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It's a loch: NKU renaming lake

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HIGHLAND HEIGHTS - By popular vote of students, alumni, faculty and staff and approval of the Board of Regents, NKU's "Lake Inferior" has been rechristened Loch Norse.

After undergoing a privately funded \$2.4 million renovation, the alumni association thought that a more appropriate name for the large pond east of the Fine Arts Building was in order. The new Loch includes a bridge linking the Applied Science Building to the rest of campus. A waterfall splashes beneath the bridge. The area around the loch will include an amphitheatre with a stage and terraced seating.

Loch Norse won by a large margin. It garnered 628 votes. Its nearest competitor, Lake Legacy, reflecting this past year's homecoming theme, earned 234 votes. Lake Valhalla got 223 votes and Lake Odin, a bow to the chief god of Norse mythology, received 163 votes. 107 people voted to turn tradition on its head with Lake Superior.

Student Kyna Stenger of Brookville, Ind., chose to make the name pleasurable. She wrote, "People will smile when they hear it and they will smile when they think of NKU. Finally, who wants another lake when they can have a loch?"

Justin Braxton-Brown considered it from a marketing perspective. "Loch Norse is simple and memorable reinforcing the school identity," he wrote.

Jesse Dye of California, Ky., took a bit more serious tone linking NKU's pond to Scotland's mysterious Loch Ness. He wrote that he voted for Loch Norse "due to similarities to the infamous Loch Ness. The real loch is a place of intense scientific scrutiny and study as well as a place for reflection on beliefs, evidence and faith."

The vote total included 705 students, 348 alumni, 127 staff and 89 faculty members.

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