



Wednesday, March 26th, 2025

By the constitutional authority vested in me as President of the *WashU Student Union government*, Student Union Senate Resolution: *Resolution for the Removal of the Terry Collection At WashU* is hereby *approved*.

Rationale

To start, I would like to applaud and commend the leadership of the Association of Black Students and the Washington University Native American Student Alliance for their advocacy concerning the removal of the Terry Collection. I appreciate each of you who showed up at the March 25th, 2025, Student Union (SU) Senate General Body Meeting to not only present, but also share your concerns with members of your student body government. For many of you, this resolution wasn't just a resolution, it was a document that is a byproduct of countless months and years of research, meetings, and advocacy. It is a resolution that has shaped your time here at WashU. Thus, through this approval, I want to commend and affirm your effort in what I believe is SU's constitutional obligation to our constituents and the broader WashU community.

Article III, Section 2 of the SU Constitutions states that our vision is to “responsibly and equitably serve and empower every undergraduate student to be a force for change and improvement while fostering and preserving tradition at Washington University in St. Louis”. Through the passage of this resolution, I concur with SU Senate that it calls upon that vision. To serve equitably means promoting fairness, justice, and moral responsibility in all aspects of our operations on behalf of the WashU community. The Terry Collection's [unethical amassing of human remains](#) of African Americans and [Native Americans](#) runs counter to that moral and ethical responsibility.

Earlier this spring semester, the WashU community gathered to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the 38th annual commemoration in Graham Chapel. This year's

commemoration theme was inspired by Dr. King's words: 'Ultimately, individual responsibility lies not in the external situation but in the internal response.' Throughout the event, university leaders, deans, and students delivered speeches reflecting on the meaning of responsibility, both as individuals and as members of the broader WashU community. Though each speech offered a unique perspective, they all came together in a shared commitment to honoring Dr. King's legacy. At its core, the commemoration was a call to return to Dr. King's teachings and his vision of the Beloved Community—a vision that challenges us to confront social, economic, and political injustices and to advance meaningful change in our community, our nation, and the world. At its core, I believe the commemoration was a call for all of us to serve equitably by promoting fairness, justice, and moral and ethical responsibility in our decision-making.

I believe this resolution calls for the removal of the Terry Collection is in alignment not only with our student government's constitution but also with Dr. King's remarks on responsibility and his vision of a Beloved Community. As one of the co-hosts of the WashU 38th Dr. King commemoration alongside ABS Co-President Spencer Snipe, I see no better way of advancing Dr. King's vision of a Beloved Community than to support and affirm this resolution. The Terry Collection's [unethical amassing of human remains](#) and their utilization in classes has caused great harm to our community. Thus, it is a social injustice that Dr. King challenged us to confront. Through the approval of this resolution, I invite university leaders to engage alongside student leaders in Dr. King's Beloved Community via the removal of the Terry Collection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hussein Amuri', with a stylized, overlapping flourish at the end.

Hussein Amuri, *Student Union President*

Wednesday, March 26th, 2025, 1:00 PM CT