

Hollins Working Group on Slavery and Its Contemporary Legacies

Minutes for Meeting May 4, 2021

Present: Rebecca Rosen, Maryke Barber, Jeri Suarez, Jenine Culligan, Courtney Chenette, Bill Krause, Ashleigh Breske, Chris Florio.

Next Meeting: After faculty have completed grading we'll meet to discuss plans for summer, next year.

Action Items: let Rebecca Rosen know if you are interested in serving on the renaming task force; add any remaining notes from listening sessions to Google by Friday 5/7.

Renaming Task Force

The group concluded that more information is needed about the scope and timeline for this work, before inviting people to commit. Rebecca will check back in with President Hinton.

The task force should be a broadly representative group; at the same time we hope to keep it relatively small to make it easier for the group to meet, etc. Suggestions included:

- Open communication: ask the campus community whether anyone wants to self-nominate.
- Consider sub-groups for specific stages or tasks.
- All 3 co-chairs: it may be preferable for us to take turns working on different issues, rather than all serving on the task force.
- Include the new VPDEI.
- Include someone who can communicate with the alumni board.
- Include students, 2-3 preferably, or form a student sub-group with a specific task.
- Involving the Hollins community: once new names are being considered, we should involve any descendants of those whose names are under consideration. We'll need to think about how best to include anyone who is not currently affiliated with Hollins.
- Involving the Roanoke community beyond campus (suggestion from BOT): we should make sure our communications include providing information about the process.
- As the library still does not have an archivist, Maryke offered to liaise for any archival research needs.
- Jenine will email President Hinton so they can together thank Shardei Sudler for her work on the change.org petition. We'd like to let Shardei know about the upcoming task force, etc.

Alumnae/i

The co-chairs have an upcoming meeting with Alumnae Services and a BOT member who also works with the alumnae board. They're concerned that alums need more information about renaming, as well as more opportunities to engage and give feedback. Possibilities include:

- E-newsletter
- Reunion (virtual programming June 1-5)
- Q&A session?

Fall Orientation

Jeri suggested including the Working Group in a session that is already scheduled for all incoming first-years to engage with DEI topics.

Report on Listening Sessions

Maryke will start a draft and send to all by 5/14; if you have notes which aren't in Google yet, please add them. The goal: get this out in May.