

# Opinion

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## Faculty vote should give pause to name-change idea

**A** VOTE earlier this week by the Academic Senate of California State University, Hayward not to support a proposed name change for the school might not change the outcome of the debate, but it should certainly give the CSU Board of Trustees something more to think about before it votes on the proposal later this month.

Despite prolonged and impassioned opposition to the change from outside the aca-

demie community — and from many current and former CSUH students — the idea seemed to be sailing along smoothly among official groups with a more direct interest, especially after the school's alumni association board voted unanimously last week to support the idea.

But that vote brought cries of protest from some graduates of the school, who complained that they hadn't been surveyed by the alumni association and that its vote ignored their oppo-

### OUR OPINION

sition to the name change.

Still, it's one thing for the trustees to go against the wishes of civic leaders, and even current and former students. It's quite another for them to ignore the decision of even a divided — the vote against the resolution in support of the name change was a slim 23-20 — elected body of professors, instructors and other campus leaders.

After all, one would expect

the mayor, City Council and Chamber of Commerce to object to removing their city's name from that of the school located within its borders. And students have both sentimental and more practical reasons — what to put on the résumé? — to be against the idea.

But opposition from the school's own thoughtful and learned faculty members is neither to be expected nor given short shrift. The senate's vote came as rumors — categorically denied by CSU Board of

Trustees Chairman Murray Galinson — began to sweep the campus and the city that the name change might already be a "done deal." Even if that had been the case before, it might not be so certain now.

At the very least, the Academic Senate's vote should help ensure a healthy debate when the trustees meet to decide on the proposed name change on Jan. 25 and 26 in Long Beach. And healthy debate should be a hallmark of higher learning.