

Hollins Heritage Committee

Meeting – Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017

Present: Jon Bohland, Idella Glenn, Delaina Price, Beth Harris, Nick Miller, Bill Krause, Robin Lee, Maryke Barber, Karen Callaway, Kathleen Nolan.

Mission Statement - Jon presented the latest draft of the mission and goals (*see end of this document for draft text*), which takes into account feedback from the previous meeting as well as comments sent since; except for a few line edits, it was voted ready to go to the administration.

Kathleen brought up discussion of the committee's role and makeup by the Faculty Executive Committee, especially with regard to the future of DIAB. In order to ensure that FEC has the information needed to understand and support our working group going forward, it was suggested that Jon and Idella visit FEC.

It was also suggested that we have one or more "Open Conversations" in the spring, as we did in Fall 2016. These were open to the entire campus, and we can especially invite anyone we'd like to bring into dialogue with the committee. We could also introduce the new mission, preview the field school and the USS Conference, and recruit new members to the group.

J-Term Course – has 22 students, and the March Archaeology Field School is also full. Committee members are invited to join classes, field trips and other activities; Jon will send out information.

USS Conference – to raise interest among our administration, we will be rallying media coverage. Three working groups were formed:

- Logistics: Maryke, Beth, Bill
- PR & Media: Nick, Robin
- Programming: Jon, Kathleen, Delaina

Jon will share the text drafted to invite colleagues to the conference.

Memorial – Idella reported that 7-8 replies have been received to the survey so far, and members of the Memorial group will be calling schools that have not yet replied to ask them to either take the survey or respond in an interview. Idella is looking for schools not listed as USS members but included on their email list (which probably indicates new members).

Other topics – We will be having conversations in the spring about keeping other committee priorities (monuments, research, fund raising) moving forward. Jon and Idella are looking for someone to continue conversations with the grants writer.

The Hollins University Working Group on Slavery and Its Contemporary Legacies

The working group is charged by President Lawrence with continuing to research and educate the public about Hollins University's historical connections to enslavement and the contemporary legacies of slavery on campus, within the neighboring historic Hollins community, and throughout the Greater Roanoke Valley. The group's membership is comprised of interested faculty, alumnae, staff, students, and citizens from the historic Hollins community. The working group is an integral part of the university's commitment to an open and honest dialogue about race and diversity on our campus and in our region of Southwest Virginia. It represents an honest and transparent examination of who we are as institution and what we hope to represent going forward. The group's research highlights and memorializes the many contributions made by people of color both before and after emancipation in building a sustainable and thriving university community. As part of this continuing project, the mission of the working group is as follows :

- To engage in extended archival research and archaeological studies focused on histories and legacies of enslavement on campus and to uncover documents, specific names, and oral histories related to African-American history and memory at Hollins University.
- To publish and archive all documents related to enslavement and Jim Crow era history on campus online in an easily accessible public format.
- To memorialize the presence of this history on our campus in ways that are visible, tangible, and permanent.
- To develop and engage in educational and community-based courses and projects for students focused on enslavement and its legacies at Hollins University and within communities of the Greater Roanoke Valley.
- To develop strong community relations with the historic Hollins community and with the African American community in the Greater Roanoke Valley, and to involve them as active long term partners and participants in our work.
- To remain active members and leaders within the Universities Studying Slavery consortium and to develop specific programs for other small colleges and universities beginning similar projects focused on histories of enslavement.
- To actively encourage, develop, and publicize scholarly research focused on histories and legacies of enslavement throughout the region.