



Statement of Solidarity

The Florida State University Higher Education Student Association (HESA) prides itself on being a collective voice of a diverse body of students. We strive to uphold the values of leadership, social justice & student success within our communities and on our campus. We recognize the power college students have to be agents of change and actors in our country's historical reckoning. We believe all are called to be leaders in uprooting racism and colonization as we see it in our communities and on our campus.

As an organization, we are happy to see the Eppes statue removed. We celebrate the collective efforts of our peers in various organizations across campus who rallied together to speak truth to power and took active steps toward dismantling the symbol of White supremacy which the Eppes statue represents. We recognize the efforts of the many voices who have called for change, and we are proud of the progress made.

While we celebrate the removal of the statue, we acknowledge the work is far from done. We stand with our Black and Indigenous peers in calling for the reconciliation of our campus and community through addressing the myriad of racist rhetoric that exists through the names, statues, and practices still standing within the FSU Community. We must lead FSU to be inclusive for all of our community members. Our student success hinges on our ability to engage in the work of speaking out and speaking up, and this includes actively fighting oppression in its various forms. We at HESA will continue to stand in solidarity with all who uphold the mantle in advocating for social justice. #EppesHasToGo #RenameDoak

Sincerely,

The Florida State University Higher Education Student Association (HESA) Board