



Special News Bulletin

UNC NROTC Alumni,

The Strategic Initiatives Committee of the UNC-CH Board of Trustees (BoT) removed the Naval Armory from the 2019 Master Plan's demolition list and committed to funding repairs and upgrades to the building. The committee met as part of a two-day BoT gathering this week. To watch the recorded meeting online click [here](#).

This BoT committee meeting included a historical summary of the Navy's contributions to Carolina via the WWII Pre-Flight Program. The Armory and its use were mentioned as part of the Navy's history at UNC. The author of the best selling book *The Cloudbuster Nine* (about the Pre-Flight Program at Carolina) and some children of the B-1 Band members gave their own compelling perspectives of the Navy's history at Carolina. Chancellor Guskiewicz commented that after hearing from UNC NROTC alumni over the past few years and researching the issues, he had become "very conflicted" about demolishing the Naval Armory. The Chancellor also said he plans to use what he heard in the meeting presentations in the future.

Last month, BoT Chairman David Boliek hinted at the 80th Celebration that the BoT could remove the Naval Armory from UNC's demolition list. Dr. Perrin Jones who chairs this committee deserves our thanks for all that he has done over the past year to reverse the Naval Armory demolition decision. He suggested this special committee meeting and encouraged UNC NROTC alumni emails sent regularly to BoT members. During this meeting, several Trustees mentioned the emails sent by UNC military alumni demonstrating the passion for saving the Naval Armory. The written and verbal communication with Trustees helped convince them of the Naval Armory's value as a "home base" for midshipmen and cadets according to Dr. Jones. Trustee Mr. Gene Davis made the very detailed motion to save the Naval Armory. Additionally, Trustees Ms. Ramsey White and Mr. Allie Ray McCullen voiced support. Those five Trustees have been among the Naval Armory's most supportive.

Please write brief "thank you" emails to the BoT members for their efforts to save the Naval Armory. Their email addresses are listed below for your convenience. Of course, continued vigilance is needed going forward to ensure UNC does not again try to demolish the Naval Armory. The Naval Armory Preservation Committee (NAPC) members intend to monitor UNC's actions and help encourage funding for necessary preservation and upgrades to the Naval Armory.

Over the past year, the Air Force and Army ROTC alumni also provided a much appreciated unified front and contributed to our email campaign. At least 8 NROTC Alumni Association (AA) members attended the meeting in person this week as noted by the Trustees. That presence demonstrated the merits of having and maintaining a strong AA.

UNC Board of Trustees members

Chairman David L. Boliek Jr.	david.boliek@unc.edu
Vice Chairman John P. Preyer	jppreyer@unc.edu
Secretary Malcom K. Turner	malcolm@unc.edu
Teresa Artis Neal	teeartis@unc.edu
Robert P. Bryan	rob.bryan@unc.edu
R. Gene Davis Jr.	gene.davis@unc.edu
Perrin W. Jones, MD	perrin.jones@unc.edu
W. M. "Marty" Kotis III	mkotis@unc.edu
Allie Ray McCullen	mccullenre@aol.com
Ralph Meekins Sr.	rmeekins@unc.edu

Vinay B. Patel

Vin.patel@unc.edu

Ramsey R. White

Ramseywhite@unc.edu



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103 Sand Castle Dr, Emerald Isle, NC 28594

1-252-646-4379

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Naval Armory is located at 221 South Columbia St, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

UNC NROTC Alumni Association | Email: whlatham@icloud.com | Website: www.uncnrotcaa.org

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