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Fort Hays State University

NEWS

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KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVES NAME FOR NEW SCIENCES BUILDING AT FHSU 9/16/94 ekp Special

The Kansas Board of Regents yesterday approved the name "Jerry Tomanek Hall" for the new physical sciences building under construction on the Fort Hays State University campus. The name is in honor of Dr. Gerald W. Tomanek (pronounced Ta-**MAN**-ek), FHSU's seventh president who served in the position from 1976 until 1987.

President Dr. Edward H. Hammond said, "I can think of no better individual to honor in this way. Not only was Dr. Tomanek an excellent leader for this institution, but he also is an established expert in the sciences. It is only fitting that we name our new building for him."

Tomanek spent many years in higher education. He joined the faculty in 1947 as an instructor in the department of biological sciences, and climbed the academic ladder to professor. He later served as vice president for academic affairs, department chair and division chairman.

The Collyer area native holds bachelor's and master's degrees from FHSU and the Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska.

A conservationist and grasslands consultant, Tomanek twice traveled to the Argentine to lend his grassland expertise. He was a consultant for a prairie grasslands special by CBS-TV and received numerous awards for his conservation practices and knowledge. The Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas named him "Kansan of the Year" in 1978. He authored many professional journal articles and still is a popular speaker.

Tomanek has been active in civic and professional groups locally and nationally and is a dedicated church worker. He also has served on the local school board.

He and his wife Ardis live in Hays and are the parents of three married daughters.

University officials expect the physical sciences building to be completed during the summer of 1995.