On February 20, 2014, the South Carolina House Ways and Means Committee voted in favor of a budget that cuts $52,000 from the College of Charleston's appropriations as a punishment for the College's adoption of Alison Bechdel's graphic novel *Fun Home*. The College of Charleston Department of History condemns this action as an attempt to censor assigned or recommended reading material, thus violating the principle of academic freedom. The state legislature of South Carolina has a checkered history with regard to the issue of academic freedom that dates back to the 1950s and the legislature's firing of academics involved in the civil rights struggle.

Furthermore, we condemn this attempt to punish the College for choosing a book that focuses on the experience of gay and lesbian characters.