

March 2021

Friends-

For more than two years, members of the Washington and Lee faculty have promoted and participated in an unbalanced, biased presentation of Robert E. Lee and his legacy. During the past year this has been exemplified by Professor Toni Locey's article on Lee in The Nation magazine and the interview of Ty Seidule, himself a W&L graduate, by the chair of the History Department re. Professor Seidule's recent memoir, Robert E. Lee and Me.

During the past year The Generals Redoubt has made repeated requests to the W&L administration to allow us to present a more balanced appraisal of Lee through official university channels. We have made these requests in the interest of true freedom of speech and greater ideological diversity. We have even offered to participate in a public debate or panel discussion with faculty members or others who have a negative impression of Lee and think his name should be removed from the university. These requests have been ignored or denied.

Therefore, we have produced the attached video - <https://vps.wistia.com/projects/vihxnrv9qx> - as a rebuttal to Professor Seidule's remarks and as a broader response to the anti-Lee bias among several faculty members. We have also attached the Seidule interview - <https://vimeo.com/513889178> - for those who wish to make a more in depth comparison.

As you view the website, you may notice some subtle changes to it. These have been made for easier access. For example, you will see that the headings for "Articles" and "Letters" have been removed from the top of the introductory page. They have been replaced by a heading entitled "News". If you scroll down under the "News" heading, you will find "Articles" and "Letters" listed separately. We hope this is helpful.

Neely Young
Editor, The Generals Redoubt website

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Please note the new letter in the "Letters" section of our website written by Peter Gadiel, father of James Gadiel, class of 2000. We thank Peter for writing this letter and sharing it with Michael McAlevey and the Board of Trustees. We pray that all of them will read it and ponder the powerful message that James and Peter have delivered. May we all bless the memory of James' passing and how much Washington and Lee University meant to him. The Generals Redoubt will continue to work for James.

Please also read in our "Articles" section Judge Benton Randolph's speech delivered October 1870 on the steps of the Walker County Courthouse, Huntsville, Texas shortly after Robert E. Lee's death. Judge Randolph is the great-grandfather of James K. Randolph Class of 1961 and 1963 Law. As Steve Suttle Class of 1962 said, "This is a rare and exquisite slice of eyewitness history."

Rex H. Wooldridge

Secretary of The Generals Redoubt