

Proposal to Name the Bakersfield College Arvin Educational Center Library

Recommended by President Steve Watkin

Bakersfield College is proposing the forthcoming Arvin Ed Center Library be named “The Dr. James Clark Young Library.” By naming this facility, we have the opportunity to honor Dr. Young. Dr. Young meets the Kern Community College District’s criteria for the naming of buildings (BP 6620): #4(a) as a former employee; criterion #5 as an individual who has a record of scholarship, creativity, leadership, humanitarian service or public service”

Historical narrative for Dr. James Clark Young’s significant achievements:

As a 27-year employee of the District, Dr. Young served as the Assistant Chancellor of Instructional Planning and Development from August 1972 through June 1978 and as Chancellor from May 1978 through February 1999. He served as a volunteer assistant coach to the Arvin High School We the People team for almost 20 years; served on the Board of Directors for the Kern County Autism Center, International Community College, League for Innovation in the Community College, American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, Bakersfield College Helmet Club, Paramount Savings Bank and the College Dream Fund. Dr. Young also served as the volunteer treasurer for the City of Arvin and was the chief fundraiser for the Arvin High Alumni Association and the College Dream Fund.

Dr. Young has devoted decades of effort to bring Bakersfield College courses and the Arvin Educational Center to the community. He was instrumental in acquiring the donation of the land by the City of Arvin where the Center is now being built. Dr. Young has worked tirelessly throughout his life to make higher education accessible to all students.