HUNTER COLLEGE

Naming of The Leon and Toby Cooperman Library
and The Leon and Toby Cooperman Scholars Program

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of The City University of New York approve the naming of “The Leon and Toby Cooperman Library” and “The Leon and Toby Cooperman Scholars Program.”

EXPLANATION: Leon and Toby Cooperman have pledged $25 million to the Hunter College Foundation, Inc., to be paid over a five-year period starting in 2013 to fund two major initiatives. Fifteen million dollars will be used to renovate and upgrade the College’s main library located in Hunter College’s East Building at the southeast corner of Lexington Avenue and 68th Street. The remaining ten million will fund a Scholars Program to provide financial assistance to academically qualified candidates who have demonstrated financial need that is unmet by other financial scholarship programs.

Leon G. Cooperman has a B.A. from Hunter College (Class of 1964) in chemistry and physics, and he earned an M.B.A. from Columbia Business School in 1967. Mr. Cooperman is Founder and Chairman of Omega Advisors, Inc., a major New York hedge fund investment firm. Toby Alowitz Cooperman received a B.A. in history from Hunter College (Class of 1964). For more than 20 years, Toby Cooperman was a learning disabilities specialist at the Early Childhood Learning Center for special education students in Chatham, New Jersey.

The Coopermans have made other gifts to Hunter College, having previously established The Leon Cooperman Pre-Business Program, and contributing to the Hunter College Mother’s Day Scholarship Campaign. The Coopermans have pledged this gift to celebrate the approach of the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage and their graduation from Hunter College, where they first met.

To recognize their generosity, Hunter College requests that the Board approve the naming of Hunter’s main library as “The Leon and Toby Cooperman Library,” and the naming of “The Leon and Toby Cooperman Scholars Program.”