



**NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

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April 15, 2022

Dr. Matthew Vandenberg, President
Presbyterian College
503 S Broad Street
Clinton, SC 29325

Dear Dr. Vandenberg:

As a former ten years member of the Board of Trustees of Presbyterian College, I am honored to represent the National Black Presbyterian Caucus (NBPC) and its: 10 Regions, 32 Chapters, more than 400 congregations and 45,000+ African American constituents of the Presbyterian Church USA.

The recent racist verbal attack and taunts experienced by the Women's Lacrosse Team of Howard University has come to the attention of our Caucus. Needless to say; the reports have created many questions and concerns for the safety of Blacks students, and students and visitors of color to the campus in Clinton, South Carolina.

When first hearing of the incident, I could guess that the event would be reported, "not as students," but as some "non-student," description that would result in little or no investigation, accountability and/or disciplinary actions. However, it was these kinds of experiences that contributed to preventing the college from successfully enrolling African American academic scholars much less so than the recruiting of African American athletes.

Mr. President, on behalf of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus, we respectfully ask and challenge you and the Board of Trustees to make a thorough and complete investigation of this incident; that where any student was involved, appropriate actions of accountability and discipline be taken; and that a clear and concise reporting be made public. Such an approach will build and restore trust in the College's commitment to inclusion and diversity with an anti-racist stance. The high school graduates from our congregations should find Presbyterian College a great and safe place to matriculate.

We look forward to learning about the results of your investigation.

Thank you.

Yours in service to community,

Rev. Dr. Charles C. Heyward, Sr.,
President, NBPC

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