



MEMORANDUM

TO: ASB SENATE

FROM: COMMITTEE ON INCLUSION AND CROSS-CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2019

CC:

Summary: This resolution seeks to relocate the Confederate statue from the Lyceum-Circle Historic District to the Confederate cemetery. Mississippi Code 55-15-81 stipulates that the governing body can decide the relocation of the monument on campus, and one of the governing bodies on campus, ASB Senate has the jurisdiction to decide the relocation of the monument. Through thorough research and extensive conversation with constituents, the authors of the resolution have deemed that this action is the best way to address the issue of the Confederate statue.

Discussion: The idea of moving the Confederate statue from the center of the Lyceum-Circle Historical District is not new, nor does it lack controversy. We consulted with historians Dr. John Neff and Dr. Annie Twitty, former members on the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on History and Context, Dr. Susan Glisson, expert on race relations and founding director of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, and Alexandra White, director for the Center for Inclusion and Cross-Cultural Engagement to understand the best approach to address increased tensions on campus over the past few weeks. General Counsel Erica McKinley clarified that the "governing body" in the code does not exclusively apply to the state government bodies unless an attorney general deems otherwise. Although this action follows in the wake of one incident of racist ideology, it reflects a larger pattern of conflict on our beloved campus. This solution is one step in the process of making our university one that acts as a beacon of inclusivity rather than a rallying point for hate.

Next Steps: Next, we will seek support from Faculty Senate, Graduate Student Council, Staff Council and Administration to put this plan into action. We will seek the funds to relocate the statue by reaching out to alumni associations and active students, which have already been outspoken about their support for this action.

Decision: This is for the recipient of the Memo.

Yes

No

Discuss

Notes on decision:

Attachments: Legislation first, data and research second