

Resolution 2017-10. On Silent Sam.

The Faculty Council resolves:

We support President Spellings and Chancellor Folt in their request to lawfully remove Silent Sam from McCorkle Place and urge the Governor, the North Carolina Historical Commission, the Board of Governors, the Board of Trustees, and the General Assembly to work together to make this move possible.

Submitted by Faculty Executive Committee

Rationale (adopted by the Faculty Executive Committee):

The presence of Silent Sam on campus engenders wide-ranging opinions and questions. Among these are how the statue fits with our values, the importance of historical monuments in teaching history, the physical preservation of historically significant objects, and the fact that for many this monument is a symbol of racial discrimination and oppression. Our rationale is informed by recent events in Charlottesville and Durham and constraints imposed by North Carolina law. We believe not only that the monument creates risks to public safety, but also that the monument is itself at risk. Many of these risks were described in detail by our university's leaders in their August 21st letter to Governor Cooper.