Department of English, College of Charleston, March 11, 2014

The following statement was approved by a unanimous vote of the department:

On March 10, 2014, the South Carolina House of Representatives voted in favor of a budget that cuts $52,000 from the College of Charleston’s appropriations, as punishment for the College’s adoption of Alison Bechdel’s memoir *Fun Home*. The College of Charleston English Department condemns this action as an attempt to censor future assigned or recommended reading material, thus violating the principle of academic freedom. Furthermore, we condemn this attempt to punish the College for choosing a book that focuses on the experiences of lesbian and gay characters.