

## On the Matter of the Confederate Monument

The Institute for the Study of the Americas (ISA) joins the many members of the faculty, staff, and the student body across the Carolina campus in condemning the shameful decision by the Board of Governors (BOG) to misappropriate \$2.5 million to the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) as subsidy to defray the cost of custodial care of the Confederate Monument. ISA condemns the transfer of ownership of the Monument to the SCV, slated to serve as an artifact through which to perpetuate a false history and memorialize a racist ideology. To suggest that the \$2.5 million—and the \$74,999 “payoff”—diverted to the SCV are without consequences, derived from “University-owned liquidity,” is to engage in willful dissimulation: the funds are all University assets. These funds have been raised in the name of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to advance the principled purpose for which donations were tendered in the first place, and to which—until now—the University has been dedicated. The BOG action is an anathema, and betrays the principles of academic integrity and intellectual honesty that have served as the hallmark qualities of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill—principles to which ISA remains committed.