

**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**

**Resolution No. 2023.05/33
Authorization to Name
Seelinger/Trites Conference Room**

Resolution

Whereas, the Board of Trustees, as authorized by the Board of Trustees Governing Document, Section C, Policies, Subsection IV-C, Naming of Facilities, shall approve the naming of all facilities at the University; and

Whereas, Room 140 in Stevenson Hall is located in Normal, IL; and

Whereas, Roberta Trites and George Seelinger have committed financial resources to Illinois State University; and

Whereas, the University Naming Committee has recommended, and Interim President Tarhule has endorsed the recommendations as described herein:

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees in regular meeting assembled, approves the naming of Room 140 in Stevenson Hall the “Seelinger/Trites Conference Room” in recognition of financial support to Illinois State University.

Board Action on: _____
Motion by: _____
Second by: _____
Vote: Yeas: _____ Nays: _____

Postpone: _____
Amend: _____
Disapprove: _____
Approve: _____

ATTEST: Board Action, May 12, 2023

Secretary / Chairperson

**Board of Trustees
Illinois State University
Authorization to Name Seelinger/Trites Conference Room**

The College of Arts and Sciences respectfully requests naming Stevenson Hall, Room 140 as the Seelinger/Trites Conference Room. This generous commitment from Distinguished Professor of English Dr. Roberta Seelinger Trites and Emeritus Professor of Mathematics Dr. George Seelinger will recognize their legacies, combining to total more than fifty years, at Illinois State University and in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The careers of Dr. Trites and Dr. Seelinger have been marked by a dual commitment to advancing their respective fields and serving the College and University.

Since joining ISU's Department of English in 1991, Dr. Trites has become a leading expert in the field of Children's Literature, publishing six scholarly books and earning the prestigious International Brothers Grimm Award, recognizing prominent contributions in children's literature. During her career at ISU, Dr. Trites served as Associate Dean and Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Interim Chair of the Department of Management and Quantitative Methods, and Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Administration.

Dr. Seelinger first came to Illinois State University as a Visiting Assistant Professor in 1999 and went on to serve as Department Chair from 2002 until his retirement in 2022. During his time as Chair, Dr. Seelinger helped implement important programmatic initiatives in the Department of Mathematics, including implementing a joint program in Statistics with Tianhu College—Shanghai Normal University and supported the development of an online actuarial master's program.

This naming would provide recognition of the contributions Dr. Trites and Dr. Seelinger have made to Illinois State University, and would provide the first space in Stevenson Hall named in honor of faculty. Aligning with the core value of Learning and Scholarship laid out in *Educate • Connect • Elevate*, this naming would recognize Dr. Trites and Dr. Seelinger's commitment and embodiment of this core value throughout their years of distinguished service to the College and University. Sometimes referred to anecdotally as the College's Conference Room, this naming would serve as a physical embodiment of the interdisciplinary nature of the College of Arts and Sciences and would highlight two individuals who have made a lasting impact and outstanding contributions to two of the three divisions within the College of Arts and Sciences.