On rupture:

“The act of confrontation ruptures western modernity’s monolithic claim on the world. It challenges the dominant socio-spatial structure’s power to define the ‘othered’ masses through its constructed ‘knowledge’, which presents these masses subjugation as the norm.”

-Omololu Babatunde, 2015

Who/what is FLOCK?

Feminists Liberating Our Collective Knowledge (FLOCK) was formed in 2016 by a group of geographers as an effort to sustain the momentum built by decades of visionaries in the movement for Hurston Hall. Our goal is to connect activist movements across campus, think seriously about how we can transform the deeply racialized landscape of UNC, respond to various administration efforts to memorialize student activism, and do so in ways that recognize the creativity of students who refuse to be limited by what is called ‘possible’ in this moment.

On rupture:

“Come forward and fly with us now: Let us be the keepers of an insurgent forest where care blooms into life with such power that even the cruel world will be brought to its knees for a moment.”

-SR
STUDENTS ARE VISIONARIES!

Too often, student activists are dismissed by universities as naive, and their demands are framed as impossible requests. In reality, students are visionaries, and their ideas and labor have transformed universities over and over again. Nothing is a gift from above - every 'change' we see on this campus - the Stone Center, the renaming of S**nders Hall, Black and Brown faculty on campus, the future Latinx center - is the result of hard-fought student struggles.

Gwendolyn Harrison, the first black woman admitted to graduate studies at UNC, and an early student visionary.

REJECTED,
To the Editor: I was proud of my State when I, one of its Negro citizens, received a letter informing me that I had been admitted to the first summer session of the University of North Carolina, and that I had been given a room assignment in one of its dormitories. I was proud because I thought that North Carolina, at least, was about to live up to the democratic ideals which are a part of the heritage of our great land.

I was happy when I arrived on the campus at Chapel Hill on the morning of June 11, when I was given a room in Dormitory C, and told that I was to stay in that building.

When I attempted to register, I was shunted back and forth several times from the Gymnasium to South Hall, the Administration Building. Undisturbed by what I felt to be simply routine registration procedure, I finally decided to leave my luggage at the dormitory before completing the process.

Still later, I was amused when I was told that there was a possibility of sending professors from Chapel Hill to North Carolina College at Durham to offer courses not now given there to any Negro graduate student desiring to pursue such courses. Although I appreciate any efforts made by my State to offer me educational opportunity equal to that offered to others of its citizens, I do not think that a Ph.D. degree earned under such conditions would be comparable to one earned in a normal situation.

I am interested in earning a Ph.D. degree in Spanish. The University of North Carolina offers such a degree. The trustees of the University have voted to admit qualified Negroes to the graduate school of that institution. Why, then, was I accepted by the University and then refused permission to register upon my arrival on the campus?

GWENDOLYN L. HARRISON,
Kinston.
1979... 1997... 2017... Each generation has powerful demands, and the administration response is always the same: "you have no recourse but to accept administrative decisions."

On April 4, approximately 200 students marched on South Building to protest several policies of the University involving the presence of minorities on campus. Issues of debate included the denial of tenure to Sonja Stone (director of the Afro-American Studies Curriculum), the University's failure to establish an office of minority affairs, and the inadequate recruitment of qualified black students.

Protest marches have become a recognized vehicle for the Black Student Movement to demonstrate its demands concerning campus issues. When BSM was established ten years ago, it presented a list of 23 grievances to the administration. Since that time, members of BSM have staged demonstrations at University Day, at Campus Governing Council budget hearings, at speeches delivered in Memorial Hall, and most recently at a tour of the campus conducted by representatives of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Although some changes have been enacted, progress has been slow and minimal.

Prior to the march, members of the BSM requested a meeting with Samuel Williamson, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Williamson claimed he could not arrange a meeting before April 24. Provost Charles Morrow refused to address the crowd, although he did meet with two BSM leaders in his office. Chancellor N. Freebee Taylor responded by telling members of the BSM that "as students you have no recourse but to accept administrative decisions." He defended their right to protest peacefully. Former BSM chairperson Allen Johnson explained one of the difficulties he faced in dealing with the administration: "Never could we get two principal administrators in the same room at the same time during this controversy. Dean Renwick was always willing, but the Chancellor was not. "This administration has a deaf ear toward the needs of not only black students but students in general," said William Bynum, current BSM chairperson. "I think that it is a shame that we should have to demonstrate our concerns in this manner. Due to the insensitivity of the administration toward our concerns, we feel that we have to fight."

...we have to keep fighting!
Students of color have been demanding space on campus for generations. Here we present an inventory of those visionary demands over the years.

The Original 22 Demands

In 1968, Members of the BSM marched onto the steps of South Building and made history when they presented the following demands to then Chancellor Sitterson:

1. Black students be considered for admission on the basis of high school performance and recommendation and not by SAT scores, as they are based upon white middle-class standards.
2. Black students be granted substantial financial aid, preferably in scholarship and grants-in-aid rather than in loans.
3. A Department of African and Afro-American Studies be established which could eventually lead to a major in this area.
4. An exchange program with Black colleges and Universities be established on the order of the Toronto Exchange.
5. An exchange program with an African University be established. The BSM should be in charge of choosing students for this program.
6. A scholar-in-residence program be established to bring Black scholars to the University on a monthly basis.
7. A new office be created that would be responsive to the needs, aspirations and the academic and social welfare of Black students. The office should be entitled "Dean of Black Students" and be filled by a Black person.
8. Due consideration be given to the appointment of a Black person to the office of director of admissions.
9. Black persons be placed on the Board of Admissions.
10. Black persons be placed on the athletics coaching staff.
11. The Student Union director be fired and replaced by someone approved by the BSM because he mislead the BSM on policies of the use of University facilities. The actions resulted in the loss of potential funds.
12. The Dean of Students be fired and replaced by someone approved by the BSM because he was responsible for the pigeon-holing of the Carolina Talent Search proposal of $65,000 from HEW. This amount would have been used for the recruitment of minority students.
13. The funds appropriated to the Student Legislature received from the Student activity fees of Black students should be given to the BSM annually, based on the fact that the Student Legislature is not representing the interests of Black students.
14. Either Black students have full jurisdiction over all offenses committed by Black students, or duly elected Black students from the BSM should represent our interests on the present judiciary courts.
15. The BSM be given $7,000, the amount anticipated to be raised by admission charges for the Stokely Carmichael lecture.
16. The University begin working immediately to alleviate intolerable working conditions of the Black non-academic employees.
17. The University acknowledges its shortcomings in dealing with Black non-academic employees and immediately set up meetings with the employees and members of the BSM in order to outline and implement constructive action.
18. Athletic facilities be opened for Black youth. This should be done in cooperation with the Black community. A Black person should be hired to direct this function.
19. The Dental School set up a free clinic similar to the one set up by the medical school students.
20. The Law School set up a Legal Aid Clinic for the Black citizens in need of legal assistance.
21. The University use its influence to alleviate some of the problems in the Black community. 1) Housing: a) Increase indoor plumbing; b) Reduction of utility rates. c) Establishment of low-rent housing in cooperation with the Black community to be controlled by the Black community. 2) Health and sanitary conditions: a) Garbage pickup; b) Unpaved streets.
22. The University use its influence to promote those activities of the Black community which will enhance the development of Black control of the Black community.

The New 22 Demands

The New list of 22 Demands submitted to Chancellor Hooker on November 14, 1997.

We the members of the BLACK STUDENT MOVEMENT, demand that:
1) An Advisory Committee to the Chancellor on Minority Affairs be created and maintained.
2) A detailed report be given to the BSM explaining the title change of our faculty adviser, Harold G. Wallace.
3) Black admissions officers once again become the primary readers of Black students' applications.
4) Black faculty and students be represented on the Committee on Student Conduct.
5) There be a minimum of one (1) Black student to hear cases of Black students in Honor Court.
6) Homecoming Committee reserve a permanent seat for a minority student representative.
7) A minority student representative permanently sit on the Student Advisory Committee (the Board of Trustees).
8) The University no longer actively recruit minority professors.
9) The Academic Department, especially the English Department include more minority content in courses.
10) The Pogue Scholarship remain separate from all other merit based scholarship applications.
11) The Graduate School reinstitute scholarships targeted to Black students.
12) The University annually publish a report indicating how many Black students apply and are accepted into graduate programs and professional schools at UNC.
13) RHA's Racial Diversity Program become permanent, including more North and Middle campus dormitories; resident assistants in these dormitories be required to conduct programs promoting cultural awareness throughout the year.
14) Affirmative Action be placed back in the name of the Equal Opportunity/ADA Office.
15) The Office of Minority Affairs be relocated from the basement of South Building.
16) The University officially recognize Upendo Lounge as the Black Student Union; more office space be allocated to the BSM, recognizing the organization as the second largest organization.
17) The University officially recognize the slaves which built the University in the form of a statue or monument; the University put pressure on the Town of Chapel Hill in the matter of repairing the broken headstones of these slaves in the Chapel Hill cemetery.
18) Chancellor Hooker himself meet regularly with the UNC Housekeepers Association as agreed in their original settlement.
19) Chancellor Hooker issue a statement to the entire University, surrounding communities, and UNC Alumni in support of a free-standing Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center which will serve as a tool of information concerning the progress of the building to date.
20) The University halt any possible intentions of renaming the current Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center or the future free-standing Soja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center for publicity, fundraising, or any other purpose.
21) The BSM be notified in writing of any changes in policies at the University which have or will affect Black students and/or Black faculty and staff.
22) The Chancellor officially proclaim the month of November as Black Student Movement Month in recognition of the many accomplishments of the Black Student Movement at UNC.
The demands for space on this campus continue...

To the administration of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,

It has recently come to our attention that the University has taken into consideration a proposal for the creation of a center for the Latinx community at UNC. As students of the University, we demand for the approval and advancement of the Carolina Latinx Center with deliberate speed.

While we are pleased that the proposal is being reviewed, our concern is rooted in a lack of Latinx representation on the committee that has been appointed to review the proposal, with nobody fully able to speak on behalf of our community’s interests and grievances. This is especially troubling because while the Center is meant to support Latinx students, faculty, and staff on campus and the community, the proposal will be decided on without input from the individuals it seeks to represent. We feel the issue is a reflection of the greater lack of diversity within UNC administration. With the establishment of the Carolina Latinx Center, the University will be able to attract and retain Latinx-identifying individuals to serve in these roles and represent our community.

We understand the positive impact the Carolina Latinx Center would have on the University. A central location on campus designed with Latinx students, faculty, and staff at the forefront displays the University’s commitment to inclusive excellence on the “premise that diversity and inclusion is woven into the core of the institution and is essential to institutions achieving excellence and successes and realizing the educational benefits of diversity.” By creating a Latinx Center, the University will experience an increase in Latinx student admissions, further adding to the ever-growing Latinx population on campus, which now stands at 7.8% of the total undergraduate population. This will subsequently lead to an augmentation of UNC’s Latinx alumni base that can contribute positively to the University’s long history of academic excellence and financial donations.

However, the University has done little to uplift our communities or offer support in order to address the lack of resources, representation, or infrastructures offered to Latinx students at UNC. University-recognized Latinx-oriented programming such as Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM), Latinx/o Mentoring Program (LMP), and the Latinx/o Alumni Reunion (LAR) are under the full responsibility of a small group of undergraduate students who are awarded work-study with minimal administrative help. As it currently stands, the LMP is housed under the Carolinas Latinx Collaborative, and the monthly programming, management of student mentors and mentees, a total of 80 undergraduate students, is solely directed by one work-study student. Three seminar rooms in a residence hall on South Campus is not enough to service 1,451 students.

The University cannot begin to offer to its students an explanation about its blatant apathy towards the wellbeing of our community. The University cannot claim to be at “the forefront of diversity and inclusive excellence,” or when other institutions, such as Duke University, have already created centers for its Latinx community. We have been told on numerous occasions that “it’s not the right time for a center,” and have been systematically ignored when we voiced our concerns. Even if enough; we cannot and will not wait any longer.

It is our hope that the creation of the Carolina Latinx Center would address a number of concerns that we, as students, have perceived and experienced during our time at UNC. However, in order to ensure that our needs are addressed, we find it imperative that the committee responsible for reviewing the proposal meet with Latinx leaders on campus to discuss our vision of the Center and how it would best serve our community.
November 19th, 2015
UNC Chapel Hill

A COLLECTIVE RESPONSE TO ANTI-BLACKNESS

To the UNC-Chapel Hill Administration, UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees, UNC Board of Governors, North Carolina General Assembly, and other governing bodies:

UNC Chapel Hill is an unethical institution. From massive labor exploitation across campus to the athletic industrial complex, treating Black and Brown people as less than is essential to the everyday running of UNC. In 1969 the Black Student Movement issued 23 demands to the University. Almost 50 years have passed, but if you look at the demands you realize we are still dealing with exactly the same issues. Little has changed. There is no institutional will to enact a shift away from white supremacist, patriarchal capitalism. There is no institutional will to recognize the anti-Blackness that stains the very roots of this University.

You include Black and Brown bodies in the institution, and mask them with the words “diversity,” “inclusion,” and “multiculturalism.” You throw us on brochures and toss us in statistics. You do this to hide the way UNC would not function were it not for the mass displacement, exploitation, slow death, and genocide of Black and Brown people. We are not trying to integrate into a violent system, while others among us people are suffering both inside and outside the University.

For this reason, it is high time that serious structural alterations be made to higher education. One aspiration are untainted: free tuition via a University open to all, abolition of the police and prisons, free and collectivized housing and food, and more. There are many smaller steps needed to realize this, so here we set out a program to lay the groundwork for this vision. Many of these demands are not new. Hence, we honor the workers and students in groups such as Student Action with Workers, Students United for Immigrant Equality, Sierra Student Coalition, and the Board of Governors Democracy Coalition, among many others, and reiterate some of their demands to the University, too.

Critically, this is a living document that will be modified and added to, evolving over time. We invite you to join us in visioning and rebuilding education for the better. Our demands are as follows:

Gone are the days where we ask for what is past due to us: we are here to take what is ours.

Tear it down, or we shut you down.

#WeDemandUNC

As you surge forward, in the fight for freedom, take a moment to look back. In the stillness of that instant, align your breath with those who called into being the path laid before you, long before you existed. There is an ocean of change coming, gathering power, swelling with the struggles of a century. You are a drop, a fierce, vital drop in the tides of history. Be brave enough to sink into these deep waters, and do not let this dark world pierce your young lungs—those who came before you have breathed their legacy into you and it will give you life.

-SR
Students Do the Work It Takes to Reveal...  

INSTITUTIONAL RACISM AT UNC

The Real Silent Sam Coalition called for the University to contextualize the history of its buildings. The Daily Tar Heel's Projects and Investigations Team has provided more information about the namesakes of some buildings that the University identified as having a history related to race or slavery. In some cases, The Daily Tar Heel also included buildings that celebrate the black men and women who helped build campus.

- **SAUNDERS HALL**
  Saunders Hall housed William I. Saunders, a colonel in the Confederate army under Robert E. Lee. The building was designed for the department of History and Sociology. Saunders graduated from the university in 1854, studied law under Judge William Horn Battle, and rose to the level of colonel in the Confederate army under Robert E. Lee. Following the war he returned to Chapel Hill where he directed the activities of the North Carolina Ku Klux Klan during 1867-69.

- **AVCOCK RESIDENCE HALL**
  Avcock Residence Hall housed General William M. Swain, a colonel in the Confederate army under General Joseph E. Johnston. He commanded the First Corps of the Confederate army during the American Civil War.

- **SILENT SAM**
  The monument was erected in 1913 to honor the student and alumni who served during the Civil War. It is a replica of the original Silent Sam statue located on the north wall of the surgery building.

- **CAMERON AVENUE**
  Cameron Avenue, which contains predominantly UNC dormitories, is named after General John W. Cameron, a veteran of the American Civil War. The dedication ceremony for the dormitory was held in May 1893.

- **SPENCER RESIDENCE HALL**
  Spencer Residence Hall is named after General William W. Spencer, who served in the Confederate army under General Joseph E. Johnston. He commanded the 3rd Corps of the Army of Tennessee during the American Civil War. The dedication ceremony was held in May 1893.

- **Caldwell Hall**
  Caldwell Hall was dedicated on April 13, 1886, and housed the philosophy department. It is named after General William W. Caldwell, who served in the Confederate army under General Joseph E. Johnston. He commanded the 3rd Corps of the Army of Tennessee during the American Civil War.

- **DANIELS STUDENT STORES**
  Daniels Student Stores, a student-run business located in Student Stores, is named after Joseph Daniels, a lawyer and editor who served as the editor of the Daily Tar Heel from 1916 to 1918. He was also a member of the Board of Trustees from 1852 to 1918.

- **FOUNDER'S MEMORIAL**
  The Founder's Memorial is located at the intersection of Franklin Street and Margaret Street. It is named after the University's first president, William R. Davie, who served from 1834 to 1837.

- **HORNET RESIDENCE HALL**
  Hornet Residence Hall was named after the school's mascot. It is located at the intersection of Franklin Street and Margaret Street.

- **SONJA HAYNES STONE CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND HISTORY**
  Named in honor of Sonja Haynes Stone, an author and scholar who served on UNC's faculty for many years and was a prominent figure in the fight against racial segregation.

- **UNC Old Cemetery**
  Located at the intersection of Franklin Street and Margaret Street, the Old Cemetery is the final resting place of many UNC alumni and faculty who played important roles in the university's history.
Don’t Be Detoured!

University administration intentionally works to distract and deter students by obscuring their path and vision.

While they send them/us on detours - taskforces, ‘special’ meetings with deans, etc. - they intimidate and stifle student creativity and solidify histories that neutralize and erase the hard-fought victories of student activism.

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Don’t be detoured! We must map our own paths!

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We don’t just want for the building to be renamed and then that’s it. (It’s) a step in the right direction toward addressing these racial wounds that are open and bare.”

- DTH April 2019

“This movement is about the future of this university. It is about facing the violent, racial history of UNC-Chapel Hill, of the state of North Carolina and of the United States. This is about power. This is about a struggle over who belongs at this university and who gets to make decisions about what happens here.”

- March 2015

“You created our own memorial to show what Saunders was: a murderer, a slave owner and the emperor of the KKK”

DTH October 7, 1999

“The building makes Saunders out to be a good humanitarian, but he was a white supremacist.”

- April 2001, DTH

“University Admin”

“We’ve got a history, and we’re living with it,” said Richard J. Richardson, the university’s provost. “But we’re also moving beyond our history and heading toward an exciting and diverse future.”

- Source: Chronicle of Higher Education, 1999

“We wanted a name that we could reach back to where we started, where we’ve been, where we are and where we are headed,” board Chairman Lowry Caudill said.

- Chairman Lowry Caudill on Board choosing “Carolina Hall” in 2015

(Chancellor Carol) Folt refused to give an opinion on the ongoing discussion about renaming Saunders Hall.

“I wouldn’t be doing my job if I were always stating my opinion.”

- April 24, 2015 - Daily Tar Heel

Trustee Alston Gardner said though the Saunders controversy had swirled for years, it is appropriate to tackle it now. “This is the time to face the issues of race and place,” he said. “We embrace the discussion and we believe the university is a fantastic venue for that -- much better than Starbucks and a 45-second conversation with your barista.”

- The News & Observer March 25, 2015

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Student Visionaries

“We don’t just want for the building to be renamed and then that’s it. (It’s) a step in the right direction toward addressing these racial wounds that are open and bare.”

- DTH April 2019

“This movement is about the future of this university. It is about facing the violent, racial history of UNC-Chapel Hill, of the state of North Carolina and of the United States. This is about power. This is about a struggle over who belongs at this university and who gets to make decisions about what happens here.”

- March 2015

“The Real Silent Sam strives to denounce the invisibilized white supremacist narratives that undergird UNC...By instigating further conversation on alternative histories, we are attempting to address the collective historical amnesia we suffer from as a community.”

- April 2014

“We created our own memorial to show what Saunders was: a murderer, a slave owner and the emperor of the KKK”

DTH October 7, 1999

“The building makes Saunders out to be a good humanitarian, but he was a white supremacist”

- April 2001, DTH
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAPEL HILL--

The Black Student Movement, Black Cultural Center and Campus
at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will be marching to the
Chancellor's Office on Tuesday, September 3rd at 12 noon.

This act is planned to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Sonja
Hanes Stone- a former African American Studies professor whose
ultimate death has mobilized the campus into immediate social awareness
and political action.

Students will be making demands to the University Chancellor, Paul
Hardin. The demands include: 1) the immediate construction of a Black
Cultural Center named in honor of Dr. Stone 2) the installment of an
endowed chair position, also in her honor 3) the expansion of the current
African/African-American Studies Curriculum to departmental status.

Dr. Stone came to UNC-CH in 1974 as the director of the Curriculum of
African/African American Studies. She immediately began to educate
the University of the glaring inadequacies and omissions of the history
and culture of African-Americans. At that time, her social activism
background as reflected on her vita was an asset to the University because
Black Intelligentsia and Black Activists were often one and the same.

Dr. Stone's death has been a blow to the entire campus community,
especially the African-American sector. As we realized with the passing
of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., that there would be no replacement for him,
we also realize that there will be no replacement for Dr. Sonja Haynes
Stone. This is why Dr. Stone is revered so highly in the campus community
as a true leader in higher education.

Division of Student Affairs

"If I listened to everyone who said I wouldn't live here, I'd be a Priscilla."

SCRAP FROM THE DAILY TAR HEEL

Lift the renaming ban

Powerful white supremacists should not be honored.

On UNCs campus, every building named after persons who perpetuated policies of
white supremacy should be renamed. Many buildings on
UNCs campus honor white supremacists who used positions of power to
promote the subjugation of black people.

So far, one of those buildings, known as Saunders Hall, has been renamed. But
the rest will remain until there is an end to the consensus of the time, were fighting
for justice and equality. These kinds of actions amount to much more
than just standards of the time. Monike Aycock
used their influence to create these inferior standards.

We make these distinctions because not all forms of racism are
repressive; it is important to single out the people who used their power to systemically
subjugate groups for years. If we do not,
many students buy textbooks from Daniels Student Stores, which
was named after Josephus Daniels, one of the founders of The (Raleigh) News & Observer. He used his
platform with the N&O to campaign for white
supremacy, warning readers of impending "Negro
domination."

One commendable portion of the board's recent decision is the
planned implementation of comprehensive education around UNCs racial
history. Information about the facts of the past is the most important weapon
against white supremacists.

The Board of Trustees needs to make a strong statement that UNCs is not a university that
honors bigotry in positions of power, no matter when it
occurred. Removing them would be making history, not creating it.

When we place powerful people's names on buildings, we give them
the planet of power that we do not deserve.
[We] never considered the possibility of renaming Saundera Hall in the spring of 2015 for Hurston... the students never proposed it to us... support for naming the building for Hurston surfaced after we had renamed the building.

**Student Activist Survival Guide**

1. When invited to meetings in administration homes and offices (?!?!?), **DO NOT GO**! Meet on neutral ground or preferably, in your space.
2. Do your own research.
3. Create queer and POC spaces.
4. Reverse use of horizontal stacking methods in your group meetings.
5. Find people and create spaces that validate your existence.
6. Share your rage!
7. Collectivize care & responsibility. Hang out > chill > turn up
8. You are creating history, so write - document - witness... your own history (cause someone else will try to rewrite/erase it)
During the late 1990s and early 2000s a student group called Students Seeking Historical Truth organized and looked to contextualize UNC’s racialized campus landscape. In October 1999 Students Seeking Historical Truth organized an anti-racist “decoration” of Saunders Hall in which they hung a KKK banner on the building. Pictured here (right) are meeting notes in the week leading up to the group’s “decoration” of Saunders Hall, and a flyer advertising a panel discussion entitled “University Buildings: Racist Pasts and Current Meetings.”
“If you are silent about your pain, they’ll kill you and say you enjoyed it.”

-Zora Neale Hurston

We Exist

We demand.
BREAK OPEN THE IMPOSSIBLE!

CHANGE IS NEVER LINEAR, NOR IS IT INEVITABLE.

***

WE SEE HOW THE UNIVERSITY WANTS TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO OR EVEN TAKE BACK OUR WINS, THROUGH CYCLES OF INSTITUTIONAL MANIPULATION, CONDESCENSION AND REPETITIVE RHETORICS THAT LIMIT POSSIBILITIES.

***

WE SEE AND RECOGNIZE THESE RHETORICS AND TACTICS. WE KNOW CHANGE IS POSSIBLE, AND NECESSARY, AND REQUIRES US TO BREAK-THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY’S CYCLES OF ENDLESSLY DEFERRED FUTURES.
Negro Wench. Negro Wench. These are the sentiments of hate and violence that live and breathe on our campus because they have yet to be purged through an honest acknowledgement and confrontation of this University’s past.

These are the words and hateful sentiments that fall on my body and other Black bodies, trailing us as we go to class day to day, trying to live our lives as we strive to find the “Southern part of heaven” that was promised to us upon our acceptance...

...You see, for years students have organized around these building names and monuments. Students of color have voiced their cries of dissent and deep hurt from the un-contextualized presence of these sites and the legacies of hate that they represent.

For years these students have continually been ignored!

...We students of color are tired of being statistics, stored in The University’s back pocket ready to pull out when ever they need prove of how “diverse” they are,

We are whole people, and want to be recognized as whole people in this space, but how can we when everything around us tells us that we are not. Despite this continued assault, we students of color are still determined to claim this space and fight to make it our own.

We are letting the administration know that they can no longer hide behind the notion that Saunders was a man of his time. White Supremacy knows no time. It lives in willful ignorance, excuses and oppressive disregard.

UNC administrators, you need to wake up to the fact that you have been complicit in white supremacy’s project. You need to start working to deconstruct this insidious beast. Luckily, your students have begun the work for you. IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO FINALLY LISTEN. It is time for UNC to make the journey from Negro wench to Hurston Hall.

According to UNC’s 1920 Board of Trustees, these reasons qualified William L. Saunders to be glorified on our campus. His KNOWN role as Grand Dragon of the NC KKK was at the top of their list. Looks like UNC’s 2015 Board of Trustees agrees with their predecessors.
During the rally this woman came up afterwards... she was in all white... and she had sunglasses on... she said something like... 'everything that you need to get this building name changed, it's in this envelope...'

and then she just walked away... and it was just this:

WILLIAM LAURENCE SAUNDERS, LL.B.; LL.D.

Born 1835 — Died 1891

Graduated from the University of North Carolina, 1854.
Lawyer — Soldier — Historian — Statesman
Colonel of the 46th North Carolina Regiment, C.S.A.
Head of the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina
Editor of the Wilmington Journal
Editor of the Raleigh Observer
Secretary of State of North Carolina 1879–1891
Trustee of the University of North Carolina, 1874–1891
Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina, 1879–1891
Treasurer of the University of North Carolina, 1883–1891
Compiler and Editor of the Colonial Records of North Carolina

An ardent friend of the University and one of the master minds of North Carolina.

...the missing key was that there was no documentation

-Omololu
Zora Neale Hurston Hall

We honor and remember all the African American students who studied at UNC unofficially before our university's integration. Zora Neale Hurston was one of these students. Against all odds and despite a system that did everything in its power to keep her from attending college, she went on to become one of America's most celebrated authors.

This hall was formerly named after William Saunders, an alumnus, colonel in the Confederate States Army, and leader in the NC Ku Klux Klan. Saunders Hall was changed to "Carolina Hall" in 2015, after The Real Silent Sam Coalition protested the hall being named after a Klansman. Both students and faculty proposed the name Hurston Hall after Zora Neale Hurston.

Their proposal was not accepted by the Board of Trustees. Name changes to any buildings on campus were then forbidden until 2031.

Education

March 28, 2017 5:31 PM

"Hurston Hall" plaque appears at UNC's renamed "Carolina Hall"

By Jane Stanfill

CHAPEL HILL

Following the plaque at UNC-Chapel Hill's Carolina Hall, a new sign appeared Tuesday proclaiming the building "Zora Neale Hurston Hall," the preferred name by activists who successfully pushed for the building's 2015 renaming.

The Hurston sign, reminiscent of an engraved plaque, appeared on the same day that the Chronicle of Higher Education published a story on the history of the building, which was renamed Carolina Hall in 2015 after UNC trustees voted to strip the original name, Saunders Hall. That name was chosen in 1924 to reflect a "national spirit of white supremacy by having a KKK leader in the center of UNC's academic and residential life," according to the UNC Kappa Alpha chapter.

UNC's Religious Studies department, which is headquartered at Carolina Hall, posted a photograph of the official and unofficial signs, tweeting, "Something new appeared on our building today... HurstonHall!"

Visions

Some student activists pushed for the classroom building to be named for Hurston, the African American writer who is said to have visited classes at UNC and studied unofficially before integration, with some UNC professors, though she was not enrolled or affiliated with the university. She attended both N.C. Central University in Durham and the University of Chicago.

Hurston Hall represents something new at the renamed Carolina Hall. Students have proposed a "makerspace" in the past that has been approved by the administration. A proposal for a workshop there has been in place for a year, with colorful paper signs taped in windows. A video posted on Twitter in January appears to show someone installing the Hurston plaque at a new "makerspace" at UNC known as "BeAM."

a workshop where students have access to high-tech equipment such as 3D printers to build prototypes.

The fake plaque that the proposed Hurston name was rejected by trustees, who enacted a moratorium on building name changes for 16 years at the time of the 2015 Saunders renaming.

"We honor and remember all the African American students who studied at UNC unofficially before our university's integration," Tuesday's Hurston sign said. The new dedication plaque.
This is for the Seers, the ones whose eyes reflect the glimmer of new futures.
This is for the Rebels, the ones with courage to call out the leaders and the status quo, those who dream up new stories of Light and Liberty, in languages that only we who listen with love can understand.
This is for the Visionaries, the ones who imagine new worlds, those who do not wait upon the arc of the moral universe, but bend it towards justice themselves.

-SR
Gratitude for:

Jennifer Ho & the Arts and Social Justice program @ the IAH, UNC-CH; University archivists Sarah Carrier, Nick Graham and Chaitra Powell for historical documents and our “Day in the Archive”; the Real Silent Sam Coalition, in particular Omololu Babatunde, for sharing photos, speeches, and insights; interviews with Omololu and Blanche Brown; Jeannine Tatlock for the Hurston Hall plaque that should have been; Stephanie Metzen for sketches; the 3Cs: Counter-Cartographies Collective for the reimagined campus map; Sertanya Reddy for poetic wisdom; Francisco Laso for cover art brilliance; Charlotte Fryar for source material and campus activism timeline; the Zinesboro Collective for teaching us to zine; Jina Valentine and Carrie Mae Weems for reflections on art & social justice; Vimala’s for nutritional sustenance; Board of Trustees member Alston Gardner for being consistently insensitive and factually incorrect (thanks, Alston: you got your own special page); over 25 geography graduate students who made films, designed t-shirts, wrote op-eds, taught, and fought for Hurston Hall, despite their precarity: many continue to rupture and reimagine @ UNC and elsewhere; the generations of student visionaries @ UNC-CH: Black Student Movement, Students Seeking Historical Truth, Freedom Legacy Project, Black Awareness Council, On the Wake of Emancipation Campaign, Real Silent Sam Coalition.

Resources Sources for future archivists and activists

The University Archives & Blog:

The John Kenyon Chapman Papers:
http://bit.ly/yonni_c

Omololu Babatunde’s 2015 Honors Thesis: “Black Liberatory Senses of Place: Creating from Abject Otherness.”

The Southern Oral History Project:

Archives of BSM’s Black Ink:

UNC’s campus newspaper, The Daily Tar Heel, is archived online at newspapers.com.

In the cloud: #wedemandunc, #HurstonHall, @carolinaUNControllables, @RealSilentSam, http://bit.ly/RenameSaunders, http://www.blackliberationcollective.org/

For more zines check out: www.zinesboro.com

http://flockgeographies.wordpress.com