



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

CAROL L. FOLT
Chancellor

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MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Chancellor Carol L. Folt *Carol L. Folt*

DATE: May 4, 2018

RE: Release of Confidential Personnel Information

Recent public accounts concerning the faculty grievance filed by Professor Jay Smith of the Department of History have questioned the integrity of the University's faculty grievance process and those involved in it. I am releasing the letters that set forth the basis for the final decision made in that grievance in order to provide important context and facts that were not in the media reports.

The University, an agency of the State of North Carolina, is generally limited in the personnel information that can be released to the public. However, pursuant to the authority granted me under Section 126-24 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, I hereby determine that, in order to maintain the integrity of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, it is necessary to release the following information regarding how the grievance was handled:

- (1) The letter of Provost Robert Blouin to Christopher B. McLaughlin, Chair of the Faculty Grievance Committee, dated November 30, 2017.
- (2) The letter of Chancellor Carol L. Folt to Professor Jay Smith dated February 26, 2018;
- (3) The letter of Chancellor Carol L. Folt to Board of Trustees Chair Haywood Cochrane dated March 20, 2018;
- (4) The decision of the Board of Trustees denying Professor Smith's appeal dated April 2, 2018.

This memorandum will be maintained in my office and will be a public record.