

MEMORANDUM

To: Cedar Hall Naming Committee

Fr: Michael H. Schill, President and Professor of Law

Re: Committee Charge and Evaluative Criteria for Cedar Hall Naming Recommendations

Thank you for your service on this important committee. Below are the committee's charge and the evaluative criteria I have written for you to use as you vet suggestions. I look forward to discussing the committee's work and seeing a very educational process unfold for the entire UO community.

COMMITTEE CHARGE

This committee of students, faculty, staff, and local community members is to recommend to me three individuals after whom Cedar Hall might be permanently named¹. Prior to making its recommendation, the committee shall solicit nominations from the broader University of Oregon community and vet those nominations based on established criteria.

The committee may consult with stakeholders as it deems appropriate, and should ensure thorough research is conducted on nominees. I have provided administrative staff support, and UO Libraries, specifically the University Historian and Archivist, can support research activities. Administrative staff will coordinate with University Communications to maintain a website that will both facilitate the process and clearly communicate to the public any requirements for nomination.

EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

Introduction

On September 8, 2016, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to accept my recommendation that the name Frederick Dunn be removed from a wing of a residence hall named in his memory. This recommendation was made in light of historical evidence that Dunn was a former "Grand

¹ Cedar Hall is a wing of the Hamilton Complex, a residence hall facility on the UO Campus, which was named after Frederick Dunn until this current academic year. Cedar Hall was selected as a temporary name for the 2016-17 academic year so that President Schill and the campus community could undertake a thorough process by which to recommend a permanent name to the Board of Trustees.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

1226 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403 | (541) 346-3036 | pres@uoregon.edu | president.uoregon.edu

An equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

Cyclops” of the local branch of the Ku Klux Klan, an organization notorious for terrorizing and lynching black people.

When I made that recommendation, I stated that the residence hall would be renamed “for a man or woman whose life exemplifies the characteristics of racial diversity and inclusion that Dunn despised.” I also stated that the “renaming process will include the views of students, alumni, and the faculty and staff.”

Prior to establishing the below criteria, I met with and asked the Black Student Task Force to take a first cut at drafting criteria. Those were thoughtful and served as a basis for my criteria below. In addition, the below takes into consideration the criteria I gave to the committee charged last year with analyzing whether to remove Dunn’s name from the building.

General Criteria from UO Policy

Under UO Policy IV.07.02, when a building is named posthumously in recognition of an individual or group, that recognition must be based on “unusually meritorious service to the University or to society at large.” “Unusually meritorious service is likely to describe remarkable activities, circumstances, and/or experiences of individuals that directly served to advance or provide inspiration in advancing the values and mission of the University.”

The policy also states, “Normally, a period of at least one year should have elapsed between the individual’s death and the proposal for the naming.” Nevertheless, because this statement about waiting for one year is modified by the word “normally,” exceptions can be granted.

Specific Criteria

In addition to the general criteria set forth above, I would like the committee to let the following criteria guide its deliberations:

- An individual who has made significant contributions in service, support or honor to the University of Oregon or to the State of Oregon;
- An individual who has an extraordinary record of leadership and commitment to advancing justice and equity for black people in Oregon;
- An individual who himself or herself demonstrated evidence of overcoming oppression and discrimination;
- An individual who strongly advocated for the pursuit of knowledge and advancement of higher education;
- An individual whose own work has led to an inclusive and equitable University of Oregon campus;
- An individual whose work has led to achievements of extraordinary and lasting distinction; and,
- An individual who has helped black students and/or community members achieve success in higher education and the pursuit of careers.