

The Society of Alumni of Williams College
Established 1821

DANIEL K. CHAPMAN '26, *President*
One Wall Street
New York 5, N. Y.

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Dear Fellow-Alumnus:

I feel impelled to write to you, not as a president addressing his constituency but as one alumnus of Williams College speaking to another, and as a member of a family which for three generations has maintained an active association with one fraternity on the Williams campus.

The decision of the Board of Trustees to provide housing and dining facilities for all students has generated a lively and in some cases an emotional response.

While many agree with the Trustees and feel that the way to strength and fulfillment lies in this direction, many honestly disagree and believe that the decision may have an adverse effect on the Williams we have known and loved.

These contrasting groups seem to have two common denominators: both are seriously concerned for the future of Williams and both have elements which are highly vocal.

It is within everyone's right to disagree and to be heard. But I would ask that you who have the best interests of Williams at heart consider two things before you take any step further than to express your opinion, favorable or unfavorable, to the proper authority.

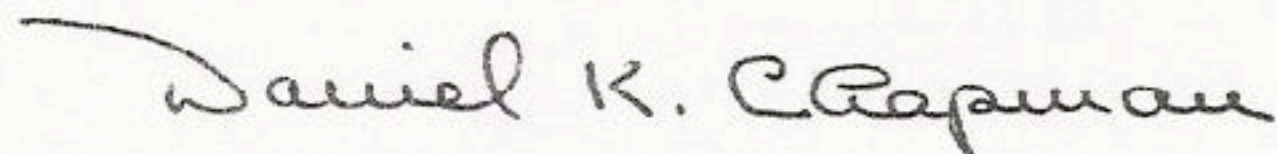
First, the Trustees have ultimate responsibility for the handling of a matter of this kind, and they have given it longer and closer study than most of us.

Second, actions which would sharpen the division in our house or deprive the College of its regular and accustomed financial resources can only damage the entity we all want to preserve and promote.

We now know, for example, that at least one outside, non-Williams party hopes to enlist support to sabotage our Alumni Fund and our bequest program, for its own, non-Williams purposes.

I would ask you all, whatever your opinions, to act now only in the light of these most important considerations and in a responsible way which will unite and strengthen our house. One way of doing this is to do your share to insure the success of the current Alumni Fund.

Sincerely,



Daniel K. Chapman