

Fwd: BREAKING NEWS: UNC Faculty to Move Silent Sam- URGENT

State Desk <state@dailytarheel.com>

Sun 2/25/2018 11:07 AM

To: Jones, Rachel Alanis <ralanis@live.unc.edu>;

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: TarHeel Professor <tarheelprofessor@yahoo.com>
Date: February 25, 2018 at 09:13:37 EST
To: State Desk <state@dailytarheel.com>
Subject: Re: BREAKING NEWS: UNC Faculty to Move Silent Sam- URGENT

Ana

For obvious reasons - likely retribution - the group of 17 faculty have chosen to remain anonymous for now.

G17

On Saturday, February 24, 2018, 11:54:10 AM EST, State Desk <state@dailytarheel.com> wrote:

Hello,

Thanks so much for the message. Is there anyone I can call about this?

Thanks,

Ana Irizarry
State & National Editor
317-213-3553

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 23, 2018, at 08:24, TarHeel Professor <tarheelprofessor@yahoo.com> wrote:

PRESS RELEASE: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Earlier this week seventeen senior faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill gave notice to Chancellor Carol Folt that the university had failed to fulfill their stated policies of nondiscrimination and pastoral care of students by not removing the confederate monument (Silent Sam) from campus. They noted that her continuing inaction on the issue had placed in jeopardy the personal safety of students, faculty.

For that reason the Group of Seventeen (all Full Professors and Endowed Chaired Professors) vow to move the statue themselves if the Chancellor has not done so by March 1st at midnight.

The following statement was sent. To date the Chancellor has not responded nor replied. We ask that you run the statement in full in the DTH.

Dear Carol

We are a group of seventeen of your senior faculty (all at the Full or Endowed Chair level) who have been discussing how best to fulfill our responsibilities as faculty at Carolina.

The principles of integrity and ethical behavior are in the DNA of this great university. As Tar Heels we respect and protect all our students no matter the color of their skin. We celebrate our students, not demean and diminish them. The proudest moments of the university have been when Carolina has been on the right side of history. Not cowed by bigots, intimidated by white supremacists or fearful of retribution. We believe the confederate monument (Silent Sam) must be immediately moved to an appropriate setting that contextualizes and teaches the history of white supremacy, rather than glorifies it.

The removal of the monument satisfies the official policy of the university which states: "the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community. The University values safety, diversity, education, and equity and is firmly committed to maintaining a campus environment free from discrimination, harassment, and related misconduct." The confederate monument is in direct breach of this policy and is an ever-present signal to students, faculty and staff of color that they are not welcome nor equally valued on campus. The decision to maintain the statue at the heart of campus, despite the legal opportunity to move it, condones the philosophy that the statue was explicitly erected to celebrate.

As proud and loyal faculty members of the University of North Carolina we take seriously our charge of pastoral care of our students. The talented young women and men of North Carolina and beyond who deserve more than an explicit symbol of abuse at the heart of their beloved campus.

We have decided to remove the statue ourselves if the Chancellor's office does not do so by March 1st 2018 at midnight, and you commit to that plan of action privately.

All the preparations have been made to minimize disruption and personal injury. The statue may be taken down in the next hour, next week or any time this month. It may be removed during the weekday when security is not in attendance, during a basketball game, or at 3am when a single officer is asleep in his car parked on Franklin street. It will be taken to a safe place where it will be curated for exhibition.

We do not fear arrest, indeed we welcome the opportunity to demonstrate the commitment that the Carolina faculty has to the wellbeing of its students and the principles that make this university great. We are faculty from the College of Arts

and Sciences, the Medical School, the School of Public Health, and the School of Law.

The onus is now on you, our Chancellor, to do the right thing and remove the statue before it becomes an even more clear and present danger to the students of UNC and visitors to our beautiful campus. We are all mindful of Edmund Burke's quote that 'the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing.' The non-violent removal of the statue represents the principles that lay at the foundation of the American Republic.

It would be helpful if you could respond to this request before we share our press release with the DTH.

Yours

Seventeen Tar Heel Faculty