

October 25, 2018

Dear President Kaler,

We write with an update and request concerning the timely work of the Task Force on Building Names and Institutional History, as charged by you and Executive Vice President and Provost Hanson on Oct. 4, 2018, with the request to report back six weeks from the date of the charge (Nov. 15, 2018).

Our group of faculty and students commenced with meetings on Oct. 9, 2018, and has made considerable progress since then. However, in order to provide adequate time to complete our research inquiries and evaluate each building on its own merit as thoroughly as possible, we kindly request an extension to mid-December 2018.

The additional four weeks will enable our group to be as thoughtful as possible as we conduct this important work, knowing that we are also establishing a framework for any future deliberations on proposed name changes or name removal. We assure you that we are mindful of the gravity of the work before us as well as the precedent we are inevitably setting for efforts that may follow.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susanna Blumenthal
Professor, Law, History
Co-chair

John Coleman
Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities campus
Co-Chair

SB/JC:jr