

Agenda item:

- University response to community concerns regarding the Baldwin Hall expansion

Description:

- Members of the local African American community raised a number of issues and concerns to the University administration in response to the cemetery that was disturbed during the Baldwin Hall expansion. The University has engaged in two concrete initiatives following the reburial of human remains found at the site: the funding of a proposal by Dr. Marguerite Madden to develop an online Story Map to narrate aspects of African American history of Athens; and analysis of the recovered DNA for paternal ancestry. The second of these has apparently stalled, and a number of other concerns raised by community members have not yet been addressed. With March marking one year since the reburial, we hope to present a statement to the administration on our hopes for progress on the DNA analysis and ongoing efforts to build bridges with the African American community.