**Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017**

Visitors to the exhibit of A Campus Divided in Andersen Library (September through December 2017) had the opportunity to leave comments on Post-it notes at the end of the exhibit. This document, created by University Libraries, collates those responses.

Note: Spelling is correct as written down – some handwriting was illegible and question marks denote where we were unable to decipher.

1. “Rename: Nicholson, Coffman, Willey”
2. “Growing up in Minnesota, it seems as though, even today, we always see racism as more of a problem other states have. It was impactful to see how the university has perpetuated racism in housing and enrollment throughout the 1900s. It makes me feel convicted to find where else racism still exists and to eliminate it”
3. “This is a stellar exhibit. My only wish would be that it is better publicized. I think everyone at U of M should see this. The relevance for what’s happening in the US today is chilling to say the least. Congratulations! I look forward to the digital version. – B. Rahder”
4. “Me too! From Santa Rosa, CA” (Response to 3)
5. “Opening event Sept 13th! (Smiley face)” (Response to 3)
6. “When I came to campus in the 1970s I was constantly asked if I was from New York. It took me months to realize I was being asked if I was a Jew! I was reminded of that as I saw how Jews were tracked in the 30s”
7. “Interesting to me how universities are often see as the leaders in political and social movements, but major changes weren’t seen in housing until what seems pretty late in the game in my opinion”
8. “Rename buildings!!! COFFMAN & MIDDLEBROOK”
9. “Where is all the stuff about quotas in the medical school!”
10. “Campus buildings need to be renamed. Just as the South is finally removing statues glorifying racism and Jim Crow, so too does the university need to redress sins and rename buildings where all students gather.”
11. “There are plenty of good points to #renamecoffman as well as keeping its name as is - MM”
12. “Would be interested to know where Elmer L. Andersen stood in all of this…”
13. “Rename Coffman”
14. “In a time of rising white supremacist sentiments, it is imperative that we RENAME BUILDINGS honoring those that supported disgusting policies. We are here to build a VIRTUOUS FUTURE”
15. “So quit honoring the atrocities of the past” (Response to 12)
16. “#rename Coffman”
17. “12/7/17 A friend tipped me off about this show – To see my husband of 65 years and many of his close friends was uplifting – I am glad to have know him Elizabeth Shippee widow of B Warner Shippee”
18. “Great exhibit! It gave me a true understanding of the U and allowed me to realize how racist some of our previous administrators are. More students should really be educated about this topic.”
19. “Very interesting. Thank you for all your great work in putting this together! Should Coffman Union be renamed since all of this info about him has been brought to light?”
20. “Feature Coffman’s biography in the building of his name. Shed light/draw attention to the whole story!”
21. “Rename the buildings SUPPORT students/staff with funding, attend/learn move, do the work”
22. “Previously I had little understanding of university administrators’ determined efforts to enforce segregation & suppress student activism”
23. “Its important to have these difficult conversations of sensitive topics. I think a great way to move
Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017
forward is for the university as a whole be honest about its history. Academic institutions are deeply rooted within racism"
Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017

24. “The whole campus & the state need to see this”
25. “#RENAME BUILDINGS We have options!!! Yes”
26. (Arrow of support to 25)
27. (Arrow of support to 25)
28. “Make this permanent (Smiley face)!! Keep moving it around campus so more can learn (Smiley face)”
29. “I work in Coffey Hall, so am stuck on the new knowledge that Coffey reversed Guy Stanton Ford’s efforts to desegregate. It takes a very committed racist to reverse progress. Coffey’s (mixed?) impact should be described on the bldg, so we are reminded that this evil leadership occurred”
30. “More people should see this exhibit! Move to Walter”
31. “Fascinating and Powerful!! Thanks!!!”
32. (Arrow of support to unknown)
33. (Arrow of support to unknown)
34. “ALL TRUTH comes to light!”
35. “I’m not even surprised?”
36. “BRAVO & Thank you!”
37. “Install permanent plaques in each building explaining that truth about the men whose names are on them”
38. “Yas Rt!” (In response to 37)
39. “Great work! Thank you!”
40. “Fabulous1 Demonstrates the marvelous revelatory power of research – and thoughtfulness. A whole new story graphically told.”
41. “Having been on this campus for 15 yrs as a student and staff member, this is the first time I learned about this part of U of M history, very powerful and personally I felt quite shocked. I hope this exhibit will be displayed in East Bank & St. Paul campus. Also, revisit whether U of M still want to name those buildings with names like Coffman, Nicholson, and Coffey. Yes”
42. “I have hope that seeing and discussing this history can help us acknowledge the continuity of structures of racism and inequity. We have work to do to change our present”
43. “Rename Coffman Union!”
44. “I think a plaque describing each man the present building is named after would be educational. Not everyone has the time to visit this exhibit, so providing info for passerbys’ would be helpful!”
45. “Pointy shoes NEED to come back”
46. “Preach” (arrow of support to 45)
47. “RENAME”
48. “Breathtaking disconnect between University’s ideals and its policies”
49. “Make Minnesota drill again!”
50. “#NOTHANKS MNI WICONI!” (In response to 49)
51. “Thank you!”
52. “Trust in God”
53. “Nancy Loevinger Thank you, very interesting, I learned a lot. It is very important to research and present the activism & issues of these times in the current climate. I learned a lot about my father, and had never seen his name is these historical documents before. I am proud of him and all those who came before & strove for justice and against prejudice.”
54. “Wow, the irony of cultural centers housed in a building named after someone who worked so hard to keep segregation. We must make this right and rename buildings who stood for the education of all.”
55. “The most terrifying thing is that history is beginning to repeat itself w/the election of Trump & the rise of hate groups in Europe & America.”
56. “Amazing to see how U of M students have been a driving force for forward progress here at the U and continue to be”
57. “How about the students who voted 60-44 for segregated nursing housing in 1938? No one should feel proud of this history.” (In response to 56).
58. “Wow. I was surprised by the striking similarities between the period covered and the present. The constant back and forth btwn students & admin. What repulsed me is that the arguably center of our school – Coffman Union – is named after a racist president. Still processing this.”
59. Thank you the letters and history presented were very enlightening to a less-fortunate time in the history’s past and I think more students should know about this exhibit”
60. “To me this exhibit exemplifies the importance of studying and examining on a granular level – history. Thank you!”
61. “Why do very few people know our University’s dark past? How can we stand for diversity today without recognizing our errors in the past? #renamecoffman”
62. “Fascinating exhibit. Some of it sounds eerily similar to what’s happening around campus even today. Thank you to the U students of the past for all they did to make our school what it is today.”
63. “Rename”
64. “Remember… student activism is powerful”
65. “You realize Antifa is a recognized (official) domestic terrorist organization now, right?” (In response to unknown)
66. “You realize this whole exhibit shows the dangers of US surveillance & naming groups “anti-American”, right?” (In response to 65)
67. “In 1917, Chicago police used police batons and violence (possibly surveillance) to disrupt meetings of a socialist and pacifist kind. The New York Times repeatedly hounded the pacifist and socialist meetings as anti-American (not in so many words),”
68. “and in 1918, Mayor Mitchell for New York City lost the city’s mayoral election after giving sanctuary to local pacifists and refusing to allow local police to destroy their initial meetings (a parade followed, attacked by the police) Verifiably by “World War I Live, app. (Continuation of 67)
69. “This is not new, people!” (Arrow of support to 67)
70. “The University of Minnesota has never discriminated against colored students.”- President Coffman LIES”
71. “The change from stifled political groups to the awesome # we have now demonstrates the U’s progress & where we still have to go”
72. “Why is the Coffman Memorial Union, a central building and one of the most used here at the university, still named after a man who boldly stood for racism? Please rename the building!”
73. “This exhibit has been very mind-blowing. I had no idea the role the U had played in a time consumed by terrible ideas and stereotypes. This made me realize even more that there is STILL a lot of work to be done – AO”
74. “It’s crazy how similar these times were to how American society is today. Fascinating, yet heartbreakingly.”
75. “Coffman should continue to be called such as it is now historically cemented despite few knowing who Coffman was. Who are we to judge our ancestors for their actions?”
76. “I heard the University of Minnesota had a lot of racism even today so to see they’re becoming aware about the racism embedded in their history means steps to change!”
77. This is a fantastic start... who else are we missing & can add... Indigenous, etc.?“
78. “Rename the buildings that honor & glorify racists”
79. “Make this exhibit permanent and statewide! All students/faculty/staff should be aware of this!!! RENAME THESE BUILDINGS!!! & EXPLAIN WHY!!”
80. “Rename your offensive building names!!” (Drawing of a peace sign)
81. “Based on what we learn from this powerful exhibit, it seems the university should revisit the names of buildings honoring Coffman, Coffey, Nicholson, etc.”
82. “YES!!! (Second!) Explain Coffman, Coffey, Nicholson, etc.” (In response to 81).
83. “I am hopeful for the future, hopeful for change. I am encouraged by the student lead activism of the past, present, and future #RESIST”
84. “#RenameTheseBuildings”
85. “I’m incredibly glad this history is being brought to light and talked about. As we learn more about the past and our legacies of discrimination, it’s important to be mindful of the harm we have caused rather than simply putting the past behind us and creating a new future not addressing elephants in the room. Thank you. – Josh Spitzer-Resniok”
86. “Creepy political surveillance is still a facet of life in the U.S. – Resist!”
87. “Why have we allowed such surveillance here?” (drawings of security cameras)
88. “This exhibit brings to light many inconvenient truths. The buildings should be renamed. I can only imagine the exhibits students 80 years from now will walk through talking about the present”
89. “This exhibit is timely! We are so close to where we started. Let’s move our university forwards together in unity!”
90. “This exhibit reminds me of the importance of learning our history, in the hopes that we do no repeat. Many of this, looking back, is viewed as being on the wrong side of history yet, ideas from this time (keep America American) still persist.”
91. “Anne Blitz – what a nasty piece of work”
92. “Rename Coffman Union”
93. “Change the name of Coffman union to Crump Unions please”
94. “Yes, please!” (arrow of support to 93)
95. “The fact that this type of discrimination went on so long with such little opposition... it’s bewildering, very interesting to compare to today’s political climate”
96. “While this exhibit is a bit depressing, it is heartening to see the differences and impact that student activism can make. This is important now as well, and I hope students will take these lessons to heart and strive to make positive impact now.”
97. “This university is being given a tremendous opportunity to redeem themselves and show students, faculty, alumni, RACISTS, that hate has no home here. Rename Coffman & Middlebrook and look to the future of this University.”
98. “Thank you! Wandered in and happened to see this exhibit! Important powerful. See my livefeed on Facebook. Rosalie Weizfeld McAllen, Texas 8/17/2017.”
99. “How interesting that the Black Student Union is housed in Coffman, named after a man that wanted to keep the societal hierarchy...”
Post it note comments from exhibit *A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017*

100. “Thank you! We/I need more information on the gov’t war office that did weapons research at the U of M, hiring African Americans who could not find housing”

101. Incredible work. Crazy that the U didn’t include African American students in the yearbook for sometime - incredibly revisionist!”

102. “Not only rename but **EXPLAIN WHY**”

103. “In 1943 when I entered U of M medical school. I was one of the 10% Jews allowed into this class of 100 students. I am 96 years old. I could not get on the staff of a local hospital except St. Mary’s.”

104. “Very interesting. Thanks for sharing your experience!” (Response to 103).

105. “The UMN Administration could honor the legacy of student activism by not CRIMINALIZING student activists who dissent and disrupt WHITE SUPREMACY, MILITARISM, and mechanisms that normalize and exacerbate poverty.”

106. “Rename all but Ford Hall”

107. “This was outstanding – and heartbreaking. I would like to see something like this running from 1965-75.”

108. “Muy que cambiar esta Universidad en forma de anunciar públicamente lo dicho aquí y cambiar los nombres de estos edificios quizas a los nombres de los estudiantes nombrades que fueron laderes en la lucha de un Minnesota justo y libre para todes.”

“Change this University in the form of announcing publicly what was said here and changing the names of these buildings maybe to the names of the students named who were leaders in the struggle of a fair and free Minnesota for all.”

109. “Very interesting – thanks for educating!!”

110. “Lets stop honoring those who allowed this discrimination and hate, and start honoring those who fought to change it. #RENAME BUILDINGS”

111. “It is impossible to judge the past by present day standards. However, we should – and must – learn from it” – James Boyer

112. “I learned a lot & feel like this campus has much more to grow. We can only go up from here. 9/7/17”

113. “I was surprised by how strongly activists who we can see were clearly on the right side of history could express and act on their progressive values, even in the 1930s.”

114. “Racism is not as big of a problem in America today. Facts.”

115. “It’s just hidden and more insidious.” (In response to 114)

116. “You crazy bro!!” (In response to 114)

117. “ummmm.... Not sure about this. Think it is still big issue!!” (In response to 114)

118. “Sad!” (In response to 114)

119. “Not true! If that was the case, why Charlottesville rally happened?” (In response to 114)

120. “You have point - blatant racism such as that in this exhibit is more rare now, but racism definitely still exists” (In response to 114)

121. “But the fight isn’t over until racism ISN’T a problem AT ALL” (In response to 114)

122. “Great exhibit w/historical information. Though laws are in place to eliminate segregation, it still happens based on peoples’ bias judgements. We, people have to change our mindset in order to fully accept others & have equality.”

123. “Coffman” Union must be renamed to “Ford” Union

Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017

125. “12/13 Exhibit should acknowledge the Jacobin Club- a non residential fraternity that had the practice of welcoming Jews – Elizabeth Shippee widow of Warner Shippee”
126. The 1960’s/was a redo of 1920’s & 1930’s student protests against racism and war”
127. “Why were these buildings named after these people!?“
128. “As an alumnus & current staff member, I support renaming campus buildings and more awareness of our Universities’ history – AND work to address discrimination that exists today. Thank you for creating this exhibit!”
129. “RENAME COFFMAN SHOW STUDENTS SOME CHANGE FOR ONCE”
130. “Taken together, all this evidence is pretty showing. I wonder, though, which side we would be on if we had been there?”
131. “#RENAME COFFMAN! It seems to me that many of these school leaders would get along beautifully with Trump. As a Jew, a woman, and an activist, it is incredibly disappointing how slow this school was to accepting everyone. I appreciate the people who stood up for their rights and we will carry on their legacy.”
132. “Unless we change the names we are basically supporting their thoughts & actions”
133. “Pretty cool, more pictures, less paperwork”
134. “White people are a minority on the world scale” (Crossed out with pencil and “stupid” written over it)
135. “But they control most of the power & resources” (In response to 134)
136. “No” (In response to 134)
137. “Student activism not just fit in halls, but needs us to hold space as community through the conflict. Needs greater transparency from seated power and less disciple (ie lawsuits, expulsions, etc) for students who continue to protest & advocate for the campus they envision – a democratic space.”
138. “Let students vote, democracy in the students is important. Let the students decide.”
139. “Please do not believe that renaming buildings is sufficient action – much more discussion is needed to address theses, oft hidden, historic inequities.”
140. “Great exhibit. Know (His)story know self”
141. “Very well-done. Long live the Minnesota Daily!”
142. “Who knew the U of M was once run by racist bigots??”
143. “I do not believe we need to rename any of the buildings. To be honest, I believe that would be ignoring history. It’s like we’d be pushing it under the rug. Instead, these buildings are a constant reminder of how we as a school and a country can improve from where we once were, and still continue improving.”
144. “When will we learn the lessons of history?”
145. “History always teaches us something!!!”
146. “Wish I knew about all of this before I attended the U of M. African American students still continue to face struggles with white students & instructors. #wakeupeveryone!!”
147. “Darkness can not drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. You are loved!! – Josh Moe”
148. “This is the kind of exhibit that makes me appreciate the work of historians even more. Thank you!”
149. “Lol we still have issues w/inviting Nazis to speak on campus.”
150. “What more could students do if we kept this history physically & mentally center?”
151. “Kalter (& regents, & University) needs to take a stronger stance against racism, white supremacy, thought-provoking, interesting exhibit, especially concerning student activism; hopeful for now/future”
152. “Name buildings after the alumni we honor!!”
153. “We need to rename building! Start w/Coffman and rename it Cecil Newman Student Center and work our way towards renaming other bldgs.”
154. “Very compelling and thought provoking exhibit!! University leadership needs to consider renaming buildings because of poor practices of past leaders.”
155. “Arnold B. Walker Sad that more follow-up and photo was not found out about this student R.B.”
156. “Rename Coffman Rename Middlebrook”
157. “How about a building named after Regent George B. Leonard!”
158. “Examine what we’re doing today that may be viewed in the future like we see this work in 2017”
159. “Almost everyone is “excluded” in some way. While you may perceive me as “included” because I am white, I have a disability that is not physically observable & have faced barriers due to it. You do not know a person’s experience unless you have walked a mile in their shoes.”
160. “The university has to stop viewing inclusion from the perspective of those already included!”
161. “I don’t see proof that Coffman was the culprit. He states in 1930 that no students had asked for integrated housing. Only statement of his. Ford corrected policies. Coffman returned to office before he died and did not overturn Fords changes.”
162. “Lake Calhoun is no more – It is time to remove these mens names from our campus buildings”
163. “I don’t think anything needs to be renamed, but rather everyone should become informed and have those named serve a reminders for past struggles.”
164. “Crazy how President Coffman denied discrimination at the university when he was the person discriminating”
165. “Name a campus building for John Wright student protestor & advocate for Black Studies”
166. “Why don’t we have this exhibit in a more prominent building? Maybe CMU?!?”
167. “I don’t care if the buildings are renamed or not – the names have just become names now, with little to no present day connection to those they were named after”
168. “Rename buildings!”
169. “This exhibit should be extending to current times.”
170. “I support the idea of making this a permanent display in the student union.”
171. “White people do no need a white student union – the world is already white.”
172. “SANKOFA – look it up…”
173. “LOVED this exhibit. EVERYONE at the U needs to see it. What a critical piece of our history... and it lives on in some of our most prominent campus buildings. It made me think more not only about how African American and Jewish students can come together on campus, but also how other groups such as Muslim, LGBT, and Latina students/UMN community members can create and join allyship. It also made me think more about the importance of the student voice in administrative decisions, and I truly hope that 70 or so years from now there is not a campus-wide exhibit on how our current campus acted despicably.”
174. “Cavs came back from a 3-1 loss in the finals Coffman can’t do that!”
175. “Symbolic gestures are nice, but real changes are more meaningful. The U can’t forget its past by placating students with a few a name changes.”
176. “An example of why political speech on campus shouldn’t be censored – except in cases where people’s physical safety is at risk”
177. “Wonderful exhibit! I am came from San Francisco to see it. Wonderful to see my uncles Lee Loevinger and Robert Loevinger were leaders as students. I learned a lot. Unfortunately we are still struggling. Susan Sanford.”
178. “Important people from the east were racist and only cared when it impacted them? Color me shocked. The story never changes just the names and faces.”
179. “WE NEED A KING Obama for King.”
180. “Name after Leonard Breslow & Helene Hilyer!!!!!”
181. “Rename the buildings”
182. “#RENAME THE BUILDINGS #ALUMNI WE HONOR #PINKETT MEMORIAL UNION
183. “Thank you so much for this thoughtful presentation. The university has many issues to face yet to come, I strongly recommend the board of regents & President Kaler to engage w/students
184. “The was wonderfully put together. Thank you for drawing light to the underrepresented throughout our history. I’d gladly come back for a similar exhibit!”
185. “When will the U rename Coffman Union and Middlebrook? Those 2 buildings at a minimum should be renamed. Rachel Lewine, A Jew.”
186. (Arrow of support for 185).
187. “#Rename COFFMAN #Rename MIDDLEBROOK”
188. “Retweet” (In response to 187)
189. “RENAME BUILDINGS. FIRE KALER. HIRE ALL NEW BOARD OF REGENTS. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR HATE SPEECH.”
190. “8/21/17 Excellent exhibit. I was not aware that such major U of Minn. Administrators as Coffman & Nicholson were so involved in racism, anti-semitism, & the suppression of dissent. The exhibit demonstrates how in troubled & conflict-filled times, such dark current might flourish.”
191. “I was surprised most by discovering Eric Severeid’s political roots, and also the depth of resistance to entering “the great war” until Pearl Harbor Thanks.
192. “To the administration: Stop acting like it’s complicated. Change the names! What do you want to be remembered for?”
193. “My hands were too dirty to be a dental hygienist”
194. “Makes you think…”
195. “Trump reminds me of Coffey”
196. “Very important exhibit. One hopes that we can learn from it at local & national levels”
198. “Coffman Union = Crump Union”
199. “Exactly this” (In response to 198)
200. “Double yes!” (In response to 198)
201. “Yup!” (In response to 198)
202. “Crump Union!” (In response to 198)
203. “Kaler! Now change the halls”
“I was quite shocked at the exhibit. I was not even remotely aware of such student activism against administrative suppression in a period where my grandparents were alive and a couple in Minnesota. It really shows the deep divide our campus historically has and needs to be considered and discussed moving forward.”

Rename the buildings for the people who advocated against the racism and anti-Semitism”

“Karl Marx is bae”

“The power of diversity will always unite the people. This is a new perspective that will open the eyes of others.”

“Serves as a good reminder as to how things were and how far we’ve come. The exhibit should remind all of us to build on the progress that we’ve made and keep fighting for progressive values.”

“The U is STILL suppressing student activism & protest!! This is not just a historical exhibit, it’s the past, present, and future of this campus if there is no drastic change! Fire Kaler & Rename Coffman!”

“As an institution the UMN has done a job well done at acknowledging its racist and anti-Semitic roots. It should continue to progressing renaming Coffman to an alum that fought for activism and equity.

“In considering the renaming of Coffman Union, perhaps other buildings, consider the similarities & differences with the issue of removing confederate monuments & the myth of “preserving history” vs the reality of honoring/glorifying someone who we now believe should not be. Also consider the possibility of keeping the name, but providing interpretive material (permanent indoors & out) that provides the “truth”. This is the real learning opportunity & could be a sustained (?) one.”

“Watch an October episode of “This Week Tonight” with John Oliver for an in depth look at the preserving history vs glorification (& other arguments) related to the confederate monument issue.” (Continuation from 211).

“Interesting how Coffman on level 1 holds all the minority groups and is not segregated yet, the building is named after a man who believes in segregation.”

“Let’s maybe rename Coffman Union, yeah? And Middlebrook & others? Cool (Smiley face).”

“It was surprising to see how racially segregated our university was vs where it is today.”

“Antifa unite!”

“Antifa are domestic terrorists honey…” (In response to 216)

“Honey’ is dismissive. Try listening.” (In response to 217)

“Perhaps they are irrational and are thinking literally” (In response to 218)

“MOVE EXHIBIT TO A MORE CENTRALIZED LOCATION!!!”

“SHOW ALL OF CAMPUS!” (In response to 220)

“Move it to Coffman #renamecoffman” (In response to 220)

“Disquieting”

“Sad that our beloved Coffman comes from this guy (frowny face)”

“This exhibit is so important. It was helpful to learn this history and chart how it manifests physically on campus. It also brings to life legacies of racism & antisemitism we discuss in classes be pervade everyday interactions.”

“#RENAMECOFFMAN”

“I am from Austria and I find this utterly disturbing... My suggestion would be to rename Coffman hall”
228. “RENAME THESE BUILDINGS”
229. “...KEEP PROTESTING” (Continuation of 228)
230. “History cannot be changed. Though these administrators acted against what we think is right, they were acting in the context of their own time. Building names & memorials should remain.”
231. “Perplexing that the most exclusive dorm on campus is named after an individual who pushed for white elitism & segregation.”
232. “I work in a bldg. named after an overt racist Walter Coffey”
233. “Thoughtful, well done exhibit & instructive but also frightening Q. Who vetted Coffey? Q. Dr W. Mayo as a regent?
234. “So many admins were obsessed with keeping dormitories “white”. That racism was horrifying then and now”
235. “This should be part of required training for CAs and Hall Directors”
236. “Reparations for black students”
237. “We need to and can do better..”
238. “I'm honestly shocked that there hasn’t been more dialogue about this in the past. While this will forever be apart of our past, we should all learn from this and work towards a better future for the U!”
239. “Eyeopening exhibit. Rename buildings named after racists & anti-Semites!!!”
240. “Rename Coffman! And explain why it should be renamed!”
241. “Rename Coffman?!”
242. “Let’s rename Coffman to “student union McUnion”
243. “Oh hell yeah we need to rename Coffman!!”
244. “Thank you! For history not remembered is doomed to be repeated.”
245. “I'm with the people who want the buildings renamed!!! I don't even go here! COFFMAN WAS A BAD DOOD!! – South High”
246. “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”
247. “You are not forgotten. Smash fascism workers UNITE!!!” (Drawing of hammer and sickle)
248. “Thank you for shining a light on this period – both the bravery of students and the reality of administrative actions. We must know our past to stop repeating it.”
249. “Kaler needs to condemn white supremacy”
250. “& Middlebrook” (In reference to unknown)
251. #give communism a modern chance
252. “You know you can change Coffman’s Name. Why haven’t you?
253. “We must learn from the past. Unfortunately the white house is a divisive, racist, and anti-Semitic group.. they do not care, but we will prevail!”
254. “Great exhibit, meaningful, informational, powerful”
255. “Think, make exhibit permanent, rename offending halls.”
256. “It’s time for a change... rename Coffman.”
257. “Dead lord rename Coffman”
258. “This exhibit needs a permanent, public home.”
259. “This was a new experience for me. I learned things that I didn’t know before, about how things used to be.”
260. “#not all history is pretty”
261. “Ironic all the cultural centers are in Coffman – change it now”
Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017

262. “Let’s not name buildings after people? Meanings of actions change throughout history!”
263. “Renaming is not the answer. It’s important to spread awareness & reflect on our past not just cover up the bad things that happened by renaming it.”
264. “Ym daeh struh, yhw si ti taht ni siht yad dna ega msicar si llits a melborp. This is written backwards to express my thoughts”
   “My head hurts, why is it that in this day and age racism is still a problem”
265. “Rename Coffman Union to Crump [Charlotte] Union!”
266. “Reject the world, but still “live” in the world”
267. “Rename these buildings!”
268. “We mustn’t use this exhibit to justify hate – regardless of who it’s against”
269. “Make no mistake – there were anti-Semitic elements in the anti-war movement in the 30s”
270. “Rename buildings with new historical names – not in memoriam of people who discriminate”
271. “#rename Coffman”
272. “Rename Coffman Union”
273. “RENAME”
274. “Thank you – what an eye opening exhibit. So fascinating to see how the U has changed”
275. “We need more HISTORY majors!”
276. “Excellent and powerful exhibition! The primary documents are especially chilling to see.”
277. “Great exhibit! We need to rename Coffman and Nicholson!”
278. “#Rename Coffman”
279. “Move the exhibit around the U”
280. “I wish I could learn more on specific actions about anti-communism & specific details about communist movement at the UofM. Otherwise, thank you for this very interesting & timely exhibition.”
281. “We still have a long way to go”
282. “2 true” (Arrow of support to 281)
283. “We must work hard to remain conscious that these evil policies of long ago, while gone, continue to subconsciously impact us.”
284. “#Rename Coffman”
285. “I hope other universities start projects like this”
286. “#Rename Coffman”
287. “Required reading for deans, dept heads, directors, and other admin/positional leads.”
288. “History always repeats itself”
289. “History repeats itself... #RenameCoffman” (In response to 288)
290. “The campus agitator Marxist Jews - their memory is a blessing – Neal Loevinger (son of Robert)”
291. “The parallels between the events then & today are overwhelming. Who’s (his)story is told is a question we must always ask ourselves. Hopefully this exhibit will help us to take a critical look at (his)story so we can have a better future for all!”
292. “If we want students of color to feel welcome on campus, if we want to denounce this awful history, renaming these buildings is crucial.”
293. “This was eye-opening and interesting. I wish I saw more students here. I appreciate this exhibit being free and easily available to students, as always it is a great learning experience.”
294. “Great research of this painful history of racism & anti-Semitism at this university – Time to revisit the names & to honor those who engaged to change the course of events.”
295. “Echoes today.”
296. “*echoes*” (in response to 295)
297. “Scary to see how familiar this sounds to us now. History doesn’t repeat but it often rhymes! “Keep American Americans”?? “Make America Great Again”?? Let’s learn from our mistakes! Great exhibit!” (in response to 296)
298. “Everyone who put this together should be proud. And every administrator who doesn’t take action should be ashamed.”
299. “Rename Middlebrook Hall”
300. “Definitely makes me see a need for the U to publicly memorialize those who fought for equality here…”
301. “Viewing this exhibit in the week after neo Nazis marched at a university & killed an innocent person was incredibly powerful. This exhibit could not be more timely, careful, or engaging. Thank you.”
302. “Change the building names! The North is not excused of the requirement to admonish our racist past. Clarify the balance between free speech & fostering racism.”
303. “I think it is really important to be open about our university’s history and learn from it.”
304. “It’s very interesting to me how the history is preserved. Coming from the country where the history has never really revealed and has changed according to the ruling government, it is a great surprise and amazing thing to know U of M can show its bad history as a lesson-learned. Thanks for the exhibit! Still wonder why some buildings on campus are named after racist presidents and administrators.”
305. “I greatly enjoyed the exhibit – the University of Minnesota champions its diversity and forward-thinking, yet most of its education and residence halls are named after dead white racists. Definitely made me reconsider the identity of the U and learn more of its history.”
306. “It’d be interesting to look at the student rights from the 30s and compare it to the campus free speech debate now… might invoke similar questions/discussion.”
307. “Very interesting to learn about history with the war and segregation and why was the decision to name Coffman decided?”
308. “This is a great exhibit showing the history of the U & its narrative on campus/national climate. The same shit continues to happen now & many students have a VERY different experience that the U tends to promote and shove down our throats. We have two different campuses and I don’t mean Minneapolis/St. Paul location, but in experiences. Same shit, different time.”
309. (Note written in Hebrew)
310. “While I agree that we should rename buildings, what should come first: confronting the racial, sexual, and religious barriers put up in our society, and to be sure a man like Trump is never elected again. Peace.”
311. “Thank you!! A powerful exhibit that details the reality of being a minority – whether religious or racial. It is also fascinating how the anti-war fervor (?) & the housing issues seem to be “independent” of one another. “No intersection”. (?) to Riv Ellen & Sarah.”
312. “The university is very hypocritical… very liberal and want confederates taken down, however names important buildings after racists??”
313. “Thank you for this informative – shocking and at moments devastating to dead exhibit. Grateful to the activists who fought the “powers that be.”
314. “Start heating Sanford”
315. “Worrying about uncomfortable rather than what is just”
316. “Great exhibits – two comments: 1) Coffman and other administrators were presented as two dimensional antagonists. Did they do nothing of good during their tenure? 2) It would have been helpful to understand better what drove the anti-communists and anti-activist administrators. Did they believe Western Democracy was under assault?”
317. “it was cool beans”
318. “Keep the names but add plaques detailing their racist actions.”
319. “Rt” (In response to 318)
320. “Lower tuition” (In response to 319 and 318).
321. “Thank you for the exhibition!!! As an international student, I found this topic extremely interesting (and amusing ) and enlightening!”
322. “This is very disturbing but far from surprising. Racism & ignorance lies in this campus everyday, I also am disturbed that no-one has thought about changing the names of these buildings, especially Coffman. – Thank you!”
323. “#Rename Coffman I was under the impression that since Coffman Memorial Union is such a busy building, that the name associated with must be highly regarded, however knowing that he and Nicholson even attempted to suppress first amendment rights (?) the student body says a lot.”
324. “Echoes today – conservative speakers across the U.S. are being forced out of the conversation n major protests and physical violence meet any right wing idea – radical or not.”
325. “This is a great exhibit the history should be reflected in each of the named buildings. Removing names will erase history.”
326. “I find it so interesting that we would really know nothing about the racist acts administrators executed if not for this exhibit. It’s truly sad that this kind of stuff is so hidden from the public eye... #Rename Coffman”
327. “Among many other points made in this exhibit, I am struck how Jews & African Americans worked together to address injustices. And it makes me sad how that relationship has turned sour in recent decades.”
328. “#RENAME COFFMAN”
329. “Rename Moos too- whoever caused the Morrill Hall takeover – refusing to meet w/African Americans for AA history and other program.”
330. “I am so proud that they put of this exhibit. We need to acknowledge our ugly history or else we forget it, while its insidious influence remains. The buildings named after Coffman, Nicholson, and the like must be renamed. Not to erase their history, but to correct the history that thought we should memorialize their names in the first place. I want to eat in Pinkett Hall, study in Wright Hall, and research in Crump Hall instead. – Majel Baker grad student.”
331. “Why is Coffman Union still named after a racist, anti semite?”
332. “Didn’t know where Coffman got its name... probably should rename that.”
333. “Rename Coffman”
334. “This exhibit should be in Coffman Union”
“Thank you so much for bringing this exhibit to the U! This is so important, especially with everything that has been happening, and I hope all students and faculty get the change to see these. #renamecoffman.”

“I challenge the administrators to look at this history and look at today’s “policies and procedures”. The language has changed from the 30s-40s but the actions and results are still present/occurring now. Racism & exclusion practices still exist today when we think of what is in the students best interest.”

“#Rename Coffman”

(Drawing of a heart is support to 337)

“The buildings that possess names of the past should reflect our goals and interests of the present, if they don’t, change them.”

“United we stand – SP”

“Uppity trans women throw the first bricks.” (Sticker)

“Impressive to see the whole picture of the U. and famous people.”

“I never knew the horrible acts shown in this exhibit went on to the extent they did. This exhibit was very informative & reflects today’s political issues.”

“The diversity at this school is what makes us unique. LOVED the exhibit.”

“It’s really a trend that people talk about they can embrace the diversity, but actually the different culture and language block the possible, and most of the people cannot walk from their comfort zone. Having an Asian or Black people in your class is not you’re embracing them!”

“Rename Coffman Hall”

“These are stark examples of overt discrimination from a recent past – these absolutely should be used to support the evidence that minorities are under-supported on campus.”

“#Rename Coffman – The first step to a future with more equality.”

“The university is also on Dakota land!! #Rename Coffman We must acknowledge these pasts and truths.”

“It makes me think about how we are supposed to blindly accept the names of the buildings all over campus. How does this represent how we remember and think about these accents today?”

“This exhibit shines light onto the bullshit of politics and bureaucracy. The scary part is that I recognize many parallels to our lives on campus now.”

“Scary how far we have come and how quickly we can return! This is exhibit is part of the fight for equality.”

“Sadly, still many parallels – “problem” of people of color, etc. – entitlements threatening p.o.c as they don’t belong here.”

“Please, change the building names.”

“Entitled racist students treat employees bad – no help from supervisors.”

“Give us options for new names!”

“Great job, Riv Ellen!”

“This exhibit portrayed the power white people possess. I’ve enjoyed coming to campus, not knowing a thing about its past. It goes to show you can hide anything if you’ve got the right skin color. #RenameCoffman.”

“Some of the campus buildings should be renamed as some of the major people in our history certainly don’t deserve to have something named in their honor.”
Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017

360. “I wish more people knew about our history. While I’m glad we celebrate diversity, our university’s path is nothing to be proud of. Amazing exhibit.”
361. “Thank God we have progressed. Knowing that UMN was once a hateful place towards race baffles me. We remember these men on buildings, why?”
362. “Welcoming a nazi when we know they were treating their citizens badly.”
363. “When the power of love overcomes the love of power - then the world shall know peace.”
364. “Please consider re-naming the buildings.”
365. “I will never see Coffman, Nicholson, or Middlebrook the same way. We need to rename them after some of the “Alumni we honor”.”
366. (Arrow of support to 365)
367. “Rename Coffman – Share this exhibit statewide.”
368. “My roommate is Jewish. Seeing these names & knowing their actions are horrific. Pardon my French – but its time for a fucking change.”
369. “#Rename Coffman”
370. “Maybe bigger issues than the name of buildings face us?”
371. “Protect freedom of Press!”
372. “This perspective is one that so important and very overlooked. We need to learn from our mistakes and move on from these injustices.”
373. “Tear down Bailey Hall”
374. “Rename for the Heros, the Ford Student Union!”
375. “We already have Ford Hall, so this would be too confusing, especially since the two buildings are close together.” (In response to 374).
376. “I love history. This has been an amazing experience for me! Thank you!”
377. “Rename all the buildings that honor the legacy of racism/anti-Semitism, facism.”
378. “I think it’s important to remember that every place has a history which involves different + and ñ associations. These profound experiences of discrimination happened in Minnesota. We like to think of ourselves as liberal “Minnesota Nice” but even we can look the other way while our friends & neighbors are persecuted. History is relevant!”
379. “Third year at the U, first time knowing the truth. I think we should have this exhibit at Coffman Union.”
380. “This gives a new light to how this campus came to be as progressive as it is today, gives the heroes the recognition they deserve for transforming this school for the better.”
381. “Not only just in the U of M, but these discriminatory issues and exclusion against colored student should be talked about in other Universities as well. There needs to be change.”
382. “An outstanding exhibit! -Overdue, -Excellent selection, -Beautifully curated.”
383. “Rename Coffman, display this exhibit permanently. Invest in ethnic studies.”
384. “Beautiful important work.”
385. “There is an online version of this great exploration of UMN racial history!
Acampusedivided.umn.edu”
386. “Bravo for U of M to put together an exhibit outlining its dark spots. Hopefully they can learn from this exhibit how not to discriminate moving forward.”
387. “Where is anything on Natives? No Native students?”
388. “Le plus ça change, le plus le même chose (the more things change, the more they stay the same).”
Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017

389. “Rename the Coffman, Coffey, Middlebrook, Nicholson bldgs. Now. Not one more penny will I donate to UM if action isn’t taken.”
390. “Rename Coffman Memorial. What a nasty man!”
391. “Rename Coffman!”
392. “What have we learned??? I’m afraid we are going backwards ☹”
393. “It is sad, but we still tell some students that some disciplines are too hard for them.”
394. “Anne Blitz was the Dolores Umbridge of the U of M!! ☹”
395. “AMEN” (Arrow of approval to 394)
396. “And Coffman was Voldemort” (In response to 394)
397. “We need to shed more light on our engrained racism to turn away from this history of exclusion.”
398. “SAD”
399. “Perhaps the university should take a lesson from the middle-school students at Justice Page in South Minneapolis. They had the sense, knowledge, and conviction to petition the name change of Ramsey Middle School. Appalled at their school be named after a man responsible for the hanging of 38 Dakota men. Take a stand!”
400. “Would love to see this updated for current times. We should revisit names of buildings on campus too. So much history no one knows about.”
401. “What about women? They were certainly discriminated against – then and sometimes now.”
402. “Revisit names of buildings now. Publicly acknowledge the history and change the names to those of harmed students that led the fight for equity. Also – fund the Chicano Studies Dep.”
403. “Great exhibit! Would be great to share on line!! Thank you – enjoyed very much!!”
404. “The echos of today are amazing. Thank you!”
405. “Truly another time that we must band together to fight what we see as unjust. A great exhibit leaving a lot to contemplate.”
406. “Coffman is a bastard man.”
407. “This! He so is a bastard man” (In response to 406).
408. “Fantastic exhibit – startling to see much terrible things from our recent past and see connections to present day. Please consider putting this in Coffman Union!”
409. “So often we think of the U.S. being a hero during WWII. This brings reality and light on those who weren’t as heroic among us.”
410. “It was awesome reading and seeing how far we have come in our society ☺”
411. “Thank you This should up permanently should publicize more”
412. “RENAME COFFMAN”
413. “From this exhibit I learned that we as an educational institution hide behind education as “equal opp” but oppose “equality everywhere else.”
414. “As an American Jew whose ancestors survived Hitler’s wrath, it’s terribly unsettling to see the complacency and indifference that the U’s administrators employed to skirt student resistance. And at a time when our leader wishes to make us “Great Again” I fear this exhibit is ever more salient.”
415. “This exhibit should be in every building on campus! I so wish that is possible. Every building founded in oppression should have a statement regarding its history! This university can’t be relieved of its past as an education institution! So thank you for your work in advocating for the histories that are systemically silenced!”
“It was shocking to read what had happened back in the 1930s. The buildings should be changed.”

“We should rename Coffman out of respect for the black community who were discriminated against.”

“Change the names. This is not a part of our history that we should be proud of or commemorate in any way. Name them after some of the activists.”

“Not renaming Coffman & Middlebrook supports white supremacy!”

“Thank you for doing this work. Please Keep doing it. We need more exhibits like this to confront our history. I support re-naming buildings, reparations.”

“Sounds like a “House of Cards” show with Chase, Nicholson & Bell working together. Crazy spy times.”

“It is essential UMN thinks about what it stands for. Renaming buildings named after oppressive, racist indiv & ideology would send a message & start conversations that we need to be anti-racist about historic & current racism & the transformational change needed.”

“Should we keep the names and expose them for who they really were?”

“Expose them more publicly & then rename them” (In response to 423)

“Sad to know the divided history of what I believe is a very diverse university, it’s obvious that given the current state of our country, we still have a lot of work to do. SKI U MAH!”

“Add pieces of this exhibit to the Heritage Gallery so it can be more permanent & present to educate others and own the full history.”

“9/29/17 I am absolutely astonished by the among of hatred and bigotry that this university functioned with for so many of its most influential years. If we want confederate statues removed but don’t change ourselves, we’re no better.”

“Rename Coffman! Maybe Sevareid”

“Get rid of ‘Coffman’”

“Incredibly insightful exhibit. The U of M should make a strong, public statement by changing the names of Coffman, Nicholson, etc Halls...These folks should NOT be honored.”

“It’s important to remember history – even the bad to acknowledge a way forward. Keep the building names but have plaques to describe their evil sins & discriminatory practices.”

“I’m surprised that the women didn’t do better! In this era of considering sexual harassment on all sides, this reminds me that white women (like me) easily slide into racial discrimination.”

“This exhibit shows us what racism looked like then. It’s up to all of us to learn more about what racism looks like now – implicit bias and micro-aggressions in addition to blatant hatred and Nazi beliefs. We still need a better more equitable U.”

“Spread the word about the kind of person Coffman was so more people will be on board for renaming Coffman Student Union.”

“Excellent, make it permanent exhibit in Coffman Union. Change the names with those of activists who made a difference!”

“Rename the buildings #rename Coffman”

“100,000 KKK members, 10,000 African Americans in 1920s In Minnesota. Racism is/was not exclusive to the south!”

“Rename Coffman, Rename Willey, Rename Nicholson, Rename Moos, Legacy of hatred continues…”
Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017

439. “Let’s rename these buildings in honor of those who fought for justice. Let’s also continue to push for social change. We can all make a difference -14 Nov 2017”
440. “The university should look into renaming its buildings and look into how university police are used for campus protests.”
441. “Thankful to have the real history revealed! Changed CMU to FORD! Take racist names off building.”
442. “I love books”
443. “Don’t let history repeat! Diversity will always unite the people. 1.”
444. “Update to the 60s & 70s e.g. repression of the new left (?).
445. “Unfortunately – Segregation has existed throughout our history of human life. Teach the children all are equal. Younger the better! May the child lead the way!”
446. “Honor the students and faculty members who embodied the ideals that we claim to strive for today.”
447. “#Rename Coffman”
448. “Ditto to creating a permanent exhibit of this in a more central location”
449. “Rename Coffman & Middlebrook”
450. “Thanks for highlighting the facts around the history of this campus. It is important to know the whole story.”
451. “A wonderful eye opening exhibit! Hope it can continue in a location promoting greater exposure. A number of campus building so need to be renamed!! P.S. the sordid history of the 30s-40s outrages me!”
452. “History is repeating itself ☹”
453. “Rename Coffman”
454. “#Rename Coffman Wow! To think how ironic Coffman Memorial Union is. It is named after one who didn’t support racial equality, yet the building is now one of the more welcoming places for students of color”
455. “This exhibit should be moved to Coffman Union. Time for new names (Coffman Union, Middlebrook Hall, Coffey Hall)”
456. “Where are the history of Latinos, Native Americans, & international students?
457. “FREE TUITION! (so students can learn and have confident about a stable future)”
458. “Horrid and fascinating – we think we are enlightened but so did they.”
459. “I’m interested in a follow-up exhibit on American Indian students, staff, & faculty at UMN.”
460. “We are on Dakota Land, stolen land ☹” (Continuation to 459)
461. “Yes.” (Arrow of support to 459 and 460)
462. “It’s implicit but I think the resonances of today’s racism/Islamophobia, etc. should be made more clear – its almost 90 years later but these are still problems.”
463. “What surprised me the most was how long de-segregating housing took. 1954 was not that long ago. Also shocking was the talk from Hans Luther & welcoming the Univ to a Nazi Ambassador. I think buildings should be renamed to portray people who had a positive effect on the inclusion of students at the U of M. It would get overwhelming supports. Another way to foster more unification of students is to continue making statements of the U’s stance on diversity & provide engagement (?) for students towards community activities.”
464. “Coffman, Willey, & Nicholson must be renamed. We cannot allow them to be immortalized in this way. Honor those who fought for justice.”
“As an international student, I felt under surveillance during my entire career by ISSS @ the U. We need to report everything about our lives and that gets directly reported to Immigration Services.”

“Why do we value tradition more than the truth? #Rename Coffman”

“I was aware of housing “covenants” in Mpls. During this time, excluding Jews but I was completely unaware of the officially sanctioned anti-Semitism on the U of M campus. This information needs more publicity!”

“The importance of governing out of reason, not out of fear.”

“Please rename Coffman Union, Wiley Hall, Nicholson Hall. These people should not be honored.”

“Why has it taken so many years for this info to be put in a public exhibit?”

“Rename the buildings”

“Why are so many buildings named after racists & anti-Semites but not after the people who stood up against them?”

“Brilliant & disturbing exhibit – history we all need to know, especially now as racism, anti-Semitism, & keeping surveillance are on the rise nationally.”

“Rename the buildings... it’s not that hard...”

“Rename the buildings!”

“THANK YOU!!! 3rd generation U of M student, and I will be sharing the link to the digital version with my alum parents/grand-parents. So important we acknowledge our failures and correct them accordingly #rename all those buildings!”

“It’s time to rename Coffman”

“Need focus/information on role of faculty at this time, esp. Jewish professors.”

“Orientation & 1st year programs: I hope more students will get to see this. Make a short video?”

“I learned a lot! After 30 years on this campus, I never knew anything about the men after whom the buildings are named.”

“Rename Coffey! I worked in that building as a staff and never knew it’s history. We need truth.”

“Make exhibit permanent in Coffman.”

“Hope their illuminating exhibit leads the Univ to appoint a (?)”

“Lest we forget #forgivenotforget”

“Do more than rename campus buildings! Acknowledge our past – it feels like we are about to repeat the past.”

“Good exhibit can your school begin to review the building names to create a more welcoming brand at the University of Minn.”

“In one word, wow. Those names should hold no historical place on buildings if the injustices fail to be brought to light. Please make this a permanent exhibit! This is too important of an issue. Good to look @ U’s shortcomings & mistakes and not repeat them!”

“Coffman & Coffey have no business being near the words “student union.””

“Iron first vs. velvet glove = Past & Present!”

“It is cool to see that activism stemming from college students has been around for a long time.”

“Very enlightening.”

“Put this exhibit in Coffman”

“Co-sign” (Arrow of support to 492)

“It appears we haven’t learned from history”
“#Rename Coffman”

“We have come so far, yet things today seem (so sadly) similar. I will continue to spread love & light. UMN can do better!”

“RT!” (In response to 496)

“It sickens me that we deign to honor these racists with buildings”

“In some ways, the political divisions and arguments of then sound exactly like those of today.”

“Racism is not welcome on campus.”

“Rename buildings – perhaps honor the people whose land we built on “when we know better, do better””

“Where are we, white allies?”

“#Renamecoffman While I was not as aware of the extent of profiling, discrimination, silencing, and other means employed here on campus during this period, I was not honestly surprised. Minnesota, the university and our community need to confront institutionalized racism and its legacy to this day. We have a lot of work yet to do.”

“Rename the buildings to state a new slate. #Rename Coffman.”

“Leaders, please use this opportunity to reflect on current policies and positions at the U so that one day future students do not find themselves compelled to rename your future buildings.”

“MN State Colleges & Universities group from the system office. Thank you so much for all your hard work to make this exhibit available to the public. I believe it is important to fully engage with our history and right as many wrongs as we possibly can – rename every building and monument to racists/sexists.”

“Everyone should know about this. Let’s spread the word!”

“12/20/2017 I would have never guessed all of this history happened here... I am shocked & can’t really look at the U the same. Thank you for doing this & reminding us of how far we’re come, but we still have work to do! (Also RT on renaming building!)”

“Powerful, yet sad that we’re still struggling with issues of fear, hate, etc. Need a clean page to change the name of some blds.!”

“So important! After 4 years on this campus I had no idea who these buildings were named after or that the university had such a long history of discrimination. We shouldn’t be ashamed of our past but use the story as a teaching tool. Be informed!”

“In this “moment” (hopefully “movement” about sexual harassment, it is crucial that we note – and remember – the darker discriminatory past revealed here. We need to acknowledge in order to work not to allow it to happen again.”

“Create a map that tells this history and the history of student activism, oppression and racism on our campus.”

“This exhibit is great for recognition of past issues that have occurred on our campus. It is also good to compare and contrast the progression made by students, staff, and faculty.”

“Re/name and change the Presidents room in Coffman! (and rename the building, duh)”

“Freedom of speech remains essential right. Must be defended against attack by the Left and Right. But not incitement to attack others!”

“I received 2 degrees from the U of M & worked here as an instructor & in various administrative roles. It’s shocking and disappointing to learn of this ugly history. It seems clear that several major buildings MUST BE RENAMED.”
517. “The names of the buildings are another example of how we put powerful people on a pedestal.”
518. “Make this a permanent exhibit, please.”
519. “I echo this – make this permanent exhibit!” (In response to 518).
520. “Trump is repeating a sad chapter in our history. Thanks for this exhibit. I am profoundly disgusted w/ Coffman & Coffey.”
521. “Amazing Exhibit! Thank you! It’s time to rename Coffman, Nicholson and Middlebrook!!! Coffman Union should be changed to Ford Union. Hope to learn from history!!! 2017.11.20.”
522. “Rename these buildings!”
523. “I fear we are doomed to continue to repeat history.”
524. “I think that all of this anti-Semitism and racism from a long time still going on now. It’s a struggle to actually have these Jews and African Americans be welcomed everywhere.”
525. “This was a great exhibit. We have come a long way but still have a long way to go. This is a step in the right direction.”
526. “Thank you Dr. Yuuchiro Onishi”
527. “I don’t think university buildings should be named after administrators period!”
528. “If there is money to buy student athletes scooters, there is money to rename buildings!!!!”
529. “Surprised of how racist Coffman was for a man that has his name on one of the school’s main buildings.”
530. “Remove fascist traitor Nicholson’s name from the building.”
531. “Rename Coffman, Nicholson! The university is swimming in hypocrisy by keeping these names while acting as a bastion of 21st century progressivism.”
532. “BAD, BAD BUILDING NAME CHOICES! RENAME THEM!”
533. “Be thoughtful be brave. There is nothing new under the sun. Cultivate eyes to see and ears to hear how to make this world better.”
534. “Thanks for this work! Very interesting. It helps place Trump’s America in context.”
535. “I think that it is concerning that buildings are named after racists and no after the “honorable alumni.””
536. “How/why do we allow this [hate] to continue?
537. “Racism is still present of the U of M campus. Both students and instructors have bias towards groups of people.”
538. “Give us more! Well done. Thank you.”
539. “11/21/17 Wonderful, comprehensive exhibit. Would love to see it brought forward to span Korean & Vietnam wars. Pretty certain Hoover who surveilled us during Vietnam war protests not to mention Dennis Banks and the Trial – Native Americans not mentioned at all here.”
540. “Nov 2017 WE ALL BELONG HERE”
541. “We must learn and honor the lessons history teaches us, so we don’t repeat our mistakes.”
542. “Fabulous exhibit. Thanks for bringing this history to light.”
543. “My mind was blown by the contrasting response to Langston Hughes and the Nazi delegate. I am very appreciative of this exhibit and would support renaming Coffman, Nicholson Halls.”
544. “Crazy to believe that racism & anti-Semitism still continue to haunt us today... change the building’s names!”
Post it note comments from exhibit A Campus Divided, Andersen Library, 2017

545. “Leave names of buildings the same, with history of individual’s racism, etc. prominently displayed. Proof of the fallacy of their policies is manifest in the vibrant activism & diversity present on campus, in dorms and in the classrooms currently.”

546. “National history day is an important part of history at Murray Middle. This has inspires me to do a history day topic on the events between 1930 and 1942. It is a very interesting part of American history, and I hope the judges do too! Thanks U of M.”

547. “Why do I go here? Lowest thing EVER. U of M.” (Drawing of a handing holding up the middle finger)

548. “I live in Middlebrook, and I’m honestly scared of what is to come if a campaign to rename it gains traction. Should anyone decide to protest, PLEASE do not take it out on the residents. Do not harass us or physically harm us. We should not have to fact punishment because we were placed in a building named after a racist.”

549. “Should look more into eugenics and the impact the UMN had on Nazi agenda.”

550. “Rename the buildings ‘a name is just a name but racist name is not a name’.”

551. “Didn’t know U of M so racist, anti-Semitic. Suggest: Name changes for buildings, more history on campus sites to educate all.”

552. “Thank you for creating this! It feels so relevant to our current political context. Surveillance, racist backlash to progress in Obama years, meddling in politics, extremist groups... History feels so close. Students – you can make a difference! Claim your power and make the world a better place! Keep up the fight for justice!”

553. “Suggest: followup forums to probe lasting implications of this history.”

554. “FUCK WHITE SUPREMACY”

555. “FUCK COFFMAN!” (In response to 554)

556. “Happy b-day Joe Biden!! Miss you and President BARACK OBAMA #BroLove4Life 11-21-17”

557. “Joe Biden 4 2020!! (+ Ellen Degeneres?)” (In response to 556)

558. “Fuck Coffman!”

559. “Fuck Donald Trump”

560. “Trump Fuck”

561. “Fuck Trump”

562. “Punch a Nazi?? Gopher it!”

563. “Fuck these people – rename halls”

564. “Yes” (In response to 563)

565. “Up like” (In response to 563)