

Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

Full Membership Meeting Tuesday 1:30 PM, Oct 19, 2021

Via Zoom: <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/85993260778>

MEETING MINUTES

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & LABOR RECOGNITION

Virginia Tech acknowledges that we live and work on the Tutelo / Monacan People's homeland and we recognize their continued relationships with their lands and waterways. We further acknowledge that legislation and practices like the Morrill Act (1862) enabled the commonwealth of Virginia to finance and found Virginia Tech through the forced removal of Native Nations from their lands, both locally and in western territories.

We understand that honoring Native Peoples without explicit material commitments falls short of our institutional responsibilities. Through sustained, transparent, and meaningful engagement with the Tutelo / Monacan Peoples, and other Native Nations, we commit to changing the trajectory of Virginia Tech's history by increasing Indigenous student, staff, and faculty recruitment and retention, diversifying course offerings, and meeting the growing needs of all Virginia tribes and supporting their sovereignty.

We must also recognize that enslaved Black people generated revenue and resources used to establish Virginia Tech and were prohibited from attending until 1953. Through InclusiveVT, the institutional and individual commitment to Ut Prosim (that I may serve) in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence, we commit to advancing a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.

Attendance

Gabby McCollum - Hispanic/Latinx Caucus

Christa Miller- Disability Caucus and Alliance

Stacey Wilkerson- Support/OID

LaTawyna Burleson- Appalachian Caucus

Annabelle Fuselier- Black Caucus / Faculty Staff at Large

Nina Ha- APIDA Caucus

Florence Adamo - Ex Officio / proxy for HR

Dr. Menah Pratt-Clarke - Ex Officio / VP for Strategic Affairs and Diversity

Pamela Vickers - Ex Officio / Director of ADA Jimmy

Lowe - Undergraduate Student Senate Alexandria

Rossi-Alvarez - Graduate Student At Large Tamara

Cherry-Clarke - Women's Alliance and Caucus Vivian

Yamoah - Cranwell International Center

Anthony Lee Lovelace - All Caucus and Alliance

Mustafa Yasin Kara - Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Kelly Oaks, Equity and Accessibility

John Gray Williams, LGBTQ+ caucus
Amanda Leckner, Undergraduate Student At-Large

Guests

April Myers
Katie Polidoro
Katie Mey

1. Meeting called to order
 - a. Time: 1:33pm
2. Attendance
 - a. Please post on the chat you first, last name, and representation
 - b. Absent with notice: Sara Leftwich, Ellen Banks (Proxy: Florence Adamo)
3. Welcome
 - a. First year commissioners
4. Approval of previous meeting minutes
 - a. September meeting minutes are approved
5. Old Business
 - a. Still in search for a vice chair
 - b. Policy 1025 working group is still on hold
 - a. Prospective Indigenous Research Policy is ongoing (no updates)
6. New Business
 - a. University council meeting was cancelled for Oct 18th due to no action items.
 - b. Resolution process
 - i. Stakeholder presentation
 - ii. CEOD Meeting = 1st reading
 - iii. CEOD Meeting = 2nd reading & vote
 - iv. If approved, Director of Governance Administration (April Myers) sends out to 5 upward bodies with a commenting period
 - v. Then goes to University Council for 2 readings
 - vi. University Council votes at 2nd reading
7. Presentations
 - a. Katie Polidoro, Title IX Coordinator and Katie Mey Assistant Director, Gender-Based Violence Prevention
 - i. Annual reports: <https://police.vt.edu/crime-stats.html>
8. Other items
 - a. Responsibilities as a commissioner
 - i. Take information (e.g., items of business, resolutions, etc.) back to the constituent group.
 - ii. After discussion with their constituent group, representatives should then provide feedback to the commission such as any questions, concerns, etc.
 - iii. Vote with the constituent group in mind, not personal inclinations.

iv. Call for questions.

9. Announcements

a. Disaggregation of data working group volunteers

i. Annabelle Fuselier

ii. Stacey Wilkerson

iii. Nina Ha

iv. Kelly Oaks

10. Adjournment

a. Time: 2:48pm