, supra note 46.
50 Myers, supra note 47, at 2; see also Brittan, supra note 48, at 235 (describing the four-volume work as “monumental”).
51 Brittan, supra note 48, at 234.
52 Brittan, supra note 48, at 234; see also Hubbs, supra note 44, at 200 (describing Jordan’s contributions to biological theory).
53 Myers, supra note 47, at 5.
54 Id.; see also Brittan, supra note 48, at 237-38, 249-50 (describing Jordan’s protégés and many students, and their contributions to ichthyology).
55 Hubbs, supra note 44, at 195 (“Jordan was thus highly revered, to the point of worship . . .”).
57 MILLER, supra note 9, at 169-70.
58 Myers, supra note 47, at 2; see also Brittan, supra note , at 249 (“No other American ichthyologist of his day was so well known or perhaps contributed so much . . .”).
59 Brittan, supra note 48, at 5; see also Theresa Johnston, Meet President Jordan, STANFORD MAGAZINE, January/February 2010, available at https://stanfordmag.org/contents/meet-president-jordan (quoting a professor of biology that “Jordan’s own scientific accomplishments were, to be fair about it, significant but not monumental”).
60 Young, supra note 41, at 371; see also Myers, supra note 47, at 3 (describing how Jordan’s students all became well-known in ichthyology).
61 Brittan, supra note 48, at 233.
62 Myers, supra note 47, at 6 (“It is quite impossible fully to estimate Jordan’s far-reaching contribution to ichthyology . . . in ichthyology itself, a number of men have surpassed him in certain segments of the science, but none has ever approached him when the entire field is considered.”); see also Hubbs, supra note 44, at 198 (“A major secret of Jordan’s greatness in ichthyology was his ability to inspire others to work in the same field, often in collaboration with himself.”).
**Jordan and Higher Education:** Jordan’s contributions as a university president were significant. He also was influential in higher education.

At Indiana University, Jordan was transformative. He “oversaw the university’s growth at the new campus in Dunn’s Woods,"63 improved the university’s finances and public image," and increased the size of both the faculty and the student body.64 Drawing from his experiences at Cornell, Jordan was “instrumental in several changes in the educational system,” “including the elective system and the major professor.”65 He secured funds to build Indiana University’s first gymnasium, “he emphasized research as an integral part of teaching,” he established the first known faculty-led study abroad program at a U.S. public institution (i.e., summer tramps through Europe), and during Jordan’s tenure alumni began electing members of the Board of Trustees.66 Jordan embraced and implemented several principles during his tenure as president: “(1) the complete separation of education from sectarian influences; (2) an equal place for the natural sciences and technical arts alongside the humanities; (3) equal rank for modern and classical languages and literature; (4) the substitution of free choice of courses from the old ‘cast iron’ curriculum; (5) the treatment of university students as adults and responsible members of a community of scholars.”67 A “pioneer educational innovator,”68 he modernized the curriculum in other ways too, promoting the sciences and humanities.69

Jordan served as president for six years and was a member of the Bloomington faculty for twelve years from 1879 to 1891. As one biography summarized his achievements:

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63 Jordan took over as president just after the devastating 1883 fire that forced the University’s move to Dunn’s Woods. He inherited an empty campus and began its rebuilding. During his tenure: extension education began to develop as Bloomington faculty were encouraged to lecture around the state.
65 Young, supra note 41, at 372; see also Barton Warren Evermann, *David Starr Jordan, the Man*, 4 COPELA 93, 99 (1930) (“He made the curriculum more elastic by enabling the student to ‘elect’ to a limited extent under advice of his major professor. He provided a ‘major subject’ system, by which juniors were required to choose a specialty, or major subject, and to work under the immediate supervision of his ‘major professor’—something quite revolutionary and quite unheard of in many colleges in America at that time, but destined soon to be adopted by most of them.”); Gering, supra note 39, at 66 (“Convinced that the elective system used by Cornell University was the best solution to the problem the classical curriculum created, he modified the convention curriculum to meet the needs of students’ individual abilities and interests.”).
66 Dedication Ceremony, Addition to Jordan Hall of Biology, October 5, 1984, at 4 (President Ryan remarks).
67 Young, supra note 41, at 372.
68 Brittan, supra note 48, at 234.
69 Evermann, supra note 65, at 99 (He “insisted that the biological and physical sciences and modern languages possess educational values and training not inferior to that claimed for mathematics and the dead languages. . . . Jordan’s contention was not that Greek and Latin should be abandoned or neglected, but that ample provision should be made for the sciences and the ‘humanities.’”); see also Gering, supra note 39, at 66-71 (describing curricular changes and the elective system); Hubbs, supra note 44, at 196 (describing why Jordan was a dynamic educator); Dedication Ceremony, supra note 66 at 15 (Gros Louis remarks) (“Jordan greatly expanded the curriculum in natural science, with the teaching of assorted courses in geology, botany, zoology, general biology, and physiology.”)
Under Jordan’s leadership [Indiana University] climbed toward true university status. The preparatory department and old curriculum were jetisoned, and a “major subject” system similar to Cornell’s was instituted. He built the faculty with young Indiana graduates, sending them to the East or Europe for advanced training. Jordan himself lectured throughout the state on the value of higher education, thereby acquiring a lifelong knack for public speaking. He expanded recruitment to the university and raised its standing with the state legislature.70

According to some, “he became widely known, not only as the youngest American university president, but also as perhaps the most forward-looking of all.”71 He remained influential after leaving Indiana University, with reports that he played a role in suggesting the next three presidents.72

At Stanford University, Jordan served as the university’s first president for twenty-two years. No one denies “the profound influence Jordan had in launching [Stanford] and keeping it afloat during its tumultuous early decades.”73 And under Jordan’s leadership, “Stanford at once assumed a leading position among American universities.”74 In 1929, President Herbert Hoover wrote the following at the dedication of the Stanford Quad to Jordan for the 1929-30 academic year:

First president of our beloved university, creator of its oldest traditions, scientist of unquenchable thirst for truth and of unalterable integrity in its search, teacher of sympathy and imagination, friend of youth, wise counselor, believer in the inviolable sanctity and worth of the individual human soul, exemplar of the moral virtues, inspirer to the spiritual life, apostle and prophet of peace…75

Jordan left his mark on Stanford “in ways large and small.”76 He “traveled throughout the state, as he had in Indiana, making speeches that attracted students and built the University’s reputation.”77 He hired a range of founding faculty, helped launch the Hopkins Marine State on Monterey Bay, and he coined the University’s motto.78 He also set the foundation for Stanford’s preeminence in biology. As a result of Jordan’s efforts, “Stanford University had such a distinguished faculty teaching ichthyology and fisheries

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70 Geiger, supra note 5.
71 Myers, supra note 47, at 3-4.
72 Id. On his influence, see also Dedication Ceremony, supra note 66 at 49 (Ryan Remarks) (“Then-President Ryan summed up the way Jordan was viewed in the 1980s noting that Jordan died “after a distinguished career as scholar, scientist, teacher, author, university president, and institution builder. His sympathies were broad, his talents were great, his contributions were significant and far-reaching. He was a man of this time, yet he had a view of the future that compelled him to prodigious efforts in pursuit of a more humane society, a more knowledgeable citizenry. He was a pioneer in scientific research and discovery.”).”
74 Myers, supra note 47, at 4.
75 Evermann, supra note 65, at 105.
76 Johnston, supra note 73.
77 Id.
78 Id.
biology and produced so many students who later became prominent in these fields that
the program was often referred to as “the Stanford School of Ichthyology.”79 As recently
as the early 2000s, Jordan’s leadership at Stanford was described as “revered,” that his
“legend is mostly un tarnished over the years,” and that “next to Wallace Sterling, the fifth
Stanford president (1949-1968) who is credited with helping put the institution in the
front rank of research universities nationally, Jordan’s star shines the brightest among
past presidents.”80

Outside Indiana University and Stanford University, Jordan was an influential and
respected figure in higher education, both for his research and for his leadership. Jordan
was the first president of the Indiana Academy of Science in 1887 and the president of the
California Academy of Sciences in 1895.81 In 1900, he chaired the committee that
established the constitution for the Association of American Universities. He was
president in 1915 of the National Education Association and, in 1906, he became a
member of the first board of trustees for the Carnegie Foundation for the Improvement
of Teaching, a position he held for ten years. In 1909, he was elected president of the
American Association for the Advancement of Science and he was named an honorary
Associate in Zoology in the Smithsonian in 1921. He was also a member of the American
Philosophical Society and the Zoological Society of London. He was credited with
providing women scientists opportunities that rarely existed at the time.82 In the early
1900s, he was “an important and honored national figure” and “one of the two or three
best known university leaders in the country.”83

Jordan as a Peace Activist: In addition to his academic career and his research, Jordan
was known as a peace activist84 and “ranks among the leaders of the peace movement” in
his day.85 Jordan served as chief director, from 1909 through 1911, of the World Peace
foundation. He was also dean of the American section of the World Peace Congress at
The Hague in 1913, and president of the International School of Peace. He served as an
officer of the Anti-Imperialist League, the American Union Against Militarism, and the
Emergency Peace Federation.86 In 1925, he had the distinction of winning the Herman

79 Brittan, supra note 48, at 213. The Committee has not addressed the innuendo that Jordan may have been implicated in the death
of Jane Stanford. Even those who suggest that it may be a possibility acknowledge the speculative nature of this allegation. ROBERT
81 Evermann, supra note 65, at 100. He held this presidency three times.
82 MARGARET ROSSITER, WOMEN SCIENTISTS IN AMERICA: STRUGGLES AND STRATEGIES TO 1940 86 (1982) (describing how Jordan
invited women scientists on walking tours in the United States and Europe and how he hired several women faculty at Stanford).
83 Myers, supra note 47, at 5.
84 James L. Abrahamson, David Starr Jordan and American Antimilitarism, 67 THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST QUARTERLY 76, 76 (April
1976).
85 Id. at 77.
86 Id.
Peace Prize for the best educational plan for preserving world peace. Among Jordan’s writings on peace are *World Peace and the College Man*, *Ways to Lasting Peace*, and *The Outlawry of War*. In fact, his activism in this area made him controversial: “[h]e was reviled during the first World War for his staunch pacifism.” By some accounts, he left the Stanford presidency on the suggestion of Herbert Hoover, to “devote his energies to the cause of peace” and spent several years “lecturing and consulting with statesmen, scientists, and plain people everywhere, in an effort to stem the militaristic tide.” As described below, his antimilitarism and opposition to war were driven in part by his eugenic theories.

### 2. Jordan and Eugenics

Eugenics was a set of beliefs and practices aimed at improving society and the genetics of the population through selective breeding. Positive eugenics, a branch of broader eugenic thought, was based on the core idea that the most talented and healthiest in society should procreate with others who were talented and healthy. Negative eugenics—through marriage laws, forced sterilization practices, and immigration controls—sought to prevent breeding among those from “unfit” stock, driven by concerns of biological deterioration. Eugenicists believed that education and environment could not alter inherent racial values and limitations.

During the time Jordan lived, eugenics was widely accepted in mainstream thought. As one writer describes:

> [E]ugenics seemed as roaring a part of American culture as flappers and the Model T. This was not a fringe movement; it crossed party lines; the first five presidents of the twentieth century hailed its promise; eugenics courses were taught at prestigious universities all across the country, from Harvard to Stanford to Yale to UC Berkeley to Princeton and back again. There were eugenics magazines. Eugenics cosmetics. Even eugenic competitions.

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88 Johnston, supra note 73.
89 Myers, supra note 47, at 5.
90 Abrahamson, supra note 84, at 78-80; see also Gavin Baird & Bradley W. Hart, *The Stanford Connection: David Starr Jordan, Eugenics, and the Anglo-American Anti-War Movement, in Labour, British Radicalism and the First World War 220-240* (Lucy Bland & Richard Carr eds. 2015) (describing how “Jordan became the world’s best-known peace advocate and used this platform to further both his anti-war and eugenicist views”).
92 For a description of Jordan’s beliefs related to negative eugenics, see Carlson, supra note 12, at 189-92.
94 Miller, supra note 9, at 131-32.
People as diverse as Alexander Graham Bell, Helen Keller, Theodore Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, George Barnard Shaw, Jacques Cousteau, Francis Crick, and many others were purported to support eugenics.\textsuperscript{95}

Its pervasiveness was broader than one might expect. Most of the American scientific community supported eugenics, and eugenic “ideas were not fringe but widely held and taught in universities.”\textsuperscript{96} Eugenics also “flourished in the liberal Protestant, Catholic and Jewish mainstream.”\textsuperscript{97} At least thirty-two states passed eugenic-sterilization laws.\textsuperscript{98} As an African American literature professor described it: “[e]ugenics was so pervasive in the United States that it found expression across the political spectrum and even across racial lines, despite its origins in elitism and white supremacy.”\textsuperscript{99} In 1905, W.E.B. DuBois famously suggested “only fit blacks should procreate to eradicate the race’s heritage of moral iniquity.”\textsuperscript{100} “Fitter family contests at state fairs and ‘prize baby contests’” were common, including some sponsored by chapters of the NAACP.\textsuperscript{101}

**Jordan’s Leading Role in the Eugenics Movement:** Around the turn of the 20th Century, Jordan was “one of the innovators of the American eugenics movement”\textsuperscript{102} and one of the nation’s “leading eugenicist[s].”\textsuperscript{103} He was one of a cadre of “transplanted men of science and letters at the cusp of the twentieth century” who “embraced eugenics as a means to build a new social and racial order in post conquest and post-Gold Rush California.”\textsuperscript{104} Jordan did not coin the term eugenics—the British scientist Francis Galton did in 1883—but Jordan “was among the first to call attention to it in the U. S. when he published The

\textsuperscript{95} Several of these were not of Jordan’s time, but underscore how influential the eugenics movement in the United States became. For a general discussion, see Andrea DenHoed, *The Forgotten Lessons of the American Eugenics Movement*. The New Yorker, April 26, 2016, available at https://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/the-forgotten-lessons-of-the-american-eugenics-movement (“Theodore Roosevelt, Alexander Graham Bell, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and many other prominent citizens were outspoken supporters. Eugenics was taught in schools, celebrated in exhibits at the World’s Fair, and even preached from pulpits.”).

\textsuperscript{96} Farber, supra note 93, at 243; see also Young, supra note 41, at 373 (“It is no extenuation to say that racial myths were included in the intellectual baggage of nearly every American at [Jordan’s] time.”); ANTHONY M. PLATT & CELIA ELIZABETH O’LEARY, BLOODLINES RECOVERING HITLER’S NUREMBERG LAWS FROM PATTON’S TROPHY TO PUBLIC MEMORIAL, 57 (2005) (“The proponents of eugenics were not obscure cranks, but the best and brightest of a small elite that dominated Southern California until the 1950s.”).

\textsuperscript{97} CHRISTINE ROSEN, PREACHING EUGENICS RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND THE AMERICAN EUGENICS MOVEMENT (2004).

\textsuperscript{98} DenHoed, supra note 95.


\textsuperscript{100} W.E.B Du Bois, TALENTED TENTH IN THE NEGRO PROBLEM: A SERIES OF ARTICLES BY REPRESENTATIVE AMERICAN NEGROES OF TODAY 75 (1903) (“The Negro race, like all other races, is going to be saved by exceptional men.”).

\textsuperscript{101} English, supra note 99.

\textsuperscript{102} CARLSON, supra note 12, at 183.

\textsuperscript{103} STEIN, supra note 91, at 155; see also Black, supra note 14, at 65 (“Quickly, Jordan became America’s first eminent eugenic theorist.”).

\textsuperscript{104} Id. at 19; see also Edwin Black, THE HIRDERING AMERICAN ROOTS OF NAZI EUGENICS, HISTORY NEWS NETWORK, Sept. 2003, available at https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/1796 (“Eugenics would have been so much bizarre parlor talk had it not been for extensive financing by corporate philanthropies, specifically the Carnegie Institution, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Harriman railroad fortune. They were all in league with some of America’s most respected scientists hailing from such prestigious universities as Stanford, Yale, Harvard, and Princeton.”).
Blood of the Nation: A Study of the Decay of Races through the Survival of the Unfit in 1902.” It is true that “he was a man of his age” and “his thinking in regard to the genetic basis of such traits as honesty, integrity, and morality were reflections of the general beliefs of his days.” But his influence was significant because “[a]s a scientist, educator, and social reformer Jordan was, indeed, a giant [on] the earth.”

Jordan’s leadership and leading role in the eugenics movement is evident in the positions he held. In 1906, Jordan chaired the first U.S. eugenics organization—a chapter in the American Breeders Association—whose mission included the promotion of eugenics research in the United States. For context, the next year Indiana passed the first forced-sterilization law in the United States (which was not repealed until 1974). Jordan was elected as a Vice President for the First International Congress of Eugenics held in London in 1912, and he also served for several years as Vice President of the Eugenics Education Society. In 1915, Jordan was deeply involved in and a speaker at the Second National Conference on Race Betterment at the San Francisco World Fair (the Panama-Pacific International Exposition). That conference led to the creation of the eugenics registry, and Jordan helped secure funding for the Eugenics Records Office. In 1928, a few years before his death, Jordan was a founding member and trustee of the Human Betterment Foundation, which was devoted to the promotion of compulsory sterilization legislation. In the 1930s, the Human Betterment Foundation would take

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105 Richardson, supra note 64.
106 Young, supra note 41, at 373.
107 Id.
109 No evidence of Jordan’s direct involvement with this law exists. Some accounts attribute its passing indirectly to Jordan’s influence but most believe he was not involved as this was more than fifteen years after he left Indiana. See Erol Axel Carlson, The Hoosier Connection: Compulsory Sterilization as Moral Hygiene in A Century of Eugenics in America: From the Indiana Experiment to the Human Genome Era 11-23 (Paul Lombardo ed., 1st ed. 2011). Two years later, in 1909, California launched its eugenics-sterilization program, which became the largest in the United States.
112 Stern, supra note 91, at 51-55 (noting that of “all the eugenics events” the Second National Conference on Race Betterment “was the largest and most important” and describing Jordan’s involvement and how he “pledged his support”).
113 Stern, supra note 91, at 22, 84-85.
credit for the eugenics program in Nazi Germany. In short, Jordan was one of “a fairly consistent core group of leaders [in the eugenics movement] up through the 1930s.”

*Jordan’s Beliefs on Hereditarism and Race:* The beliefs Jordan espoused in his writings on degeneracy theory make for disturbing reading today. Jordan “envisioned an exclusionary utopia, one in which certain ‘blood’ was better and purer.” In his writings he “placed Anglo-Saxons at the apex of a racial hierarchy” and feared that the introduction of African blood has not been a gain to the republic. Jordan argued that “[a] race of men or a herd of cattle are governed by the same laws of selection.” From that premise, he feared race degeneration. He believed that “the germs of pauperism and crime” were inherited and that government could improve the human species as a whole by forcibly separating the “feeble-minded” and ensuring they did not have children.

As a leader in higher education and as a public intellectual, Jordan made many far-reaching pronouncements concerning groups of people he regarded as unworthy and repeatedly condemned over a period of decades. Jordan believed that some races bore more undesirable characteristics than others, and that their numbers should be limited. In 1899, he wrote that “[w]herever degenerate, dependent, or alien races are within our borders today, they are not part of the United States. They constitute a social problem; a menace to peace and welfare.” An ardent pacifist, Jordan also believed that in warfare “the best men were cut off from parenthood, leaving weaker strains and strains of lower races to be fathers of coming generations.” For Jordan, armed conflict was “particularly detrimental to the health of the human race, because it removed the strongest individuals from the gene pool.”

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116 STERN, supra note 91, at 156.

117 STERN, supra note 91, at 156; see also DAVID STARR JORDAN, *War and the Breed* 33 (1915) (arguing against the idea that “all races of men are biologically equal.”) In general, the highest range of possibilities in every field has been reached by the ‘blonde races’ of Europe. Groups of less individual or less aggregate treatment may properly be regarded as ‘lower.’


120 He believed the goal of eugenics was “the elimination, by restriction, of hopeless hereditary feeble-mindedness and of defects.” JORDAN, WAR AND THE BREED, supra note 117. at 31 (noting that “the American mulatto as a whole is superior to the pure African negro” because of the introduction of white stock). See generally GERALD V. O’BRIEN, FRAMING THE MORON: THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF FEEBLE-MINDEDNESS (2013).


123 Johnston, supra note 73.
One of Jordan’s most influential contributions to eugenics was his 1902 book, *The Blood of the Nation*, which was reprinted widely.\textsuperscript{124} In that text, Jordan wrote:

For a race of men or a herd of cattle are governed by the same laws of selection. Those who survive inherit the traits of their own actual ancestry. In the herd of cattle, to destroy the strongest bulls, the fairest cows, the most promising calves, is to allow those not strong or fair nor promising to become the parents of the coming herd. Under this influence the herd will deteriorate... Such a process is called race-degeneration, and it is the only race-degeneration known in the history of cattle or men... [I]f we sell or destroy the rough, lean, or feeble calves, we shall have a herd descended from the best.

Lest there be any doubt whether these remarks were intended to apply to human populations, Jordan, who served as chair of the first Committee on Eugenics of the American Breeder’s Association, wrote in 1911: “The second goal of eugenics is the limitation by public authority of the marriage of the defective, the insane, and the criminal.”\textsuperscript{125} For Jordan “slaves [were] not men” and neither were degenerate and alien races.\textsuperscript{126} He asserted that a danger lay in the mixing of “mongrel” races because “where the dregs of one race mix with the offscourings of another arise distressing possibilities of vice and incompetence.”\textsuperscript{127}

Jordan had a particular concern for immigration. He was convinced that “the dangers of foreign immigration lie in the overflow to our shores of hereditary unfitness.”\textsuperscript{128} He fretted over the immigration of “barbarous” races from Southern and Eastern Europe.\textsuperscript{129} He compared Filipinos to monkeys\textsuperscript{130} and during the 1920s he “complained bitterly about Mexican immigrants.”\textsuperscript{131} And he demanded “tighter border controls and national origin quotas for Mexicans.”\textsuperscript{132} As historian Alexandra Minna Stern describes it, “he lamented that the American ‘germ plasm’ was under assault from ‘the Mexican peon, who for the most part can never be fit for citizenship,’ and was ‘giving our stock a far worse dilution than ever came from Europe.’”\textsuperscript{133}

\textsuperscript{125} JORDAN, HEREDITY OF RICHARD ROE, supra note 118.
\textsuperscript{126} JORDAN, ANTI-IMPERIALISM, supra note 121, at 21.
\textsuperscript{127} JORDAN, WAR AND THE BREEED, supra note 117, at 29.
\textsuperscript{128} DAVID STARR JORDAN, FOOTNOTES TO EVOLUTION: A SERIES OF POPULAR ADDRESSES ON THE EVOLUTION OF LIFE 309 (1898).
\textsuperscript{129} JORDAN, WAR AND THE BREEED, supra note 117, at 28–29 (describing “in Portugal, the mixture from subject races in Brazil, Africa, and India has invaded the parent itself to its social and political confusion.”).
\textsuperscript{130} DAVID STARR JORDAN, IMPERIAL DEMOCRACY: A STUDY OF THE RELATION OF GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE, EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW, AND OTHER TENETS OF DEMOCRACY, TO THE DEMANDS OF A VIGOROUS FOREIGN POLICY AND OTHER DEMANDS OF IMPERIAL DOMINION 24 (1901).
\textsuperscript{131} STERN, supra note 91, at 137.
\textsuperscript{132} Id.
\textsuperscript{133} Id. (quoting letters from Jordan to Charles B. Davenport in 1925).
Jordan’s interest in negative eugenics was not short-lived; he was at the forefront of the eugenics movement in the early 1900s. Jordan regularly lectured on evolution and social Darwinism\textsuperscript{134} and every Stanford student was required to take his evolution course.\textsuperscript{135} Even his most ardent admirers criticized him for his “acceptance of Aryanism and the assumption that Anglo-Saxons embodied virtues which most other peoples could never hope to attain.”\textsuperscript{136}

3. History of Jordan Namings at Indiana University

By the 1950s, after two world wars, Jordan’s writings on peace and eugenics were eclipsed by time and not widely known or noted. His scientific legacy and his work on fish was older but more durable. When the University was looking for scientific worthies in biology in the 1950s, Jordan appeared an obvious choice. The University president and trustees at the time focused on his scientific contributions to ichthyologic taxonomy and his significant standing in higher education, and did not explicitly honor his work in world peace and eugenics.

\textit{Jordan Hall}: Jordan Hall was named in 1956.\textsuperscript{137} During the dedication ceremonies, the University praised Jordan for how he had “modernized science teaching at IU, developed research, and influenced scores of students who later became scientific leaders.”\textsuperscript{138} A large naming event, 46 former students and faculty members spoke “at nine symposia held as part of the four-day Jordan Hall dedicatory celebration.”\textsuperscript{139} As a story in the Indiana Alumni Magazine from 1956 concluded, the University memorialized Jordan “in one of America’s greatest centers for teaching and research in his chosen field, the life sciences of bacteriology, botany, and zoology.”\textsuperscript{140} Jordan’s interest in hereditarianism was left unmentioned as part of the ceremony records.

The same was largely true in 1984, when the University dedicated an addition to Jordan Hall and Jordan was remembered again for his time and contributions as the University’s seventh president.\textsuperscript{141} In the dedicatory program there is one mention from the acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences that Jordan had offered a course “on the philosophy of biology during his time at Indiana University, beginning with the laws

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136 Young, supra note 41, at 373.
137 Records indicate that the Trustees named the building in 1954, with the formal dedication occurring in 1956.
139 Id. at 6.
141 Dedication Ceremony, supra note 66, at 17 (“[T]he campus is indeed extraordinarily proud of [Jordan Hall], of what goes on within it, of what it represents to Indiana University, to the state of Indiana, and to the discipline of biology in this country and across the seas.”).
of organic life and leading up to eugenics and ethics.”142 Almost all discussion of Jordan, however, related to his contributions as president and the promotion of the research ideal at the University. At the time of the building addition dedication, the David Starr Jordan Prize—a joint initiative between Indiana University, Cornell University, and Stanford University—was also announced. In honor of Jordan as a “distinguished leader,” it was “the only example of the intercollegiate funding of an endowment (prize) of this type.”143

**Jordan River:** In contrast to the naming of Jordan Hall, there is no definitive date when the campus stream became associated with Jordan’s name. In 1897, Indiana University acquired another 30 acres of the Dunn family farm that wrapped around the original 20 acres purchased in 1884 for the new campus at Dunn’s Woods. The new property included a small perennial stream known as Spanker’s Branch and a small inholding for the Dunn family cemetery overlooking the stream.144 In his *History of Indiana University: 1820-1902*, James Woodburn stated:

In a college address in chapel Dr. Jordan (after he had gone to Stanford) said in a facetious way that he was not ambitious to have a building named for him; he would be satisfied if “Spanker’s Branch” running through the campus could be renamed Jordan River. There was a round of laughter. By common consent the change was made, and Jordan River it has been ever since. The little brook is sometimes dry, sometimes floods the girls’ athletic field on its bank.145

Newspaper searches also turned up references after the turn of the century. In 1902, the *Daily Student* mentioned plans to build a lake on campus, “which will be fed by a spring and the river Jordan . . . named in honor of Dr. David Starr Jordan.”146 A few years later, the *Indianapolis News* reported on the name change.147 In 1922, the *Indiana Daily Student* published an article on the Jordan River. They quoted Jordan: “I once reminded the board of trustees that they need name no building for me. I asked only that this brook, coming thru what was then the campus, should be called the River Jordan.”148 With its obvious Biblical overtones, “River Jordan” expanded the possibilities for association and irony. The small stream lent its name to many student activities over the years, such as the

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142 Dedication Ceremony, supra note 66, at 30.
143 Dedication Ceremony, supra note 66, at 50-51. The prize was discontinued several years ago.
144 Also usage without the possessive—Spankers Branch. Preliminary research indicates no family name of Spanker in Monroe County in the 19th century nor a story about a spanking that might have occurred in its vicinity.
146 “To Beautify the Campus, The Daily Student, May 23, 1902.
147 ’Jordan River’ Once Was Spankers Branch, The Indianapolis News, February 14, 1908 (“Many have wondered why this insignificant stream should bear such a dignified name as that of Jordan river. The river is named for former President David Starr Jordan who is now president of Leland Stanford, Jr., University. That the rivulet be called ‘Jordan’ was the request made by Dr. Jordan on his last visit to Bloomington, and as the word ‘branch’ did not flow well, it was decided to call the stream ‘Jordan river.’”).
148 Trustees Name Historic Jordan River In Honor of University President, 1885-91, INDIANA DAILY STUDENT; November 14, 1922.
Jordan River Revue and the Jordan River Forum, as well as serving as the site of hijinks, such as races with floating bananas or a place to discard goldfish after fraternity parties.

By the 1920s, the Jordan stream had become a synecdoche for the entire campus as it continued to grow. It also served as a useful metaphor for University activities. To cite but one example, the history of the Black fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi, founded at Indiana University in 1911, was the subject of a memoir, Crossing the Jordan and Beyond, by Byron K. Armstrong, who was among its founders.149 In the sesquicentennial history, published in 1970, Thomas Clark quoted a version of the James Woodburn story cited above, adding:

Shrewdly Jordan eyed the future. Buildings could burn or be torn down, but Spanker’s Branch, in this pre-bulldozer age, promised to flow on forever, and so long as it gurgled its way through the heart of campus . . . he would not be forgotten in Indiana University.150

This naming, with its alternate titles of Jordan River or River Jordan, emerged organically through use rather than official pronouncement, circa 1900, as a response to the former president’s lighthearted suggestion to the University’s academic community.151 It became a well-used place name for generations of campus denizens and visitors and a vital part of campus folklore and tradition. In 1994, however, University Chancellor Herman Wells, chair of the All-University Committee on Names, became aware that the trustees had never taken official action to change the name from Spanker’s Branch to Jordan River. In correspondence, he said, “Although prominent this is not a building such as we usually discuss, so I don’t know what else to do with it. Trivia, trivia, trivia.”152 The matter was brought before the trustees, and, after some playful banter, unanimously approved.153

**Jordan Avenue and Jordan Avenue Parking Garage**: The naming of Jordan Avenue is unclear, and its origin “remains something of a mystery.”154 In 1984, a University archivist was unable to determine the naming’s origin and indicated, “it is still unknown as to who christened it Jordan Street,” which later in around 1925 became known as Jordan Avenue. The archivist concludes, however, “it is fairly certain” that the name was “given in honor

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149 Byron K. Armstrong, Crossing the Jordan and Beyond (1953).
151 Before his death in 1955, President Emeritus William Lowe Bryan confirmed that “Dr. Jordan has made the famous remark in a joking manner.” He was also in favor of naming the building after Jordan. Two Landmarks Named Jordan, supra note 140, at 7.
152 Letter from Herman B Wells to Terry Clapp, May 19, 1994.
153 IU Trustees Minutes, August 16, 1994, available at http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/ubot/view?docId=1994-08-16.xml&chunk.id=dl1e7&toc.depth=1&toc.id=dl1e7&brand=ubot&text=spanker&top1=and&top2=and&field1=text&field2=text&field3=text&startDoc=1#.
of David Starr Jordan.”\textsuperscript{155} An article in the \textit{Indianapolis News} from January 1928 also indicates that Jordan Avenue was named after Jordan, but without details.\textsuperscript{156} The parking garage was so named as a result of its location on Jordan Avenue, rather than as an independent naming event.

\textbf{Other Namings:} Indiana University is not the only place where buildings and other fixtures are named after Jordan. In 1966, the fisheries research ship, David Starr Jordan, was commissioned for service with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service’s Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. Jordan Hall, current home of the Psychology Department at Stanford University, was named in 1917 in honor of Jordan. In Utah’s Uinta Mountain there is a Jordan Lake, and another such lake is in Alaska, while Mount Jordan, a mountain peak in Tulare County, California, was named in 1926 in honor of Jordan by the United States Geographic Board. A ”Namesake Tree” at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Campus Arboretum is named after Jordan. High schools in Long Beach and Los Angeles, and a middle school in Burbank and Palo Alto, California have held his name. In addition, over 30 fish are named after Jordan. Jordan also reportedly holds honorary degrees from Butler, Cornell, Johns Hopkins, Illinois College, and Indiana University. Cornell University does not award honorary degrees and awarding an honorary degree to Jordan was controversially one of only two exceptions to their rule.\textsuperscript{157}

\textbf{Discussion and Analysis}

The University should remove or change a name “under extraordinary circumstances when the continued use of the honoree’s name would compromise the public trust and reflect adversely upon the university and its reputation.”\textsuperscript{158} In making this determination, the Committee must weigh six considerations set forth in the Institutional Naming Policy. While some of the considerations point in mixed directions, the Committee concludes overall that renaming would be appropriate.

1. \textbf{Nature of Behavior and Conduct}

To begin, the Committee must consider the “nature of the specific behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct.”\textsuperscript{159} Here the request for removal of Jordan’s name is based on his involvement with eugenics and degeneracy theory.

\textsuperscript{155} Id.
\textsuperscript{156} \textit{Greek Letter Life Takes on New Thrills with Completion of $500,000 Quadrangle Just East of Campus, Indianapolis News}, January 14, 1928, at 19.
\textsuperscript{158} Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5.
\textsuperscript{159} Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5.c.i.
Rooted in the social Darwinism of the late nineteenth century, eugenics was a set of beliefs based on the theory that selectively mating people with specific desirable hereditary traits could reduce human suffering. Eugenics sought to breed out disease, disability, and other “unfit” traits from the human population, believing that mental illness, criminality, alcoholism, and even vagrancy and poverty were inherited through the gene pool. The general idea was that the United States should give as much attention to breeding better babies as it gave to breeding better livestock or crops. Failure to provide this attention could lead to degeneration, hastening social decline.\textsuperscript{160}

Eugenics thinking and the multi-faceted programs it spurred aimed at better breeding led to horrific social policies. As a result of negative eugenics, the developmentally disabled were locked away, marriages and pregnancies were banned, and people were classified based on the perceived quality of their genes. Government-forced sterilizations were utilized in the United States to eliminate those deemed “feeble minded.” While dehumanizing people with intellectual disabilities, “racist, sexist, and classist assumptions” also pervaded eugenic discourse, as feeble-mindedness was intertwined in deeply problematic ways with ideas of race, class, and gender.\textsuperscript{161} Those the government deemed unfit were often immigrants, minorities, homosexuals, and the poor. American thinking on eugenics also inspired Nazi Germany laws and policies. In Germany, eugenics ideology led to mass involuntarily sterilizations, Nazi racial hygiene law and policies, and then later Nazi death camps and the genocide of the Holocaust.\textsuperscript{162}

Jordan’s writings on negative eugenics and degeneracy theory are abhorrent by today’s standards. For him the “reality of separate races was one of the most important facts of human existence.”\textsuperscript{163} Jordan promoted scientific racism and ableism as one of the key methods of driving social progress.\textsuperscript{164} Based on a theory of degeneration, for Jordan “[n]o race is so perfect that judicious weeding could not improve it.”\textsuperscript{165} And he clearly believed there were inborn “cultural behaviors” in different races.\textsuperscript{166} While forms of eugenic thinking still exist, and while racial superiority thinking may still pervade parts of

\textsuperscript{160} According to Jordan, “no community was ever built up of thieves and imbeciles.” He urged society not to “extend the right to vote to venal, cowardly, or ignorant voters.” CARLSON, supra note 12, at 188 (quoting JORDAN, FOOTNOTES TO EVOLUTION, supra note 128).


\textsuperscript{162} See supra note 14 (sources describing the connections between the U.S. eugenics movement and Nazi Germany).

\textsuperscript{163} BURNS, supra note 5, at 61.

\textsuperscript{164} Jordan, The Blood of the Nation, supra note 119, at 91, 95 (arguing that “[b]y the sacrifice of their best, or the emigration of the best, and by such influences alone, have races fallen from first-rate to second-rate in the march of history” and that “the survival of the fittest in the struggle for existence is the primal cause of race progress and race changes.”).

\textsuperscript{165} CARLSON, supra note 12, at 189 (quoting JORDAN, FOOTNOTES TO EVOLUTION, supra note 128).

\textsuperscript{166} Id. at 190.
U.S. society in various ways, the purported science of eugenics was long ago proven wrong.

Jordan’s advocacy for eugenics was influential. His writings, lectures and leadership roles in eugenic organizations had considerable impact in his time, but his advocacy also have had cascading consequences to the present. Jordan influenced the beliefs of many students by teaching an Evolution course—which included a lecture on eugenics—that all Stanford students were required to take. One contemporary characterized the course as presenting a harsh form of Darwinism that justified dog-eat-dog practices in business and politics. Eugenics ideology influenced many students beyond Stanford as well. In 1928, 376 college courses were dedicated to the subject of eugenics.

Jordan also directly influenced a number of other prominent and powerful people, including Herbert Hoover, novelist Jack London, and Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. Holmes wrote the infamous 1927 *Buck v. Bell* decision that legalized involuntary sterilization. Holmes’s opinion stated: “It is better for all the world, if instead of waiting to execute degenerate offspring for crime, or to let them starve for their imbecility, society can prevent those who are manifestly unfit from continuing their kind . . . Three generations of imbeciles are enough.” This quote expresses a sentiment similar to that reflected in Jordan’s statement on what he saw as the three kinds of poverty: “The Lord’s poor who are temporary victims of misfortune and who deserve charity; the Devil’s poor who deserve the wretchedness they brought on themselves by their vice; and third, the pauper and those who inherited feeble minds and feeble wills.”

The reverberating effects of these ideas through the 20th and into the 21st century have been widely recognized. The influence was strong in education. As one example, Jordan brought Lewis Terman—another prominent eugenicist and member of the Human Betterment Foundation—to Stanford. Jordan supported Terman’s research on

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167 STERN, supra note 91.
169 Garland E. Allen, *The Misuse of Biological Hierarchies: The American Eugenics Movement, 1900-1940*, 5 HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE LIFE SCIENCES 105, 116 (1983); see also THOMAS C. LEONARD, *ILLIBERAL REFORMERS: RACE, Eugenics, and American Economics in the Progressive Era* 111 (2017) (explaining that “Eugenics was a staple of the biology curriculum at all levels,” and that by 1928 over 20,000 students were enrolled in eugenic courses); SUSSMAN, supra note 108, at 62 (describing the prevalence of eugenics in high schools and colleges and how biology textbooks taught eugenics through the 1940s).
intelligence, which Terman believed was inherited. Terman’s research led to the Stanford-Binet tests, used to classify developmentally disabled children, and to the longitudinal research “Genetic Studies of Genius.” The origins of intelligence testing were to discover those who could benefit from advanced education and those who could not. These ideas led to a period of tracking in the public school systems and the segregation of those judged less able to benefit to less demanding tracks. Remnants of these ideas still play out in national testing for higher education in the forms of admissions tests and discussions of how college education is not for everyone.

The founding idea of eugenics—genetic bases for socio-economic success—also influenced economics policies and thought. One 1921 college textbook asked “how to deal with the unemployable?” and included in this group the “feebleminded...those saturated with alcohol or tainted with hereditary disease...[and] the irretrievable criminals and tramps....” The suggestion was that these unemployables should “be segregated, shut up in refuges and asylums, and prevented from propagating their kind.” This line of reasoning was also used to justify the lifetime institutionalization or incarceration of individuals with developmental disabilities and mental illness. Eugenics similarly influenced public policy and debates with respect to social services. Eugenics thinking was used to argue against subsidies for poor families: “feeding school children [is] a good thing; but if you believe it is important...to have more of the right kind of people, then any measure of encouragement should be most carefully selective in character.”

Eugenic arguments remain evident, even today, in contemporary discussions of social services and criminal justice. They can also be seen in widespread beliefs among U.S.

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176 Stern, supra note 91, at 99.
179 Id.
181 Thomas C. Leonard, Retrospective: Eugenics and Economics in the Progressive Era, 19 JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE 207, 219 (Fall 2005) (citing Emily Greene Balch, Western Civilization and the Birth-Rate: Discussion, 8 PUBLICATIONS OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION 90, 102 (1907)).
citizens; recent polling\(^ {183}\) and academic research\(^ {184}\) show many believe success is commonly attributed to intrinsic capabilities, while economic failure is caused by intrinsic traits and failings of individuals. Finally, as described above, the work of the Human Betterment Foundation, with which Jordan was involved at the end of his life, has been linked to the Nazi extermination policy\(^ {185}\) and eugenics thinking is evident in the contemporary white nationalism movement and fears of “race replacement.”\(^ {186}\) The Committee concludes that this factor favors renaming.

2. Centrality of Conduct to Jordan’s Life as a Whole

The Committee must consider “the centrality of those behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct to the honoree’s life as a whole.”\(^ {187}\) For other institutions considering this issue, “[t]he case for renaming is strongest where the honoree’s offensive behavior is inextricably connected with [the honoree’s] public persona.”\(^ {188}\) The “case for renaming is weaker where the honoree’s offensive behavior, though publicly known, is not a central or inextricable part of the honoree’s public persona—especially when the honoree’s behavior was conventional at the time of the behavior or the naming, and when, despite the objectionable behavior, other aspects of the person’s life and work are especially praiseworthy.”\(^ {189}\) “Paying attention to the standards of the time also usefully distinguishes those who actively promoted some morally odious practice, or dedicated much of their lives to upholding that practice, on the one hand, from those whose relationship to such a practice was unexceptional, on the other.”\(^ {190}\)

Jordan’s embrace of eugenics played a significant role in his life. In 1898, he published his first pro-eugenics work and followed it with several books “advocating for the cleaning of the gene pool: *The Human Harvest, The Blood of the Nation, Your Family Tree*, and so

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\(^{185}\) KÜHL, supra note 14; *see also* BLACK, supra note 14 (describing how Adolf Hitler’s race hatred was underpinned by the work of American eugenicists); PLATT & O’LEARY, supra note 96 at 57-70 (2005) (describing the connections between the Human Betterment Foundation and Nazi Germany, how German eugenicists were impressed by the research compiled by the Human Betterment Foundation, and describing a “relationship of mutual admiration.”). For a short overview of the Human Betterment Foundation’s role in promoting eugenics, see Kirsten Spicer, “A Nation of Imbeciles”: *The Human Betterment Foundation’s Propaganda for Eugenic Practices in California*, 7 VOGES NOVAE 199 (2015).


\(^{187}\) Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement ¶ D.5.c.ii.

\(^{188}\) Stanford Principles, supra note 27, Factor One.

\(^{189}\) Id

\(^{189}\) Yale Principles, supra note 26, at 20.
on.” As described above, he also played a leadership role in two of the foremost organizations promoting eugenics—the American Breeders Association and the Human Betterment Foundation—and was a key figure in the 1915 Race Betterment conference at the World Fair. He is distinguished from others who adopted the language of eugenics in the early 1900s because of his leadership positions and his prominent role in promoting eugenics ideology. While at one time his work with eugenics was largely forgotten or downplayed, it has now become inextricably connected to his public persona once again. Outside of those who study ichthyology, Jordan is now perhaps almost entirely known for his eugenic writings.

It is also true, however, that eugenics was not Jordan’s only work. He was a leading eugenicist, but his body of writings in this area are relatively modest compared to the vast amount written on fish in his scholarly area of expertise. Most biographies written at the time of his death, even when eugenics was still in favor in the United States, spend little time discussing Jordan’s contributions to eugenics. Many other parts of Jordan’s research and achievements are also praiseworthy. As described above, Jordan’s contributions as an ichthyologist and university president were substantial and long lasting. All reports indicate that he cared deeply about his students and their welfare, students and colleagues revered him, and he was an innovator and leader in advancing the goals of research universities. The legacy of his pioneering efforts in leading students abroad—one of the very first study abroad programs in the U.S.—continues to be reflected in the University’s extraordinary commitment to global engagement and its exceptional international programs. Most of his eugenics advocacy occurred later in his life, some years after leaving Indiana University.

While the Committee concludes that this factor is mixed, the historic record suggests that Jordan was a leader in the eugenics movement, in ways that are odious today. Other areas—his research on fish and his work in higher education—were more central to his life’s work, but his relationship to eugenics was nevertheless significant and now inextricably entwined with his public persona.

3. Prominence of Role of Named Structures in Daily Life

As a third factor, the Committee must consider “the prominence or role of the named facility or organization in the daily life of the university.” The Committee concludes

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191 Miller, supra note 9, at 130.
192 See supra notes 108-115.
193 See supra notes 14-16.
194 See, e.g., Evermann, supra note 3; Geiger, supra note 5; Burns, supra note 5; Myers, supra note 47.
195 Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5.c.iii.
that the structures under review—particularly Jordan Hall—play a meaningful role in the University’s daily life.

At the end of World War II, President Herman Wells and the trustees placed construction of a life sciences building at the top of the priority list for the postwar building boom. Dedicated as Jordan Hall in 1956, at that time the collegiate Gothic structure was among the largest and most modern life sciences buildings on any American campus. Its lecture halls, seminar rooms, offices, and laboratories have served thousands of students, staff, and faculty. A building addition constructed in 1984 added new space, including a large glass-filled atrium that became a welcoming place for students. For nearly 65 years, Jordan Hall has remained among the most well-known teaching and research buildings on the Bloomington campus and the home of one of the University’s largest and most distinguished academic departments. In 2014, upon conclusion of renovations of Jordan Hall, it was described as a building “in the center of campus life.”

Among the prominent landscape features is the Jordan River, a very small stream that flows through the beautiful campus and has long been the subject of campus folklore and humor. There is doubtless some sentimental attachment to the name, unofficial until 1994, of what once was Spanker’s Branch. In Indiana University Bloomington’s 2010 master plan, the Jordan River is described as “Bloomington’s most prominent natural feature and represents a unifying common thread through much of the core campus.” The master plan emphasizes “the importance of this natural asset” to the campus and calls to leverage “its unifying quality and continuity” because it is “a significant natural feature that contributes to Indiana University’s natural aesthetic.” Jordan Avenue is known as the location of music and theater venues, the Wells Library, and sororities and fraternities. Challenges of campus parking render the Jordan Avenue Parking Garage frequent reference if not warm sentiment.

4. Relationship of Honoree to the University’s History

The Institutional Naming Policy’s fourth factor directs the Committee to consider the “relationship of the honoree to the university’s history.” Generally, “the case for renaming is weaker when the honoree has had an important role in the University’s
history, and stronger when the honoree is a person without a significant connection to the university.”203 For some, the original naming decision deserves some degree of respect if the decision makers considered the competing interests, but not if those who made the decision were ignorant of relevant facts. The Committee concludes that analysis of this factor is mixed, but overall this factor favors keeping Jordan’s name.

Jordan was an important figure in Indiana University’s history. He was its first secular president and, by all accounts, he began the University’s transformation to a modern university in the late 1880s. For some he was “most widely known” for the faculty he hired, who “all became national figures in their respective fields, raising Indiana University from a little known midwestern school to national ranking.”204 When Jordan died, long after his presidency ended, “no one doubted that his administration ‘was the beginning of a new era at Indiana University.’”205 His most lasting contributions—those to the scientific field of ichthyology—occurred earlier. It was true too that “[i]chthyology was the dominant branch of biology at the departments he early headed, as well as at Indiana and Stanford universities during his long career as university president.”206 Notably, Jordan’s leadership role in the eugenics movement did not begin in a significant way until after he left Indiana, as he was most active in the eugenics movement later in life.

On the other hand, the Committee is careful not to overstate Jordan’s overall contributions to the University. He served as president for over six years, a more modest length of tenure compared to those of some other Indiana University presidents and much shorter than his twenty-two years as Stanford University’s president.207 As way of comparison, William Lowe Bryan, the University’s tenth President, served for thirty-five years. Indiana University was also a very different university under Jordan’s administration than it is now. In 1885, when Jordan assumed the presidency, less than 150 students were enrolled. That number rose to 325 when he completed his presidency in 1891. In contrast by the 1950s, there were over 10,000 students on the Bloomington campus, and today total enrollment often exceeds 90,000 degree-seeking students on seven campuses.208 Similarly, in the fall of 1886 at the start of the Jordan presidency, Indiana University had only “fifteen full professors, five associate professors, and two

203 Stanford Principles, supra note 28, Factor Two.
204 Two Landmarks, supra note 140, at 7.
205 Cering, supra note 39, at 83 (quotingIndianapolis Star, Sept. 21, 1931, at 6, 9).
206 Hubbs, supra note 44, at 198.
207 While not the shortest presidential term (e.g., John Hiram Lathrop served only one year in 1859), it is considerably less than many IU presidents (e.g., William Lowe Bryan – 35 years, Herman B Wells – 23 years, John William Ryan – 16 years, Cyrus Nutt – 15 years).
208 Historical enrollment figures can be found here: https://uirr.iu.edu/facts-figures/enrollment/historical/index.html.
instructors.” 209 And, perhaps not surprisingly, ichthyology and Jordan’s research program no longer play a prominent role in the Biology Department today.

The Committee notes that there is no evidence that those who approved the original Jordan namings considered his connections to eugenics in deciding whether to honor him. For some of the namings, who made the naming decisions or for what reasons is unclear. The namings were not an endorsement, implicit or otherwise, of eugenics thinking. This is not a case where the University addressed or considered the behavior at the time of the naming and nonetheless decided to honor Jordan. Also, no evidence exists of any formal proposals for Jordan’s name to be added to building or structures; today extensive proposals, review, and vetting occurs for naming decisions As such, this Committee’s review does not second-guess considered decisions of the past, nor does it criticize those who made the prior naming decisions.

5. Degree of Interference with IU Community

Next the committee must consider “the degree to which retaining the name will interfere with the ability of the university community to teach, work, learn, and live in the community.” 210 Common renaming principles often underscore that “the case for renaming is strong to the extent that retaining a name creates an environment that impairs the ability of students, faculty, or staff of a particular gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, or other characteristic protected by federal law or University policy, to participate fully and effectively in the missions of the University.” 211 The Committee’s assessment is that this interference would be significant.

As far back as the time of Herman B Wells, Indiana University’s eleventh president and first university chancellor, the University established a reputation for providing a welcoming and supportive environment for Black students from the racially segregated South, as well as students from abroad. The Indiana University School of Education was widely known as the “Mother of Black College Presidents.” 212 Nearly 100 years later, Indiana University strives to be among the most ethnically and culturally diverse research universities in the United States. Indiana University was one of the first Big Ten universities to create vice presidential-level positions for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). University trustees, executive leadership teams, and faculty have consistently

209 Gering, supra note 34, at 76.
210 Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5.c.v.
211 Stanford Principles, supra note 28, Factor Three.
identified DEI as a strategic priority. This priority is reflected in the budgetary and programmatic initiatives of the various colleges and schools on the Bloomington campus.

During the past two decades, the University has made a concerted effort to better align its stated commitment to DEI with increased investments, both in providing scholarships and financial aid for students of color and in hiring DEI directors at the college and school-level. In addition, the University has removed the name of an avowed racist from one of the sports facilities most heavily utilized by students, the Intramural Center on the Bloomington campus, and renamed it in honor of Bill Garrett, the first Black IU scholar-athlete to play basketball at Indiana University. Moreover, after student protest and expressed concern about the Thomas Hart Benton Mural, painted in 1937 and housed in Woodburn Hall 100, a major campus classroom, the provost directed in 2019 that classes no longer be held there.\textsuperscript{213} At the same time, campus leaders have undertaken numerous actions to convey their unswerving commitment to diversity, including the installation of artwork throughout the campus that addresses the underrepresentation of women and minorities. More recently, the University has announced several significant anti-racism initiatives.\textsuperscript{214}

One of the unintended consequences of keeping David Starr Jordan’s name on various campus structures would be to erroneously convey the University’s concurrence with the execrable views held by a racist and eugenicist who actively promoted public policies—including forced sterilization and deportation—that did irreparable harm to people of color, people with disabilities, and other socially marginalized groups. To continue to honor Jordan, with honorific namings on campus facilities would risk interfering with, and would be seen by many as running counter to, the university’s avowed commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and its commitment to educating students to learn, live, and lead in an increasingly interconnected global environment.

The Committee found community input also helpful in assessing “the ability of the university community to teach, work, learn, and live in the community” if the University retained or removed Jordan’s name. Particularly helpful outreach described personal experiences of individuals—as in the case of input from alumni and others who identified as multiracial, LGBT, or first-generation immigrants, or who had developmental or physically disabilities—who indicated it would make them feel unwelcome knowing that Jordan would have opposed their attending the University.\textsuperscript{215} Some alumni and current

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\textsuperscript{213} For the reasons behind this decision, see Lauren K. Robel., On the Benton Murals, Sept. 29, 2017, available at https://provost.indiana.edu/statements/archive/benton-murals.html.

\textsuperscript{214} See generally https://diversity.iu.edu/anti-racist/initiatives.html.

\textsuperscript{215} As one alum, who identifies as LGBT and multiracial, wrote: “I was shocked and hurt at the same time, when I found out Mr. Jordan’s role in eugenics...I would literally walk into [Jordan Hall] and think, ‘this guy would have never wanted me to attend IU,
students were worried that, if the University were to continue to use Jordan’s name, the message sent would be inconsistent with the welcoming community they had found at the Bloomington campus. The faculty who teach and work in Jordan Hall were concerned that eugenics is not a science, explaining that eugenics “does not reflect our science and [Jordan’s] values do not reflect our values.” Faculty in the School of Education’s Special Education Program urged the University not to honor “those who viewed disabilities as flaws needing correction or, worse, that people with disabilities should be isolated or controlled through sterilization.” Several thousand students and others signed a petition urging that the University remove Jordan’s name. Those opposed to renaming were worried that the University would ignore Jordan’s achievements and not acknowledge his positive contributions. Some were concerned that the renaming decisions might become politicized. On balance, this factor favors renaming.

6. Indiana University’s Mission and Fundamental Values

Under the Institutional Naming Policy’s sixth factor, the Committee must assess “whether retention of the honoree’s name compromises the university’s mission or conflicts with the university’s fundamental values.” This factor weighs in favor of ceasing to use the Jordan name.

Indiana University has a mission appropriate for its position as one of the nation’s great public research universities. Its mission is “to provide broad access to undergraduate and graduate education for students throughout Indiana, the United States, and the world, as well as outstanding academic and cultural programs and student services.” Indiana University also “strives to achieve full diversity, and to maintain friendly, collegial, and humane environments, with a strong commitment to academic freedom.” Its vision to achieve these goals rests on “providing an excellent, relevant, and responsive education.

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216 As one example, an alum of Southeast Asian descent wrote concerned that Jordan’s legacy with eugenics would send a message inconsistent with her experience: “My 6 years as an IU graduate student were an amazing, unforgettable experience. . . . I knew very little about Bloomington and wasn’t convinced I would find the same diversity, cultural enrichment, or acceptance [as I did at another university.] And I was very wrong. The people, the campus, the culture, everything about Bloomington and IU convinced me I had made the right choice in coming [to IU Bloomington.] I never once felt like I wasn’t welcome or didn’t belong... Jordan’s eugenics beliefs, ideas, and work, have no place in a community that pledges not just to honor and celebrate diversity, inclusion, but to stand up against racism, bigotry, and intolerance.”

217 Letter from Faculty Members of the Biology Department (June 12, 2020).
218 Letter from Faculty Members of the School of Education’s Special Education Program (July 15, 2020).
219 Petition to Rename Jordan Hall, supra note 1; see also IU Student Body Resolution, supra note 1.
220 As a current student wrote: “IU should be non-partisan and stay out of politics. If Jordan Hall is renamed, more requests will come and force IU to fall into left ideology. No political bias should exist at any place that wants to be a true educator and source of knowledge”.
221 Appendix B, UA-06, Policy Statement § D.5.c.vi.
to students from all backgrounds from Indiana and around the globe.” Its mission is founded on core values of “excellence and innovation,” “diversity of community and ideas,” the “respect for the dignity of others,” and “academic freedom,” among others.  

Jordan’s beliefs that hierarchies exist among races is inconsistent with the University’s commitment to a just academic community where diversity and inclusion is valued. As President McRobbie affirmed this summer, the University has a long-standing commitment “to improving diversity, equity and inclusiveness, to addressing social injustice, and to standing up to hatred, divisiveness, bigotry and intolerance in all of its forms.” As described above, Jordan’s views of immigrants, his belief in racial hierarchies, and his belief in genetic heredity are inconsistent with this commitment. Jordan’s advocacy with negative eugenics also cannot be squared with the University’s commitment that all students be treated with dignity and respect, and its commitment to ensuring that students with disabilities have the support and reasonable accommodations they need to be successful.

Jordan’s views are also in tension with University values in other ways. Fundamental to the University’s mission is a belief in the transformational value of higher education, and its role in social mobility. The University has been a leader in ensuring a high-quality education remains accessible and affordable. These commitments are at odds with Jordan’s views of hereditarism. While Jordan believed in the value of education, he limited it with his views that poverty, social status, intelligence, and one’s lot in life are constrained by genetics. Some people, for Jordan, “are not worth educating.” While the College of Arts and Sciences explains how the “liberal arts help develop the rigor of mind needed for advanced study in any field and for the pursuit of a richer life through the enlargement of mind and spirit,” Jordan believed that such personal advancement for many in our society was inherently impossible. The University’s commitment to global engagement—as a University with students who come to Bloomington from all over the world—is also in tension with Jordan’s demands for tighter border controls and his fears over the “dangers of foreign immigration” to American “stock.”

This is not to say that all of Jordan’s legacy is inconsistent with values the University holds. Jordan had traits that the University rightfully acknowledges. He was a dedicated scholar who treated students as adults and emphasized the importance of the University’s research mission and how research was an integral part of teaching. He believed deeply in

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223 Id.
224 Michael McRobbie, Statement on Juneteenth and Actions to Improve Racial Diversity and Inclusion at IU, June 19, 2020; see also Michael McRobbie, A Statement on IU’s Commitment to Diversity and Equity, May 31, 2020.
225 David Starr Jordan, Voice of the Scholar 7 (1903) “higher education cannot make a man, where manhood did not exist before.”; see also Herman B Wells, Commencement Address, July 11, 1956, at 3 (noting Jordan said that “What a college education is worth depends entirely upon the man who has it. There is no use loading a $10,000 education on a 50 cent boy.”).
the value of mentorship and was known for collaborating with his students. As one contemporary describes at the time of Jordan’s passing: “[h]e was an inspiring teacher, kind, sympathetic, utterly unselfish, and always ready to give encouragement to any student who seemed to need it.” 226 Consistent with Indiana University’s long commitment to globalized engagement, Jordan “was among the first Americans to lecture abroad, particularly in Asia, in Australia, and Japan.” 227 Jordan was known for his support of academic freedom 228 and spoke of the University as “the most valuable of Indiana’s possessions.” 229

In sum, however, the Committee concludes that this factor, on balance, militates against continued use of Jordan’s name. Identifying Jordan with a building, as well as other structures and features bearing his name, inevitably implies that the honoree is a role model for those at Indiana University. Many of the names on the Bloomington campus are those of inspiring graduates, who represent university ideals. Those honorees too are not perfect, but they are mostly known for leaving their positive marks on the university, the state, the nation, or beyond. Jordan’s advocacy of negative eugenics and of the racism and ableism that accompanied it does not reflect the values of Indiana University today.

7. Public Trust and Indiana University’s Reputation

In considering the above six factors, the Institutional Naming Policy instructs the Committee to assess whether “use of the honoree’s name would compromise the public trust and reflect adversely upon the university and its reputation.” 230 In addition to the analysis above, the Committee concludes that the risk of harm to the University’s reputation, should the namings be kept, could be significant given the manner in which other respected institutions have addressed similar issues.

A number of namings have occurred recently involving eugenic proponents, some of them contemporaries of Jordan and several involving former presidents of universities. This summer, several well-respected universities announced that they would rename buildings after revelations about the honorees’ connections with eugenics. Most prominently:

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226 Evermann, supra note 3, at 329; see also Johnston, supra note 73 ("Early students found Jordan memorable as well. He was renowned for his stentorian voice and for his ability to remember the names of students even years after they graduated.").
227 Dedication Ceremony, supra note 66, at 5.
228 Wells, Commencement Address, supra note 225, at 4 ("Few men have done as much as [Jordan] to win the present right of the scholar to work in freedom.").
229 Jordan Hall, supra note 138.
• The University of Southern California renamed in June 2020 a prominent historic building named after its fifth president, Rufus Von KleinSmid. Von KleinSmid served as president for twenty-five years, but the renaming occurred because he was “an active supporter of eugenics and his writings on the subject are at direct odds with USC’s multicultural community and our mission of diversity and inclusion.”

• The University of Maine in June 2020 recommended that its Board of Trustees remove the name Clarence C. Little from one of the university’s academic buildings. Little, a geneticist and a proponent of eugenics, served as the university’s president in the early 1920s before becoming the president at the University of Michigan. This followed a decision in 2018 by the University of Michigan to rename a building that held Little’s name.

• Columbia University, in July 2020, removed Edward L. Thorndike’s name from a building that held his name. While concluding that “Thorndike’s work was hugely influential on modern educational ideas and practices,” the renaming occurred because “he was also a proponent of eugenics, and held racist, sexist, and antisemitic ideas.”

• University College London renamed in June 2020 two lecture halls and a building that had been named in honor of prominent eugenicists Francis Galton and Karl Pearson because the continued naming would have “a profound impact on the sense of belonging that [the university] want all of [its] staff and students to have.”

• In June 2020, Cambridge University removed a window in honor of Sir Ronald A. Fisher in Gonville and Caius College. Although Fisher’s work on statistics and genetics was “fundamental to fields as wide ranging as clinical trials in medicine through to increased production in agriculture”

211 A Message to the USC Community from President Folt, University of Southern California, July 11, 2022, available at https://www.president.usc.edu/a-message-to-the-usc-community-from-president-folt/.
and he briefly served as the College’s president in the late 1950s, he was a proponent of eugenics.236

Other prominent renamings related to eugenicists have followed. In late July 2020, Planned Parenthood announced they would rename a building and a street named in honor of Margaret Sanger.237 The Sierra Club announced it would remove names in honor of its founder, John Muir.238 Jackson Laboratory in Maine renamed an auditorium named in honor of Clarence C. Little.239 In June, Princeton University took the “extraordinary step” to remove former President Woodrow Wilson’s name from its public policy school and a residential college, as a result of Wilson’s “racist thinking and policies,” some of them drawn from eugenic policies.240

Additional renamings related to eugenicists are currently being considered. The California Institute of Technology (Caltech) has been asked to rename buildings, rooms, and spaces named in honor of Robert Milliken, who was Caltech’s first Nobel laureate and its longest-serving president for 24 years.241 Milliken was a prominent eugenicist associated with the Human Betterment Foundation, with which Jordan was also involved. In July, a similar petition was filed at Pomona College to remove Milliken’s name from a building that houses the school’s physics, astronomy, and mathematics departments.242 Also in July, a petition was submitted at Harvard by its medical and dental students to rename the Oliver Wendell Holmes Society, in part because Holmes, a former dean of the medical school, believed in eugenics.243 Over the last year, the University of Minnesota

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has debated whether to rename several buildings, including one that honors a former president who supported eugenics.\textsuperscript{244}

There have also been renamings, or the forming of committees to consider renamings, related to Jordan specifically. Stanford University announced in July that it would expedite its review of a request to rename Jordan Hall on Stanford’s campus and remove a statue above its entrance.\textsuperscript{245} In late July 2020, a city prosecutor called for the school district to rename Jordan High School in Long Beach, California and reports suggest a renaming committee will soon be launched.\textsuperscript{246} The Los Angeles Unified School District began exploring renaming Jordan High School in Los Angeles and held an open town hall in late July.\textsuperscript{247} In 2019, the Jordan Middle School in Burbank, California was renamed because Jordan’s eugenic beliefs “are an insult to Burbank’s diverse and inclusive spirit.”\textsuperscript{248} In 2017, the school district voted to rename the Jordan Middle School in Palo Alto, California because of Jordan’s promotion of eugenics.\textsuperscript{249} And, here at Indiana University, Jordan’s name is no longer used in connection with scholarships and awards.\textsuperscript{250}

To be clear, the decisions of other institutions are not a factor directly considered in renaming decisions at Indiana University. But those renamings, along with petitions and supporting documents, suggest that Indiana University would be an outlier if it kept Jordan’s name on buildings and places on campus. So far, the public have been generally supportive of the renamings occurring at these other institutions. Review committees at other institutions have reached similar recommendations for removal when the honorific naming involved a prominent eugenicist. The community opinion here at Indiana


\textsuperscript{247} We are in the process of renaming David Starr Jordan High School, Jordan High School, available at https://jhs-lausd-ca.schoolloop.com (“Since we want to ensure that our school’s name reflects the values of students, staff and the community at large, we believe it is time for a change.”).


\textsuperscript{250} The Office of Overseas Study discontinued using Jordan’s name for study abroad scholarships for students from Indiana University regional campuses. Memo from Kathleen Sidel, Associate Vice President for Overseas Study, to Jordan Naming Review Committee, July 10, 2020. Indiana University, Cornell University, and Stanford University also have discontinued the David Starr Jordan Prize that was given every three years to a young scientist.
University—from students, faculty, staff, and alumni—runs strongly in favor of renaming, even though there are some who would prefer that Jordan’s name be kept. Considered all together, keeping the Jordan name would likely be viewed negatively by the public and possibly harm the University’s reputation.

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In sum, while the factors point in ambiguous directions, overall the Committee concludes that they weigh in favor of removing the Jordan name from all structures at Indiana University. The Committee sees no easy way to disentangle Jordan’s public persona from his advocacy of racial hierarchies and hereditarianism.

Committee Recommendations

Considering the historical evidence in light of the factors set forth in the Institutional Naming Policy, the Committee offers three recommendations to the President, Provost, and the University Naming Committee.

1. **Name Removal:** The Committee recommends that the University rename Jordan Hall, Jordan River, Jordan Avenue, and the Jordan Avenue Parking Garage. 251 Jordan should be remembered in the history of the University and in descriptions and portraits of past presidents. Because of Jordan’s leadership roles in the eugenics movement, however, the Committee recommends that the University cease using Jordan’s name in honorific namings or in ways that could be viewed as mistakenly celebrating his advocacy of negative eugenics. We come to this recommendation not lightly, believing that the University must be fair to those that have played a key role in the University’s history. We recognize that people are morally complex and that the task of judging the decisions of those made long ago must be done with humility. In the case of Jordan, however, the legacy of the namesake is too far out of alignment with the values of the University, even when considering the honoree’s positive contributions. Continued use of Jordan’s name in an honorific way would risk interference with the University’s mission, could be perceived as endorsing views and beliefs at odds with our fundamental values, and would likely reflect poorly on the University and its reputation.

2. **Remembering and Educating:** The Committee sees a difference between revering and remembering Jordan: it recommends that Indiana University ensure that history is not lost during the renaming process. For Jordan Hall, this would at least include a

251 Should renaming of Jordan Avenue or the Jordan Avenue Parking Garage prove difficult—we understand that it also involves a street that is part of the City of Bloomington—we find these less concerning than Jordan Hall and Jordan River. Ordinary street names do not necessarily have the same symbolic salience as honorific namings on buildings.
plaque or sign noting who Jordan was and the reasons for the renaming. In addition, the Committee also favors some other means—e.g., an exhibit, lectures, a course, installation, public art, a periodic public event—of visibly acknowledging this history to avoid its erasure. The Committee urges the University to take advantage of an opportunity to educate the community on the role eugenics played in Indiana and the nation, and the impacts eugenics ideology had and continues to have. The renaming provides opportunities for learning and a chance for our community to think carefully about the good and the bad parts of our history. As one of the nation’s foremost research universities, understanding and educating students about ideas and their social and cultural consequences is important.

3. Other Names and Community Input: Considering alternative names was not part of the Committee’s charge. Core to the Committee’s recommendation, however, is the fundamental idea—embraced by the Institutional Naming Policy—that honorific namings should reflect the University’s mission and values. Indiana University has implemented a wide range of initiatives designed to bring to light stories of those in the University’s history whose contributions have not been previously fully appreciated by current students, faculty, staff, alumni, and campus visitors. Underlying these initiatives is the recognition that symbolism and history are important for the Bloomington campus. The names that are chosen for buildings and structures can impact communities in different ways, and honorifics provided at one time may have a significantly different effect on the community at another time. Renaming decisions thus provide an opportunity not only to reassess the contributions of past honorees, but also to discover other noteworthy contributors to the University’s history. The Women’s Philanthropy Visibility Endowment and the Bridging the Visibility Gap initiatives from the IU Bicentennial and the For All Bicentennial Campaign are just two recent examples where the University has brought compelling, previously hidden stories to light. If the University adopts this Committee’s name-removal recommendation, we encourage the Naming Committee, when considering nominations for new names, to continue this important work. We also believe the University should continue to provide opportunities for the broad University community—its alumni, faculty, staff, and current students—to provide its collective input and suggestions for new potential names.

Footnote:

252 In 2007, “historians, bioethicists, and legislators organized an exhibit, a conference, and several publications around the centennial” of Indiana’s sterilization law. That event included installation of a historical marker that recognized the 2,500 people sterilized in Indiana between 1907 and 1975. For more information, see: https://eugenics.sitehost.iu.edu/
In addition to the considerations set out in the Introduction and Executive Summary, the Committee concludes this report with several observations relevant to its recommendations. The Committee notes that in many renaming decisions concerns arise that the decision to rename is the result of pressure imposed by the so-called political correctness of the day. The University should particularly take care that a renaming not inhibit research or otherwise restrict open and free inquiry.

These are important considerations, but the Committee concludes they are not implicated much, if at all, in the Jordan namings. First, while reasonable people may disagree with the Committee’s analysis of the renaming factors, the negative eugenics theories that Jordan promoted have long been discredited. While the legacy of eugenics remains in various forms, Jordan’s starkest views on hereditarianism were scientifically discredited in the United States in the 1930s, and the organizations he promoted were disbanded and ceased to exist. Most states by the 1970s had repealed their forced sterilization laws on moral grounds. Rejection of negative eugenics and the conclusion that race hierarchies have no scientific basis is not a fad of the day, but a long-standing scientific consensus. While the influence of eugenics ideology can still be found, the condemnation of negative eugenics, social Darwinism, and forced sterilization—as advocated by Jordan—is hardly political correctness.

Second, the Committee does not find that the Jordan namings were meant to capture history, which is now being changed. Instead, the namings occurred because Jordan’s public persona at the time of the namings was as a renowned ichthyologist and an innovative president, whose name would inspire and serve as a point of pride. Now that this public persona has changed and his name is most associated with his advocacy related to negative eugenics, the risk that the University erroneously will be viewed as celebrating and glorifying abhorrent views counsels in favor of the University replacing Jordan’s name with the names of others whose experiences, life’s work, and beliefs better reflect the University’s fundamental mission and values. The continued use of the Jordan namings understandably could make some feel unwelcome on campus. As the Institutional Naming Policy underscores, the University has no obligation to continue to celebrate a historical figure when a central part of the person’s work is revealed to be contrary to the University’s long-standing and fundamental values.

Third, Jordan’s writings on eugenics were not drawn from his research or scientific study.\textsuperscript{253} While he wrote several books that reflected his social theories, Jordan’s views on social Darwinism were largely drawn from others, his scholarly research focused on fish and their taxonomy. It is difficult to see then under the circumstances how the namings

\textsuperscript{253} Scholars whose research and scholarly work was tied to eugenics would include people like Francis Galton and Karl Pearson. Their names were removed from lecture halls and buildings at University College London in June.
would inhibit research or otherwise restrict free inquiry. Also, to be clear, the Committee has been careful not to criticize research that later was revealed to be mistaken. For Jordan, it was his promotion and significant leadership of organizations that advocated practices leading to social policies with horrific consequences (and which were, indeed, untethered to Jordan’s research expertise) that counsels against retaining namings that might be viewed as celebrating that advocacy. The University’s commitment to honest and complete scholarship—given the significant problems in the scientific approach taken by eugenicists and the lack of any genetic basis for eugenic theories—similarly weighs in favor of, not against, renaming.

Relatedly, the Committee does not adopt the position—and does not recommend—that structures should be renamed simply because there’s evidence the person being honored may have at some point espoused a view during their lifetime that we now find abhorrent. As described above, eugenics was widely accepted in the early 1900s. The discovery that someone only casually adopted the commonly held view of hereditarianism—described in textbooks, taught throughout the U.S., and promoted by leaders—would not, without more, have led to the Committee’s renaming recommendation. Rather, as described above, the prominent role that Jordan played in the U.S. eugenics movement over several decades and his influence in promoting negative eugenics—balanced with the other factors set forth in the Institutional Naming Policy—distinguishes Jordan from others that lived during his time.
Appendices

Appendix A: List of Committee Members

Karen Bravo, co-chair
Dean and Professor of Law
Indiana University McKinney School of Law

Austen Parrish, co-chair
Dean and James H. Rudy Professor of Law
Indiana University Maurer School of Law

Richard Gunderman
Chancellor’s Professor of Radiology, Pediatrics, Medical Education, Philosophy, Liberal Arts, Philanthropy, and Medical Humanities and Health Studies;
John A. Campbell Professor of Radiology and Bicentennial Professor
Indiana University School of Medicine

James Madison
Thomas and Kathryn Miller Emeritus Professor of History
Indiana University Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences

Charlie Nelms
Vice President Emeritus, Professor Emeritus
Indiana University Bloomington School of Education

Linda Smith
Distinguished Professor
Chancellor’s Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Indiana University Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences

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Kelly Kish, ex-officio
Deputy Chief of Staff
Director, Office of the Bicentennial
Office of the President
Indiana University

James Capshaw, ex-officio
University Historian
Professor, History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine.
Indiana University Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences
Appendix B: Policy of Institutional Naming UA-06

Policy Statement, Section D.

Changes to or Removal of Names

1. The removal of or change in the name of a facility or organization may be initiated only by the provost, a chancellor, a vice president, the president of the IU Foundation, the president of the university, or a trustee.

2. In the absence of an express delegation by the President to a special committee appointed and charged by the President, the same process for naming a facility or organization in the first instance shall be implemented for changing or removing the name of a facility or organization, and the Naming Committee shall retain the authority for administration of this process.

3. When a facility or organization ceases to exist, the university will make every effort to continue to commemorate memorial or benefactor recognition in an appropriate way; however, the university will not usually transfer a name to another facility or organization.

4. In the case of a benefactor naming, the university may remove a name upon the failure of a financial commitment to be satisfied.

5. The university reserves the right to remove a name from a facility or organization under extraordinary circumstances when the continued use of the honoree’s name would compromise the public trust and reflect adversely upon the university and its reputation. The removal of an honoree’s name from a facility or organization must not be undertaken lightly, and it must be approached with respect for the considered judgments of the past, especially when exercised by the contemporaries of the honoree, and with an awareness of the fallibility of our own judgments. The decision-making process must include, at a minimum, the following:

   a. An articulation of specific behavior(s) or course(s) of conduct on the part of the honoree on which the request for the removal of the honoree’s name is based;

   b. A fact-finding investigation of the specific behavior(s) or course(s) of conduct, including an examination of contemporaneous records related to the consideration of the naming, and the historical, personal, and (if relevant) academic context, of the behavior(s) or course(s) of behavior;

   c. Thoughtful consideration of the impact on the university and the university community of both retention and the removal of the honoree’s name from the facility or the organization, including but not limited to the following:
i. The nature of the specific behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct;

ii. The centrality of those behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct to the honoree’s life as a whole;

iii. The prominence or role of named facility or organization in the daily life of the university;

iv. The relationship of the honoree to the university’s history;

v. The degree to which retaining the name will interfere with the ability of the university community to teach, work, learn, and live in the community;

vi. Whether retention of the honoree’s name compromises the university’s mission or conflicts with the university’s fundamental values.

The university may also consult with immediate relatives and heirs of the honoree, as well as individuals involved in the initial naming decision, before making a recommendation.

6. Upon the removal of a name under this section, the name of the facility or organization will revert to name immediately previous. If there is no previous permanent name, an administrative name will be adopted. The process for an initial naming will be utilized if the facility or organization is subsequently renamed.
Appendix C: Committee Charge

Committee to Review all Namings in Honor of IU’s 7th President David Starr Jordan

1. In my report to the Indiana University Board of Trustees at their meeting on June 12, 2020, I announced that I would be asking the University Naming Committee “… to begin a systematic review of all named buildings or structures on all campuses of Indiana University with the goal of trying to identify any of these where the person after whom these buildings or structures are named has been found to have held views in statements, writings or publicly, inimical to the fundamental values of the university and where there is a case for considering the removal of their present names.”

2. In particular I mentioned IU’s 7th President David Starr Jordan some of whose statements and views have come under particular scrutiny and criticism recently. There are now a number of requests that his name be removed from the building that houses IU Bloomington’s Department of Biology and from other locations on the campus.

3. There is a process for the changing or removal of names that is described in the Indiana University Policy of Institutional Naming UA-06 (https://policies.iu.edu/policies/ua-06-institutional-naming/index.html). The relevant part reads as follows.

“D.5 The university reserves the right to remove a name from a facility or organization under extraordinary circumstances when the continued use of the honoree’s name would compromise the public trust and reflect adversely upon the university and its reputation. The removal of an honoree’s name from a facility or organization must not be undertaken lightly, and it must be approached with respect for the considered judgments of the past, especially when exercised by the contemporaries of the honoree, and with an awareness of the fallibility of our own judgments. The decision-making process must include, at a minimum, the following:

a. An articulation of specific behavior(s) or course(s) of conduct on the part of the honoree on which the request for the removal of the honoree’s name is based;

b. A fact-finding investigation of the specific behavior(s) or course(s) of conduct, including an examination of contemporaneous records related to the consideration of the naming, and the historical, personal, and (if relevant) academic context, of the behavior(s) or course(s) of behavior;

c. Thoughtful consideration of the impact on the university and the university community of both retention and the removal of the honoree’s name from the facility or the organization, including but not limited to the following:

i. The nature of the specific behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct;

ii. The centrality of those behavior(s) and course(s) of conduct to the honoree’s life as a whole;
iii.  The prominence or role of named facility or organization in the daily life of the university;

iv. The relationship of the honoree to the university’s history;

v. The degree to which retaining the name will interfere with the ability of the university community to teach, work, learn, and live in the community;

vi. Whether retention of the honoree’s name compromises the university’s mission or conflicts with the university’s fundamental values.

The university may also consult with immediate relatives and heirs of the honoree, as well as individuals involved in the initial naming decision, before making a recommendation.”

4. This policy reflects the fact that removing a name from a building is a serious matter that should not be undertaken without thorough research and the preparation of a detailed report and case for removal of, changing or the keeping of a name.

5. Hence I am establishing a Committee (the “Jordan Committee”) to prepare a report that addresses the various points listed in the excerpt from Policy UA-06 above. On the basis of this work the Committee should specifically consider the following structures and places named after Jordan, and provide for each any recommendation that the Committee might have about removing, changing or keeping each of these names:

- Jordan Hall
- Jordan River
- Jordan Avenue
- Jordan Parking Garage
- Any scholarships, fellowships or other awards that bear his name.

6. The members of the Committee will be as follows:

- Karen Bravo (Dean, McKinney School of Law –Co-Chair)
- Austen Parrish (Dean, Maurer School of Law –Co-Chair)
- Richard Gunderman (Chancellor’s Professor Radiology, Pediatrics, Medical Education, Philosophy, Liberal Arts, Philanthropy, and Medical Humanities and Health Studies)
- James Madison (Thomas and Kathryn Miller Emeritus Professor of History)
- Charlie Nelms (Professor Emeritus and Vice President Emeritus, Indiana University, and former Chancellor North Carolina Central University)
• Linda Smith (Distinguished Professor and Chancellor’s Professor, Psychological and Brain Sciences)

• Kelly Kish, Deputy Chief of Staff to the President, and Professor James Capshew, the University Historian, will consult with the Committee as needed.

7. In accordance with Policy UA-06, the Committee should seek material from any and all relevant sources and should solicit and receive public input as needed. All of this should then be evaluated against the various criteria described in this policy as part of the Committee’s deliberations.

8. The Committee should present their report to me, Provost Lauren Robel and the Naming Committee by September 1, 2020. The report will be made public soon after this.

Michael A. McRobbie
President
Indiana University

July, 2020
Appendix D: Bibliography of Documents Reviewed

Introduction

The Committee reviewed or consulted a wide range of documentary materials, both primary and secondary sources, in preparing this report. This bibliography contains full citations of footnoted material in the text as well as a listing of other works consulted.

Instigating Documents

Letter from Faculty Members of the Biology Department, Indiana University. June 12, 2020.


Letter from Faculty Members of the School of Education’s Special Education Program. July 15, 2020.

Megan Chapman, Petition to Rename Jordan Hall, Jordan Avenue, and Jordan River on Indiana University’s Campus. Summer 2020.

Archival Collections

The following collections at the Indiana University Archives were reviewed for any and all materials related to David Starr Jordan’s personal and professional work:

- The two collections devoted to Jordan’s personal papers (C297) and President’s papers (C77) (reviewed in their entirety).
- Correspondence with IU President Moss (C74), IU President Swain (C174), IU President Bryan (C270 and C286), IU President Coulter (C79).
- Personal and professional correspondence between DSJ and Rosa Smith Eigenmann (C59).
- Jordan biographer, Gering’s research notes (C363) and IU historian Theophilus Wylie’s Jordan notes (C202).
• Board of Trustees reports delivered by David Starr Jordan, 1885-1891 (C654)

• Board of Trustees minutes and meeting notes related to the various namings.

• Documents related to the naming of Jordan Hall in President Wells papers (C213).

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“David Starr Jordan to Speak at University of Redlands Commencement,” San Bernardino County Sun, April 19, 1923.


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Jordan High School, Los Angeles Unified School District. “We are in the process of renaming David Starr Jordan High School! Voting information can be found below.” https://jhs-lausd-ca.schoolloop.com/


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Indiana Eugenics Centennial. 2007.


Smithgroup/JJR. *Indiana University Bloomington Campus Master Plan*. March 2010.


