

President James W. Wagner's response to an open letter from faculty members of the History and African American Studies departments.

President Wagner read the following response at the Faculty Council meeting on February 19:

“This letter is both firm and gracious. I, too, regret my reference to the three-fifths compromise and am sorry for the injury and insult that has resulted from my use of it.

“As you and your colleagues have generously allowed, it was not my intent to offend or insult. Doing so was the result of mistaken judgment and of insensitivity.

“Emory deserves better, and I look forward to growing along with our community as we resume and in some cases redouble our efforts in those programs underway to continue building the safe, respectful, inquiry-driven, ethically engaged, and diverse community toward which we aspire. I accept your criticisms as being well deserved and with all humility.”

James W. Wagner
President, Emory University