

## Hollins Working Group on Slavery and Its Contemporary Legacies

### Minutes for Meeting Nov. 12, 2019

Present: Idella Glenn, Rebecca Rosen, Bill Krause, Jon Bohland, Jenine Culligan, Jasmine Carter, Maryke Barber, Ashleigh Breske, Jeanne Jegouso, Chris Florio, Jeri Siarez, Courtney Chenette, Amy Duncan.

**Upcoming Meetings:** are scheduled for the first Tuesday of every month.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, Dec. 3, at noon.

#### Action Items:

- **Grant Opportunities:**
  - Jon will look for a narrative created last year for the Community Memory grant with the library.
  - Please let Idella know if you can help with drafting either of the below grant applications.
- **Apology:**
  - Jon, Amy, Maryke and others will work on identifying supporting documentation for the draft text.
  - Please submit all further thoughts on the draft text as comments **by Monday, Nov. 18.**
  - Listening sessions with the campus community need to be scheduled.
  - We need to get on the calendar for meetings with cabinet, FEC, and SGA.
- **Short Term Class:** please email all ideas for projects, field trips and other opportunities to Jon; if you suggested a talk or project already please email your availability in January.
- **USS Meeting, March 5-6 in Charlottesville** – email Rebecca if you would like to go.

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**Grant Opportunities:** Idella outlined two possible grants, one for community memory projects that would be shared with the library. The application is due Dec. 2. Second is a grant from the Council of Independent Colleges for programs in partnership with community organizations about the legacies of slavery; more details to be announced in January 2020.

**Institutional Apology:** All present responded to the draft created by the group last year. While it was decided to leave the list of suggested actions as is, before meeting with the Board of Trustees we might consider which items we might prioritize.

Discussion led to edits and several places in the text were flagged as being in need of supporting documentation; other items could be listed as ongoing questions in need of research going forward.

Chris suggested an emphasis on supporting any claims made in the text, to ensure that uncertainty over historical accuracy will not detract from the discussion on the necessity of an institutional apology.

**Short Term Course:** Jon would love participation from anyone who has information or projects to share. Possibilities include the walking tour app, cemetery project, archival work, a proposal for renaming (a) building(s), etc. Rebecca suggested planning for an art project or object for memorialization, as there is a dedicated budget for this; Bill suggested a visit by Tom Klatka re: the cemetery; Courtney, a talk on historical court cases; Jeanne, working on new indexing language and/or finding aids; Rebecca, a trip to Virginia Tech's Fraction Family House.

The class will be 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Monday through Wednesday and 7 students are currently enrolled.

**Green Ridge Cemetery Project** – Bill is gathering documents related to ownership of the land parcel, with help from Mr. Sweetenburgh at Ebenezer Baptist Church. The documents will be used to establish ownership of the land in official County records.

**Next USS Meeting** – UVA will host the Spring Business meeting of Universities Studying Slavery on March 5-6 in Charlottesville. There is no registration fee; Hollins may be able to support up to 4 people (shared rooms.)

**Black History Month** –

- A speaker has been invited: Jeremy Alexander, a regular presence at USS meetings and descendant of the Georgetown 272 Descendants group. Chris suggested that the History Department may be able to provide support.
- Idella suggested a repeat of the presentation on Hollins History which was prepared for the "Changing the Narrative" dinner.
- Jasmine asked whether Brittney might offer a walking tour (possibly in combination with the presentation).