



January 25, 2023
Hill Ballroom, Carolina Inn

OPEN SESSION

FOR INFORMATION

1. **The Utility of the Humanities**

Lloyd Kramer, Professor of History & Director of Carolina Public Humanities

Hilary Lithgow, Teaching Professor of English

*Molly Worthen, Associate Professor of History & Faculty Director, Program for Public Discourse
(Interim)*

2. **Retreat Follow up Discussion**

Perrin Jones, Committee Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Perrin Jones, Chair

Ramsey White, Vice Chair

Rob Bryan

Gene Davis

Ralph Meekins

Marty Kotis

AGENDA ITEM

Information Item 1 The Utility of the Humanities

Situation: The skills and habits of mind that UNC-Chapel Hill students hone in their humanities coursework and research are crucial for their success as professionals, as citizens and even as human beings. In other words, humanities-centered courses and experiences remain essential to UNC-CH students in our technological and global age.

Background: In this presentation, faculty members will discuss some of the core practices by which the humanities achieve these goals and current students and alums will share how their humanities course work has prepared them to succeed in a wide variety of careers.

The presentation will include a [3-minute video clip \(28:25-31:29\) of Brian Wilson](#), former CEO of BCBS discussing the value of the humanities on the "Why the ENGL major is great for Business" panel.

Assessment: N/A

Action: This item is for information only and does not require a vote by the Committee.

Agenda Item

Information Item 2 Retreat Follow Up Discussion

Situation: The Committee would like to discuss strategies for promoting collegiality and collaboration among and between members of the Board and other University stakeholders.

Background: At its retreat in the fall, the Board discussed strategies for promoting a collegial atmosphere among and between members of the Board and other University stakeholders. This is a follow up to that discussion. Included in the materials is a draft resolution for consideration and discussion.

Action: This item is for information only.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL**

Preamble

WHEREAS, a healthy democracy not only tolerates dissent, but welcomes it to help test ideas and to promote policies benefiting the public good. Vigorous debate and frank disagreement should proliferate in an open, democratic society – especially at its universities – while personal attacks and abuse undermine progress toward individual dignity, mutual understanding, and community welfare.

WHEREAS, one prominent University graduate observed recently: Threats, bullying, and intimidation have no place in our educational system. Being civil and respectful of one another is more important now than ever before.

NOW THEREFORE, to promote a positive, collegial atmosphere among students, faculty, and staff, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Board of Trustees hereby invite all Tar Heels to join us in adopting this civility pledge:

"To help foster the free exchange of ideas necessary to the search for truth, I pledge to treat all students, faculty, and staff with respect, dignity, courtesy, and generosity of spirit. I acknowledge the value of varying backgrounds, experiences, perspectives, and opinions among the members of our diverse University community. We are all fallible – and each of us is equally worthy. I commit humbly to the unending pursuit of knowledge, understanding, wisdom, acceptance, and mutual support as fellow Tar Heels first and last."