

13 November 2010 (email)

Dear President Campbell and Fellow Allisonians,

The purpose of this message is to provide an update about the mandate to save the Memorial Library. Since my initial message of 10 November (copy below for those who are new to my undisclosed recipient list), messages from members of the alumni are now arriving at the inbox of President Robert Campbell. Based on the messages that have been carbon copied or forwarded to me, President Campbell is the recipient of some very powerful messages in support of saving this magnificent memorial building. Several have pointed out the importance of preserving this and other old sandstone buildings and have commented on the character and grace they give to the campus. Others predicted that bequests from members of the alumni are sure to dry up if this fine building is destroyed.

My wife (Genie Trueman '68), and I have also contacted numerous members of the alumni by telephone. Most have been extremely shocked and saddened to hear of the decision to demolish the old library. To an even larger extent they have indicated that they feel very betrayed by the current administration which has apparently made a conscious effort to keep the fact secret from the alumni. Even though many have attended recent alumni gatherings during the current presidential tour, the plan has not been disclosed.

Although I was not in attendance at the meeting, I have been told by more than one reliable source that President Campbell addressed the Sackville town council recently. He is quoted as saying that everyone was in agreement with the plan to demolish the building except for a few malcontents.

Hopefully, the growing list of malcontents will soon become so troubling to the administration that they will feel it necessary to go back to the Board of Regents to reopen the discussion.

If you have not already done so, I urge you to take the time to write letters to nationally read newspapers or to President Campbell at [rcampbell@mta.ca](mailto:rcampbell@mta.ca) to state your disapproval of this plan. Also, please continue to inform other members of the alumni so that they too are aware of this shortsighted decision.

Attached you will find a photo of the Memorial Library as it looked this morning. It certainly does not look deserving of the wrecking ball!

Yours sincerely,  
Bruce Coates '69  
email: [eoateeug@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:eoateeug@nbnet.nb.ca)