

Ballard, Steve

From: Glenda Moultrie <gmoultrie@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 9:03 PM
To: 'David Englert'; Dyba, Christopher Michael
Cc: Ballard, Steve; 'Robert Brinkley'; Romary, Marcy; 'Neal Crawford'; Hardy, Virginia
Subject: RE: Committee to address the name of Aycock Hall

Good evening Chris & David...Thank you for sharing the dialogue regarding the changing of the name of Aycock dorm. Even though I did not reside in Aycock, I was a student in the 70's and still am an active alumni. I have many memories of my years and those of other minorities that attended this university in the earlier years that has affected us in many ways. Some of us were able to move forward while others are haunted by their past.

As an alum and as a member of the Black Alumni Chapter and the Alumni Board of Directors, I try to spend time hearing the voice of our Pirate family. In doing so, I have received feedback from numerous representatives of the minority populations on the campus (mostly our African American community) that feel strongly about the renaming of Aycock Dorm. As our current BAC President stated in a letter to our Chancellor Ballard, Governor Aycock was a known white supremacist. Even though he did great things in North Carolina, his supremacy movement has scarred his legacy.

I understand the concerns of Dave in changing the name of a building that has been in existence for so long BUT our university has made advancements that warrant change. We are more diverse today than we have EVER been. We can share dorm rooms together without parents coming on campus complaining about the race of the roommate. . . we can visit our roommates homes "AFTER DARK" without fear of our lives, we can date out of our race without everyone on campus doing a "DOUBLE TAKE" AND we can be homecoming kings and queens, chairs of boards, directors, etc. and have support of the university. I lived through some of those scenarios and it was not a great reflection/memory of ECU. Therefore, I understand why our alum of the "ole skool" generation would like to see a change in the name on a building that represents a person of strong dislike to people of color.

We have scars that are still healing and to have a building named after a legacy of our race (like Mrs. Leary) that stood strong and persevered through that valley in her life and of others, will give us as well as our current legacies at ECU a story to tell. **ECU stands for change and to serve ALL people.** Many African American alumni are signing the position submitted by the BAC and this quote submitted by one signature speaks for many "*I am signing because I support growth, diversity and inclusion.*"

I am sorry for this lengthy dialogue but I just want to share my thoughts. I understand the feeling of not changing something that has good "dorm life" memories for some but did they really know the history behind the name? On the flip side, I understand the need for growth, diversity and inclusion and that's what ECU is all about. I know the BAC has requested their support of the renaming to be on record and I acknowledge and support their request. If the committee selected to review the renaming does not have any persons representing the BAC at East Carolina University, I would also recommend that addition to the committee.