

THE GAINESVILLE SUN

Collier donates \$1 million to UF

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March 30, 2007

Nathan Collier, landlord to countless college students for 30-plus years, donated \$1 million to the graduate real estate program at the University of Florida, UF announced today.

Florida is one of the largest states and growing with one of the most active real estate markets in the nation, Collier said. Therefore the state “should have one of the best real estate programs at the flagship university.”

Collier’s donation will help endow the Nathan S. Collier Master of Science in Real Estate Program at UF’s Warrington College of Business Administration. The gift is eligible to receive a match of \$750,000 from the state of Florida Trust Fund for Major Gifts.

The funds will establish the Nathan S. Collier MSRE Scholarship and support faculty, off-campus field trips and project tours, grants to develop case studies and promote program quality and student accomplishments, according to the University of Florida Foundation.

“This gift will help bring a national focus to the MSRE program and will help us recruit and enroll the highest quality students from around the world,” said David Ling, MSRE director.

Collier owns Collier Companies and Paradigm Property Management Team. He started with a duplex and expanded to larger complexes, many in the College Park neighborhood, and now has 8,000 apartments in Gainesville, Tallahassee, Orlando, Tampa, Ocala, Palatka, and Norman, Okla.

Collier comes from a family of entrepreneurs, including his great uncle, Peter Collier, who founded Collier’s Weekly magazine. His father, Courtland Collier, taught civil engineering at UF for 30 years and is a former Gainesville mayor-commissioner.

He received three degrees from UF and is a member of the UF Foundation and the UF Center for Real Estate Studies.