

September 7, 2021

Dear President Randhawa and the WWU Board of Trustees,

This letter is submitted in support of the Board of Trustees' upcoming discussion of the Legacy Review Task Force Report. Following the release of the report to the campus community, several individuals contacted the staff of Heritage Resources for information related to the Task Force recommendations. In support of these research inquiries, the staff responded to requests for material from the William Wade Haggard Papers and other associated subject files housed in Western's Special Collections. We also provided one individual with an inventory of University Archives records related to Dr. Haggard. The availability of this inventory is referenced in our report on Haggard and others. In support of your discussion, we are submitting a letter composed by Michael Taylor (Special Collections Librarian) that provides an overview of this additional research on Haggard. We share these findings as needed follow-up to the Legacy Task Force Report. It is our hope that Professor Taylor's summary and attached documentation will be helpful to your deliberations on this matter.

We would also like to respond more generally to our role in the legacy review process. Heritage Resources was tasked with finding "disturbing issues or affiliations" and "red flags" regarding several individuals associated with Western. It was our intent to submit this evidence in an unbiased manner with citations to the source material referenced in our reports. Moreover, our reports indicated that due to the voluminous nature of the archival record, staff limitations and the complexities of COVID-19, we could not offer a comprehensive listing of all documentation available in the units affiliated with Heritage Resources. We anticipated that our brief reports would generate additional research interest from the Legacy Review Task Force, and we expressed willingness to provide subsequent information in support of their work. We did not receive any additional requests from the Task Force as a body. In fact, only two members asked for further archival documentation, which we supplied to them. Unfortunately, the COVID health crisis prevented public access to our

collections during the period when the Task Force was active, limiting their ability to conduct their own research. As a result, the staff of Heritage Resources engaged in highly selective research, responding by proxy to wide-ranging requests on behalf of the Task Force. The research documentation that we supplied was narrow in focus and was not a comprehensive or contextualized expression of the materials available in Western's archives or other archival repositories. We submit this additional evidence regarding Dr. Haggard as an example of what could be learned with more research on any of the individuals referenced in the Task Force Report.

Thank you for your consideration of this additional information.

Sincerely,

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