

Hollins Working Group on Slavery and Its Contemporary Legacies

Minutes for Meeting Mar. 3, 2020

Present: Idella Glenn, Rebecca Rosen, Jenine Culligan, Makda Kalayu, Donovan O’Daniel, Bill Krause, Maryke Barber, Jeri Suarez, China Moore, Ashleigh Breske

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Apr. 7, at noon.

Presentation at Faculty Meeting: April 14 (re-introduce ourselves, updates on current work, introduce the apology); follow up at Division meetings April 21.

Presentation for Student Groups: April 20 (same)

Action Items:

- **Institutional Apology Draft:** please review the apology issued by [William & Mary](#) in 2018. For April 7, bring your thoughts on what might transfer to our Hollins apology, such as :
 - Acknowledging Jim Crow
 - Listing names of enslaved and slaveholders ([see Lemon Project Report, pg. 58-59](#))
- **Talking Points** – Rebecca will work on a set of talking points for our upcoming discussions with faculty and student groups in April.

Next USS Meeting – UVA will host the Spring Business meeting of Universities Studying Slavery on March 5-6 in Charlottesville. 4 from our group are attending.

Faculty Meeting – President Gray suggest that before we present our activities and the apology plan to the students, that we do this for the faculty. It was decided to do this at the April 14 meeting . After the meeting:

- Faculty in our group should be prepared to discuss and answer questions at the following Division meetings.
- Idella and Rebecca will check in with President Gray after the Faculty meeting to confirm that we should proceed with talking to the students.

IDAC – Inclusivity and Diversity Advisory Council. Idella has updated the council on our work; this is important because (unlike our group) IDAC has official standing as a committee that is part of the university governance system. Rebecca and Idella will ask IDAC to support our presentation at the Faculty meeting. Notes from IDAC on the Working Group Projects:

1. Additional suggestions re: scholarship
 - Press release
 - BSA/Students walk through Hollins Community
 - Announcements/meetings at First Baptist Hollins and Ebenezer
 - Direct Mail (Karen Calloway is updating list)
2. Additional suggestions re: memorial

- Feel strongly about having a physical memorial on campus in addition to app
- Investigate whether a visiting artist could lead class to create design
- Investigate the installation of plaques on buildings with names of enslaved and/formerly enslaved

Student Groups – Jeri suggested a presentation during Monday night family time with ISOP, ETP, also extending an invitation not just to BSA, but to all students of color. We should also talk to Roundtable and then Senate. Following the presentation to Senate, we could do table-sitting to answer questions.

Other ideas:

- Could we present at the Administrators’ Forum in May?
- Could we put out a one-time newsletter around this same time?

Reunion – we should have a presence at Reunion, which will be May 29-31, 2020.

Institutional Apology Draft –Rebecca introduced apology materials from [William & Mary](#). ; Idella will have a discussion with Kerry Edmonds and Susie Mink regarding which of the proposals from the apology draft require a conversation about budget.

Scholarship for descendants of the Hollins Community – Publicity (see notes from Feb. 2020 meeting) is on hold for the moment: Jeri has concerns about the language of the scholarship documents. She will review information related to the original scholarship, and get back to the group at the next meeting.

Subcommittee for Digitization Projects – The group has not yet met; project definition will depend a lot on the new Digital Initiatives Librarian. The position is currently open and the search is ongoing.

Cemetery Project – Ongoing; the current paperwork includes some contradictions so Bill and Courtney will be going to the courthouse in Roanoke County, to formally establish the ownership of the property by Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Exhibit – Ashleigh Breske’s students are choosing the objects they would like to exhibit, including a diary containing a first-hand account of a revolt or riot at the university which apparently involved enslaved people. The exhibit is titled :”Unveiling the Past: Reckoning with Our History of Enslavement at Hollins.”

CIC Grant – Idella will contact the university’s grant writer for assistance with this grant

Upcoming Events –

April 9: Opening of :”Unveiling the Past: Reckoning with Our History of Enslavement at Hollins” at the Wilson Museum.