

From: Dillon, Robert T
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:11 PM
To: SSMfaculty <SSMfaculty@cofc.edu>
Cc: McConnell, Glenn F <McConnellGF@cofc.edu>; McGee, Brian <McgeeB@cofc.edu>
Subject: Appeals Exhausted

To my Friends in Science and Math:

Over the last eight weeks my peculiar case has been forwarded from outbox to inbox through the elaborate grievance process we have established here at The College. I have been cheered by an inspirational letter of support from the state chapter of the AAUP:

<http://dillonr.people.cofc.edu/WW/aaup-letter-23May16.pdf>

But otherwise the experience has been small and sad, culminating in a three-sentence email from The President yesterday evening, addressed to somebody else. All the petty details are cataloged here:

<http://dillonr.people.cofc.edu/WW/>

Woodrow Wilson concluded his 1896 address with a question. And it is with his question that I now take my leave:

"I have had sight of the perfect place of learning in my thought: a free place, and a various, where no man could be and not know with how great a destiny knowledge had come into the world: the home of sagacious men, hard-headed and with a will to know, debaters of the world's questions every day and used to the rough ways of democracy; and yet a place removed – calm Science seated there, recluse, ascetic, like a nun, not knowing that the world passes, not caring if the truth but come in answer to her prayer; and Literature, walking within her open doors in quiet chambers with men of olden time, storied walls about her, and calm voices infinitely sweet; here "magic casements, opening on the foam of perilous seas, in fairy lands forlorn," to which you may withdraw and use your youth for pleasure; there windows open straight upon the street, where many stand and talk intent upon the world of men and business. A place where ideals are kept in heart in an air they can breathe; but no fool's paradise. A place where to hear the truth about the past and hold debate about the affairs of the present, with knowledge and without passion; like the world in having all men's life at heart, a place for men and all that concerns them; but unlike the world in its self-possession, its thorough way of talk, its care to know more than the moment brings to light; slow to take excitement, its air pure and wholesome with a breath of faith: every eye within it bright in the clear day and quick to look toward heaven for the confirmation of its hope. Who shall show us the way to this place?"

Deut 4:22,
Rob

++++
Dr. Robert T. Dillon, Jr.
Department of Biology, College of Charleston
Charleston, SC 29424
Voice 843-953-8087, Fax 843-953-5453
DillonR<at>cofc<dot>edu
<http://dillonr.people.cofc.edu/home.html>
++++