Minutes

Graduate Student Senate Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 14, 2019
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Location: Student Senate Chambers
Attendees: Senators and general public

A. Call to Order—
   a. Meeting begins at 8:01 PM

B. Call of the Roll

C. Special Guest – Clemson Office of Major Fellowships, Director Robyn Curtis, and
Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. David Fleming, and Nirali Bandaru of Ecosia.

Clemson Office of Major Fellowships:
- Tillman Scholar Program
- SMART Scholarship
   b. http://smartscholarship.org
- Boren
- National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Program (NDSEG)
- Ford Foundation Fellowships
   e. http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/FordFellowships/index.htm

How to find us:
Questions:

Kathy Ehlert: Would you help GA’s write recommendation letters when asked?
A: Yes, we can definitely help look over grammar and make suggestions to improve letters. Email Robyn Curtis with further questions-

Dr. David Flemming:

- Questions about partial GADS
- A lot of assistantships being offered that were not full time- the GAD system was put into place- did not anticipate the funds being spread so thin
- Initially looking for cap for GADS for each program- there was not much support and would not be facilitated
- Conversations about raising stipends being too low and part time students were especially financially suffering
- Assistantships are for students to be here, not to force students to have to work part time on top of them
- Departments need to step up and pay a living wage of $20 an hour- and need to accept only the amount of students they can sustain and not offer partial assistantships
- Look for other outlets of funding- grants
- Not offer full tuition waiver for half GADS to allocate funds elsewhere

Q: How would you combat the issue of low living wages declared by the graduate school for students working 20 hours? ($7.25)
A: Well that is the lowest offered, but if we cut all TAs back to 10 hours, things would not get done and the system would implode. Research institutions cannot sustain partial students.

Q: Can you list who are the peer institutions and aspirational institutions are? By shifting peer institutions, the standard also shifts?
A: Generally a peer institution would be Purdue, Auburn, NC State- Aspirational peers AAU institutions such as University of Florida.

Q: You mentioned Purdue as a peer institution, but they are cutting tuition back to 1990, so how can you compare them as a peer?

A: Peer institutions by program area statistic analysis, in many cases we are way below what they are offering. We are hoping to make a market adjustment, but they are still below.

Q: What do you mean by way below?

A: When raising tuition, we were still below peer institutions.

Q: How can Clemson say they care about students when they are taking more money from students and continue to raise tuition?

A: We are still below market value, so we can continue to raise tuition to support other programs.

Q: 2 issues, how do we get more doctoral students to Clemson? How do we get the cheapest tuition to part time students. In what way can graduate students bring attention to these problems before things are passed?

A: Have students on advisory councils who are communicating these issues. I am working to de-mystify some of these programs that are put in place. I am working to put a hold on these issues so more conversations can occur.

Q: Since this has been put into place, are students who have been promised a waiver going to be grandfathered in?

A: I have put a stop to things so we can have these conversations. I really need options as an alternative to the half GAD tuition cut.

Statement: I expect a full tuition waiver if I am promised a tuition waiver- we have Graduate Assistant fees, which are tuition.

Q: Will this half tuition be charged as in-state or out-of-state? How will that work?

A: In-state because we change your residency upon acceptance.

Q: How is it ethical to spring tuition changes on grad students in July?

A: I have no good answer to that. At the present time, nothing has been implemented for next year. I need something to help me to make a case in order to make changes.

Q: How long have departments known about this?

A: I do not know.

A: Dean Osbourne gave a warning right before he left.

Q: If you do not like that, why is your office not taking that on? There are many people in this room who did not know this policy existed until 2 weeks ago. How are we supposed to plan for next semester if we did not even know about this?

A: I do have a role in this process, and I have to convince other entities, such as the provost, to make these changes. I am working to have tuition posted by January 1st. It is my attempt to foster more
communication.

Q: What would be your solution?
A: Trying to find ways to have an influx of funds to pay students.

Q: Was something like a grandfather clause considered for current students and it only be applied to incoming students?
A: Things are tabled at the moment. Personally I am a fan of grandfathering.

Q: How is this unsustainable when clemson is half a million in black?
A: Not for graduate students. That is considering undergraduate.

Q: What does the school do with the extra money then?
A: That is not my office, so I do not know.

D. Executive Reports- President Miles Maynard, Vice President Kaitlyn Samons, Chief of Staff William Everroad, Pro-Tempore John Porter III

a. President, Miles Maynard
   · Thank you to Dr. Fleming and Director Curtis for speaking with us this evening.
   · Thanks to all of those who participated in 3MT and contributed in any way towards the event.
   · Spring Orientation is on Monday, January 6th, 2020. There will be an after party for all new graduate students and any current graduate students are welcome to join at Amici from 4:30PM – 7:30PM.
     o FREE PIZZA AND WINGS
   · Have a great and safe Thanksgiving break.

b. Vice President, Kaitlyn Samons
   ❏ Wonderful GIS Day! Thank you, Amir!
   ❏ Fabulous 3MT!
   ❏ Clemson For Democracy Meeting.
   ❏ Katharine Kitzen, Clemson Miracle--Emily Knight will be taking this on :) 
   ❏ Congratulations to GTG! Only one more day!
   ❏ Looking forward to the Activities Committee Bonfire!
   ❏ Rules and Procedures members are doing an incredible job!
     - Vote to skip committee reports to move to voting on resolutions
       Pass- 21 Fail- 34
     - Motion to end Senate at 10 PM
       Pass- 22 Fail- 30

c. Pro-Tempore, John Porter III
   ❏ The Senate Spring Schedule:
     ❏ 1/9/2020
1/23/2020
2/6/2020
2/20/2020
3/5/2020
3/26/2020
4/9/2020
4/23/2020
Graduating Students- please contact me to find replacements

d. Chief-of-Staff, William Everroad

E. Internal Committee Reports

a. Communications, Hillary Smith

b. Graduate Travel Grants, Bridget Blood and Kathy Elhert
   - GTG opened last week and closes tomorrow!
   - Up to 240 applications, with 200 distinct applicants
   - Hosted two help sessions, each with online components for students unable to attend in person
   - Application help session had 25 attendants
   - Essay help session had 16 attendants (with 10 additional online essay swaps)
   - The review system will open on Saturday

c. Activities, Laura Huff and Murwan Siddig
   a. Thanks for coming out to our last trivia night of the semester this past Tuesday! We look forward to continuing these in the spring.
   b. Congratulations to our winners of the pumpkin carving contest, Moses Namara and Hillary Smith! Your gift cards are ordered and on the way.
   c. We will be having a Bonfire at Y Beach on Friday, November 22nd from 7-9pm. We will be providing s'mores! Please make an effort to come out and have fun before the end of the semester! All friends are welcome (even if they are not grad students!)
   d. Make sure to order your tickets for the End of the Semester Party! There will be food and a cash bar AND we have booked DJ Sha for music, Fire and Ice Photobooths for pictures, and Caricatures by Catherine will be doing caricatures for everyone who is interested. All of this is FREE for you + one guest, but you have to register via eventbrite to attend. Transportation will be provided for Greenville based students, but you must add on transportation to your ticket when visiting eventbrite. Link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/graduate-student-end-of-the-semester-party-tickets-76948092817
   e. HAVE TO REGISTER BY NOV. 29! Including for transportation from Greenville
   f. Must “purchase” through eventbrite (link on Facebook page as well as here) everything is free, this is for numbers- please be considerate
and register

g. We have already started planning for next semester. If there is an event you liked this semester and want us to repeat it, or you have a new idea, submit it here: https://forms.gle/H1KfK4werkS2ZKY19

d. Rules and Procedures, Grant Allard

- We are working on combined bylaws document and a constitutional re-write
- Move to limit committee updates to 5 minutes

e. Research Initiatives, Apurva Patel and Erik Antonio

- 3MT Finals
  - 29 Participants, 4 Winners
- Sustainability Updates
  - Solid Green Day tomorrow
  - Clean-up at Mell Hall (10am – 2pm)- raffle for football signed by Dabo Swinney

Next Steps…

- 3MT debrief with committee
- Follow-up meetings admins
- Planning for Sustainability event
- Planning for GRADS

f. Finance, Amir Malek

F. External Committee Reports

a. University Services, Miles Maynard

- University Services tab has been added to the GSG website.
- There are probably still more services out there so if you know of any please let us know. Email to mcmayna@g.clemson.edu
- Travis met with Robyn about spreading awareness of fellowships and the office itself. Located in room 191 Cribb Hall (Core Campus D)
- Clemson-WYFF 4 Bureau
- WYFF 4 is the state’s leading news station reaching over 20 million households. They are located on the 3rd floor of Hendrix Student Center.
- They will be reporting on campus and able to reach Oconee, Pickens, and Anderson counties quicker for news updates.
- Met with Bookstore Advisory Committee this morning.
- Fall 2019 Destress events for Students
  - Wednesday December 4th, 2019 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM: Serving donuts, hot tea, and hot chocolate inside the bookstore
  - Members of CAPS and a massage therapist (5-minute massages)
  - Rental return deadline 12/14/2019, subject to penalty + cost of book if not returned.
- Book Buyback will big kickoff 12/9/2019
- Next University Services meeting tomorrow morning 11/15 at 9:00 AM in the GSG Offices inside of the Student Union.

b. Diversity and Inclusion, Emmanuel Adjei
   - Forming 2 associations- one is for Latinos and Hispanics
   - Second is LGBTQ
   - So if you are interested, please contact me
   - Hoping to move initiative for students with disabilities

c. Graduate Academic Affairs, Robert O’Hara
d. Health and Human Services, Rose Sommers
   - Do not need referral for vision and dental any longer
   - Get New insurance card in January
   - Caps in new location for extra space, there will still be services on campus- near Publix
   - Working to get Redfern a new building
   - Dec. 6 is the last day to get a flu shot to beat UofSC

e. Graduate Campus Life, Emily Knight
   - Clemson Miracle rep coming next week to talk about raising money for families in need

f. Parking and Facilities, Qianyi Gao

G. Old Business
   a. The Investigative committee intends to make a motion requesting to extend the deadline for the investigation to December 5th. We do not intend to make a presentation beyond a short timeline for future work. If the Senate does not extend our investigation we will require a 15 minute recess to determine a final recommendation to the Senate.
   b. Vote to amend to extend investigation to two weeks
      Pass- 33  Deny- 15  Absatin- 7
   c. Vote whether to give extension or not
      Pass- 37  Deny- 15  Abstain- 7

H. New Business
   a. G.R. # 2020-05R: A Resolution to Rename the Strom Thurmond Institute (see at bottom of page)
      Pass- 50  Fail-0  Abstain- 5
   b. G.B. # 2020-07R :A Resolution to Strongly Condemn and Disapprove of the Partial Graduate Assistant Differential (GADs) (see at bottom of
56 pass; 1 fail- resolution is passed

c. **G.R. # 2020-06R: A Resolution to Support the Return to Tillman Hall to Old Main** (see at bottom of page)
   Pass- 48 Fail-1 Abstain- 4

I. Other Announcements and Open Remarks

   a. Committee Sign-Ups Google Form:
      [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdooEL4v0x8cqBxzdACTInau-O7O0CYmxu4tej9LGjbD82bew/viewform?usp=sf_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdooEL4v0x8cqBxzdACTInau-O7O0CYmxu4tej9LGjbD82bew/viewform?usp=sf_link)

   b. **ALL SENATORS MUST SERVE ON AT LEAST ONE COMMITTEE**

J. Good of the Senate
   - Tomorrow at 3 PM starting at Old Main is the Women’s March for women who have experienced sexual assault and sexual violence
   - Commend Investigative Committee for their efforts
   - Parliamentary procedure benefits all Senators and aligns our meetings
   - Ellie would like to thank everyone for supporting GIS Day
   - **December 5th Meeting in Hardin Hall**

11. Adjournment – 10:14 PM

12. Senate Secretary Katherine Allen: If you have events that you would like to share with the Graduate Student community, I WILL ADD THEM TO THE MEETING AGENDAS! Please email me at kallen5@g.clemson.edu with what you would like to include, and it will be placed in this section. During the meeting, you can give more details and answer any questions. Items received by Tuesday at 8 pm will be included in the agenda that will be distributed on Wednesday. Other items will be included in the meeting minutes.
G.R. # 2020-05R
A Resolution to Rename the Strom Thurmond Building

**Purpose:** To express call for immediate action to rename the Strom Thurmond Building to disassociate from a man whose legacy is one of hate and racism to a person who deserves to be remembered, in order to make Clemson a place welcoming of all

**Whereas,** as stated in resolutions by Clemson University’s Graduate Student Government and Faculty Senate in 2015, “Clemson University values diversity and its Mission Statement includes ‘tolerance and respect for others,’” and

**Whereas,** the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states under “Executive Summary,” that it “will strengthen the sense of community and connectedness that defines the Clemson Family by enhancing diversity . . . and creating an environment of inclusive excellence,” and

**Whereas,** the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states under “Building Blocks of ClemsonForward Strategic Priorities and Core Strategies for Success,” “Real family — supportive, inclusive and respectful,” and

**Whereas,** the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states within the executive summary “there will be investments in accelerators — new initiatives to fuel growth and achievement in . . . inclusive excellence,” and

**Whereas,** the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states under “Strategic Priority #4 / Living: Clemson will enhance the living environment to make the University an outstanding place to live, learn and work while also increasing diversity and a climate of inclusive excellence,” that “ClemsonForward seeks to enhance this renowned sense of family by ensuring all members of the Clemson community feel valued, welcomed and supported while also increasing the diversity of students, faculty and staff,” and

**Whereas,** the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan also states under “Strategic Priority 4,” that “This effort to create a more diverse and inclusive campus environment is built on the foundation of the Clemson Family — the core of Clemson’s exceptional university experience. Over the next generation, the membership in that family will expand as Clemson becomes a more inclusive institution; and Clemson’s culture will expand with it,” and
Whereas, the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan also states under “Strategic Priority 4,” that number two of its “Core Strategies for Success” is “Nurture a climate of diversity, inclusion and respect: One of the strongest messages coming from the ClemsonForward teams was that building a climate that attracts and retains a diverse student body, faculty and staff is critical to Clemson’s ability to sustain progress, improve academic reputation and prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. This involves building a climate that makes Clemson's commitment to diversity and inclusion visible; fostering campus wide conversations on issues of diversity, inclusion and climate; and creating institutional structures that support positive experiences for all members of the Clemson Family. Specific initiatives include: . . . Developing infrastructure that models valuing differences and that supports the growth and development of all . . . Implementing a board of directive to research Clemson’s history and tell its full and inclusive story . . . Supporting leadership accountability for diversity and inclusive excellence at all levels of the organization,” and

Whereas, as the Strom Thurmond Building is named after a man who is remembered by history, his own words, and actions was a man who was openly racist, anti-civil rights campaigner, and the most prominent segregationist of his age, and who’s lasting legacy is one of hate and bigotry

Whereas, and this is at odds with the University’s mission and values, having his name attached to the institute bring shame to both the institute and the university as a whole it, and

Whereas, in 1948, Strom Thurmond said “There's not enough troops in the army, to force the southern people to break down segregation and admit the nigger race into our theaters, into our swimming pools, into our homes, and into our church,” after receiving nomination for President from the States' Rights Democratic Party

Whereas, In that campaign he said “We stand for the segregation of the races and the racial integrity of each race…”

Whereas, Strom Thurmond holds the record for the longest filibuster in US history when he started speaking on August 28th, 1957 at 6:54 and did not stop speaking until 9:12 PM August 29, 1957 in an attempt to passage of a civil rights bill

Whereas, Following Brown vs Board of Education, Strom Thermond wrote the infamous Southern Manifesto which was radically opposed to racial integration say of integration quote “This unwarranted exercise of power by the Court, contrary to the Constitution, is creating chaos
and confusion in the States principally affected. It is destroying the amicable relations between
the white and Negro races that have been created through 90 years of patient effort by the good
people of both races. It has planted hatred and suspicion where there has been heretofore
friendship and understanding”

Whereas, Strom Thurmond vote in opposition to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, its
reauthorization in 1975, and in his 48 years in the Senate he never renounced his racist and
segregationist views

Whereas, in response to tensions regarding racism, diversity, and equality, the
Clemson Board of Trustees “established a task force charged with the task of
developing a set of recommendations on how to best tell the complete history of
Clemson University for current and future generations,” and

Whereas, the Clemson Board of Trustees chose to adopt “the recommendations made
by the task force on the history of Clemson,” and

Whereas, honoring Strom Thermond further entrenches the legacy of an self-described racist
and a proud segregationist, which is contrary to the strategic plan and the mission of the
University and

Therefore, the Clemson Graduate Student Government calls for the immediate steps to rename
Strom Thurmond Institute to make Clemson a school that is open to all people regardless of race,
religion, ethnicity, and creed.
G.B. 2020-07R

A Resolution to Strongly Condemn and Disapprove of the Partial Graduate Assistant Differential (GADs)

**Purpose:** To condemn and disapprove of the proposed imposition of partial GADs (Graduate Assistant Differential) on graduate students

Whereas, Graduate students are key to Clemson’s success and future growth as we perform valuable functions like teaching classes, doing research, and helping the university in many other functions,

Whereas, Potential graduate students apply to Clemson University graduate programs and assistantships under the assumption of a full tuition waiver, and assume that waiver extends for the entirety of their time at Clemson,

Whereas, Graduate students routinely give up the ability to seek employment outside of Clemson as part of their appointment contract,

Whereas, The imposition of a partial GAD on graduate students will have a significant effect on the livelihood and the psychological well being of many graduate students at Clemson, and will force students to leave their degrees, as they will be unable to afford the cost of the partial GAD, which will to the detriment of both the students and the university as a whole,

Whereas, Imposing a future partial GAD on future assistantship contracts after having made that contracts with graduate students is inappropriate, unprofessional, and unethical,

Whereas, The decision to charge tuition to graduate students puts the future of Clemson at risk, as graduate students will instead enroll at one of the many other universities where they will not be charged tuition and not Clemson; thereby leaving many classes untaught, positions unfilled, and research not conducted,

Whereas, This decision will negatively impact diversity at Clemson, as people without significant financial resources will not be able to attend Clemson,

Whereas, The imposition of a partial GAD undermines the value of graduate students at an R1 Institution,

Whereas, This proposed tuition is another sign of Clemson’s pattern of seeing graduate students
only as a financial resource and having no other value for the University,

Whereas, The implementation of this policy was done in a manner that did not take input from the key stakeholders (both graduate students and advisors) and the timeline of this policy was not made clear to these stakeholders

Therefore, be it resolved, by the Graduate Student Government Senate assembled,

That, the Graduate Student Government in as strong as possible terms condemns and disapproves of the implementations of the cost of a partial GAD policy, and

That, the Graduate Student Government wishes to engage with the university in a manner to come to an equitable conclusion to this matter, and

That, a grandfather clause be added to the current policy to allow current Graduate Students to maintain their current funding levels, and

That, the above is approved by the Senate.
G.R. # 2020-06R
A Resolution to Support the Return to Tillman Hall to Old Main

Purpose: To express call for immediate action to return “Tillman Hall” to Old Main.

Whereas, as stated in resolutions by Clemson University’s Graduate Student Government and Faculty Senate in 2015, “Clemson University values diversity and its Mission Statement includes ‘tolerance and respect for others,’” and

Whereas, as stated in a letter to the Clemson Board of Trustees by nine previous Faculty Senate Presidents, “Charlie Gooding, Beth Kunkel, Francis McGuire, Kelly Smith, Kinly Sturkie, Bill Surver, Fred Switzer, Holley Ulbrich, Dan Warner,” stated, “We, the undersigned Past Presidents of the Faculty Senate, extend to the Board of Trustees an open invitation to, and an offer of sponsorship or assistance in hosting, a campus forum having a format of their choosing in which they can better gauge the campus appetite for changing the name of Tillman Hall, and participate in a civil and intellectual exchange of views regarding the Tillman issue and the future of the University,” and

Whereas, the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states under “Executive Summary,” that it “will strengthen the sense of community and connectedness that defines the Clemson Family by enhancing diversity . . . and creating an environment of inclusive excellence,” and

Whereas, the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states under “Building Blocks of ClemsonForward Strategic Priorities and Core Strategies for Success,” “Real family — supportive, inclusive and respectful,” and

Whereas, the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states within the executive summary “there will be investments in accelerators — new initiatives to fuel growth and achievement in . . . inclusive excellence,” and

Whereas, the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan states under “Strategic Priority #4 / Living: Clemson will enhance the living environment to make the University an outstanding place to live, learn and work while also increasing diversity and a climate of inclusive excellence,” that “ClemsonForward seeks to enhance this renowned sense of
family by ensuring all members of the Clemson community feel valued, welcomed and supported while also increasing the diversity of students, faculty and staff,” and

Whereas, the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan also states under “Strategic Priority 4,” that “This effort to create a more diverse and inclusive campus environment is built on the foundation of the Clemson Family — the core of Clemson’s exceptional university experience. Over the next generation, the membership in that family will expand as Clemson becomes a more inclusive institution; and Clemson’s culture will expand with it,” and

Whereas, the ClemsonForward Strategic Plan also states under “Strategic Priority 4,” that number two of its “Core Strategies for Success” is “Nurture a climate of diversity, inclusion and respect: One of the strongest messages coming from the ClemsonForward teams was that building a climate that attracts and retains a diverse student body, faculty and staff is critical to Clemson’s ability to sustain progress, improve academic reputation and prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. This involves building a climate that makes Clemson's commitment to diversity and inclusion visible; fostering campus wide conversations on issues of diversity, inclusion and climate; and creating institutional structures that support positive experiences for all members of the Clemson Family. Specific initiatives include: . . . Developing infrastructure that models valuing differences and that supports the growth and development of all . . . Implementing a board of directive to research Clemson’s history and tell its full and inclusive story . . . Supporting leadership accountability for diversity and inclusive excellence at all levels of the organization,” and

Whereas, as previously stated by Clemson University’s Graduate Student Government and Faculty Senate, “Clemson University’s Tillman Hall is named after a person who, as the historical record and his own words show, was an avowed racist, and this is at odds with the University’s mission and values, and reflects poorly upon it,” and

Whereas, in 1888, according to the Manning Times, Tillman “termed that the people of Charleston arrant cowards, and blamed them for ‘not even killing a nigger,’ boasting that he had participated in the Hamburg Affair,” and that Tillman stated, “I proclaim it loud that I was one of the Hamburg rioters who dared even the devil to save the state,” and

Whereas, in 1890 Tillman stated, “In our own State, the triumph of Democracy and white supremacy over mongrelism and anarchy, of civilization over barbarism, has been most complete . . . The whites have absolute control of the State government, and we
intend at any and all hazards to retain it . . . We deny, without regard to color, that 'all men are created equal;' it is not true now, and was not true when Jefferson wrote it,” and

**Whereas**, in 1900, according to the congressional record, Tillman stated, “We have done our level best [to prevent blacks from voting] . . . we have scratched our heads to find out how we could eliminate the last one of them. We stuffed ballot boxes. We shot them. We are not ashamed of it,” and

**Whereas**, also in 1900, Tillman stated, “we had a constitutional convention convened . . . with the purpose of disenfranchising as many of them as we could under the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments . . . As to his ‘rights’—I will not discuss them now. We of the South have never recognized the right of the negro to govern white men, and we never will. We have never believed him to be equal to the white man, and we will not submit to his gratifying his lust on our wives and daughters without lynching him. I would to God the last one of them was in Africa and that none of them had ever been brought to our shores,” and

**Whereas**, in 1901 Tillman stated, in response to President Roosevelt extending a dinner invitation to Booker T. Washington, “The action of President Roosevelt in entertaining that nigger will necessitate our killing a thousand niggers in the South before they learn their place again,” and

**Whereas**, in 1906 Tillman stated, “Republicanism means Negro equality, while the Democratic Party means that the white man is supreme. That is why we Southerners are all Democrats . . . History has no record of Negro rule. The situation is grave, and calls for wisdom and all manner of statesmanship. If we had our say, the Negro could never vote. I believe that God made the white man out of better clay than that which the Negro was made from . . . We don't need another race to help us at this time. In some of the states, the Negro holds the vote of control . . . In Chicago, the Republicans needed the Negro vote to elect their whole ticket, so a nigger was nominated for judge and elected,” and

**Whereas**, two days after the previous statement, according to a news report, “Tillman gave another speech and apparently was offended by the presence of a black man in the audience. 'Look down that aisle, there's a nigger as black as the ace of spades', the South Carolina Democrat exclaimed. According to a news report, the man was well dressed and only smiled at Tillman's outburst, showing more class in that moment than Tillman had shown in his entire life,” and
Whereas, also in 1906, according to the Washington Post, “He [Tillman] declared if all were shot like wild beasts the country would be better off, but that was unlawful. Therefore, when they were unable to produce passports, they should be placed on chain gangs until they reformed or left the country,” and

Whereas, in 1907, according to the congressional record, Tillman stated, “that as long as the Negroes continue to ravish white women we will continue to lynch them,” and “We reorganized the Democratic Party with one plank and only one plank, namely, that this is a white man's country and the white men must govern it,” and “we had decided to take the government away from men so debased as were the negroes—I will not say baboons; I never have called them baboons; I believe they are men, but some of them are so near akin to the monkey that scientists are yet looking for the missing link. We saw the evil of giving the ballot to creatures of this kind,” and “I have three daughters, but, so help me God, I had rather find either one of them killed by a tiger or a bear and gather up her bones and bury them, conscious that she had died in the purity of her maidenhood by a black fiend. The wild beast would only obey the instinct of nature, and we would hunt him down and kill him just as soon as possible. What shall we do with a man who had outbruted the brute and committed an act which is more cruel than death? Try him? Drag the victim into court, for she alone can furnish legal evidence, and make her testify to the fearful ordeal through which she has passed, undergoing a second crucifixion?” and

Whereas, in a 1909 speech regarding the Hamburg massacre (Hamburg Affair) at the second Red-Shirt Reunion at Anderson, Tillman stated, “It had been the settled purpose of the leading white men of Edgefield to seize the first opportunity that the negroes might offer them to provoke a riot and teach the negroes a lesson; as it was generally believed that nothing but bloodshed and a good deal of it could answer the purpose of redeeming the state from negro and carpet bag rule . . . It was our purpose to attend the trial to see that the young men had protection and, if any opportunity offered, to provoke a row, and if one did not offer, we were to make one,” and “but the purpose of our visit to Hamburg was to strike terror, and the next morning (Sunday) when the negroes who had fled to the swamp returned to the town (some of them never did return, but kept on going) the ghastly sight which met their gaze of seven dead negroes lying stark and stiff, certainly had its effect,” and

Whereas, during a his second run for governor he said that he "willingly lead a mob in lynching a Negro who had committed an assault on a white woman", and later in September 1893 he said about African Americans they are "lazy, idle crowds [wanting to] draw rations, as in the days of the Freedmen’s Bureau... They cannot be treated as we would white people."
Whereas, as previously stated in 2015 by Clemson University’s Graduate Student Government and Faculty Senate, “Tillman Hall, named as such in 1946, is not the original name of the building at the heart of campus,” and

Whereas, while there are no documents listing the 1946 Board of Trustees specific reasons for renaming the Main Building to Tillman Hall, the common argument presented is that it was done in response to Tillman’s contributions through the governorship to the construction of Clemson University, and

Whereas, said contributions include his repeated expression to the South Carolina General Assembly of the need for an agricultural and mechanical college throughout the late 1800, as well as his assignment of multiple convict laborer camps to the University construction during his time as governor, and

Whereas, the building, initially named “Main Building”, was renamed on the cusp of the civil rights movement, an era which American historian C. Vann Woodward has labeled the “Second Reconstruction,” and

Whereas, in 2016 the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) published a research article titled “Whose Heritage? Public Symbols of the Confederacy,” in which they found that “The dedication of Confederate monuments and the use of Confederate names and other iconography began shortly after the Civil War ended in 1865... There has been a steady stream of dedications in the 150 years since that time. and

Whereas, Yale University’s Report of the Committee to Establish Principles on Renaming states under its section Presumptions: Renaming on account of values should be an exceptional event, “The presumption against renaming is at its strongest when a building has been named for someone who made major contributions to the University. When buildings are named for people who have made major contributions to the life and mission of the University, either through their work or by contributing resources that help the University pursue its mission, renaming will be appropriate only in the most exceptional circumstances,” and

Whereas, the biography of Benjamin Ryan Tillman on Clemson University’s website states, “One of Tillman’s major contributions to the discussion with Clemson, Simpson and Norris had been rooted in his fear of African-Americans being admitted to the college at some point in the future. Clemson’s will did not specify that only white students would be admitted. However, the Board of Trustees was to be
structured so that a contingent of successor trustees would be self-perpetuating and thus independent of state government control or influence,” and

Whereas, the biography also states, “As governor, Tillman supported the creation of Clemson College through the establishment of a convict labor camp where a predominantly African-American crew of inmates cleared land, made bricks and constructed many of the original campus buildings. Some convicts as young as 12 years old worked at Clemson during their incarceration,” and

Whereas, in response to tensions regarding racism, diversity, and equality, the Clemson Board of Trustees “established a task force charged with the task of developing a set of recommendations on how to best tell the complete history of Clemson University for current and future generations,” and

Whereas, the Clemson Board of Trustees chose to adopt “the recommendations made by the task force on the history of Clemson,”

Whereas, as stated by the Task Force on the History of Clemson and The Office of General Counsel, “The Board is bound to comply with existing law and therefore . . .” cannot rename Tillman Hall without first having the relevant law amended, and

Whereas, if this is the case, then the Board of Trustees and the University’s administrative leadership should initiate the process of petitioning the South Carolina General Assembly to amend this law, and

Whereas, this is well within the Board of Trustees’ rights as stated in the Board of Trustees Manual, appx. E — Trustee Code of Conduct and Responsibilities, art. A. Trustee Code of Conduct, to “Apprise (individually and collectively) the General Assembly . . . the need for adequate support to enable the University to fulfill its primary role in higher education . . .,” and

Whereas, as stated in the Board of Trustees Manual, ch. IV — Role of the Board of Trustees, art. A. Basic Concepts, § 1. The Board’s Primary Effort Must Be Guided by Objectives and Goals, "In the case of Clemson University, the Board of Trustees is the ultimate decision-making body on the specific goals and objectives of the University, but this in no way restrains the Administration from suggesting the specific goals and objectives it believes are desirable. In any event, neither the Board
nor the Administration can function effectively until both are aiming for the same set of specific short- and long-range goals and objectives," and

**Whereas,** as stated in the Board of Trustees Manual, ch. IV — Role of the Board of Trustees, art. A. Basic Concepts, § 2. The Board Must Govern by Policy Direction and Control, "it [the Board] should demand that the Administration produce sufficient policies for the Board’s consideration so that it can exercise well-balanced control and manage risks through policy direction." and,

**Whereas,** in 2016, students and faculty at Winthrop University staged a peaceful protest at their own Tillman Hall, calling upon the university to return the building to its original name, Main Hall, and

**Whereas,** in February of 2018, students at the University of South Carolina were met with opposition from the university administration when requesting the name of Sims Hall, a dormitory named after Dr. J. Marion Sims, a 19th century physician who performed painful experiments on enslaved women while developing the practices of modern gynecology, and

**Whereas,** the responses given by both universities’ administrative teams cited their inability to effect the requested changes due to the South Carolina Code of Laws, with University of South Carolina’s associate provost John Dozier being quoted as saying “I think many of us here at the university would agree that some of our buildings are named after people who have done some horrific things in the past.” Therefore,

**Whereas,** returning “Tillman Hall” to “Old Main” will make Clemson University a place that is more open to all people

**Therefore,** the Clemson Graduate Student Government calls for the immediate steps to return “Tillman Hall” to “Old Main”: to make Clemson a school that is more open to all people regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, and creed.