


**I. Memorandum to Provost James W. Dean, Jr.
Carol Tresolini, Vice Provost
for Academic Initiatives,
February 8, 2016**



MEMORANDUM

TO: James Dean, Jr.
Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

CAROL P. TRESOLINI
Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives
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FROM: Carol Tresolini 
Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives and Chair, Centers & Institutes Review Committee

DATE: February 8, 2016

RE: Review of the Center for Civil Rights

The Centers and Institutes Review Committee met recently to discuss the report of the review of the Center for Civil Rights (CCR) in the UNC School of Law. Last February, following their system-wide review of centers and institutes, the UNC Board of Governors instructed UNC Chapel Hill to complete a comprehensive review of the CCR by February 2016. This review was conducted, by the School's Academic Affairs Committee in consultation with its former Dean Jack Boger. It was submitted and approved by the current Dean Martin Brinkley in December 2015. The Committee commends Professor Boger and the review team for conducting a comprehensive and thoughtful review of the CCR and constructing a clear and compelling report (attached) that addresses all requirements of the policies governing centers and institutes established by the UNC system and UNC-Chapel Hill.

The CCR was founded in 2002 by esteemed UNC School of Law Alumnus and former North Carolina Central University Chancellor Julius L. Chambers. Consistent with the University's mission, its work is guided by a three-fold research, teaching, and service mission. It creates and sponsors cutting-edge research and scholarship on contemporary issues of civil rights; provides education and training of law students who aspire to join the next generation of civil rights attorneys, advocates, and scholars; and offers these students direct field experience as it provides outreach and direct assistance to some of the most socially, economically, and politically disadvantaged citizens. The CCR enjoys a large degree of success in accomplishing its mission due to the strong leadership of its current director Ted Shaw, Julius L. Chambers Distinguished Professor of Law. The center has produced a strong body of scholarly publications, hosted academic and service-oriented conferences, and garnered enough private support to fully fund its work without any allocation of State funds.

This center has come to be acknowledged as not only among the primary civil rights centers in the South, but also a national leader in civil rights research, engagement, and advocacy. It exemplifies the type of focused interdisciplinary work that one would expect of a center or institute at a top-tier university. The Centers and Institutes Review Committee fully endorses the findings of the review team and believes that the CCR is a great asset to the University, the state, and the nation. The committee commends Prof. Shaw for his fine leadership and recommends continuation of this center, with its next periodic review in five years. We ask that you forward the report and recommendations to the Chancellor for her endorsement, and then to the Board of Trustees for their information, as directed by the Board of Governors.

Copy: the Centers and Institutes Review Committee

Attachment: CCR Review Report