

Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

Full Membership Meeting 1:30 PM, April 27, 2021

Via Zoom; <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/99011779332>

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the Tutelo/Monacan people, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and live, and recognize their continuing connection to the land, water, and air that Virginia Tech consumes. We pay respect to the Tutelo/Monacan Nations, and to their elders past, present, and emerging.

We further acknowledge all those Native peoples whose tribal territory in the Trans-Mississippi West (in what became California, Colorado, and other western states) the U.S. government seized in the years before the Morrill Act of 1862. Sales of those lands funded the land-grant system of higher education both in Virginia and throughout the nation.

We also acknowledge the university's historical ties to the indentured and enslaved whose labors built this institution. We pay respect to these people for their contributions to Virginia Tech

We also acknowledge that Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus was previously the site of the Smithfield Plantation. At any point from 1774 to 1865, the Preston family enslaved 40 to 100 African men, women, and children on this land. We pay respect to those souls and acknowledge that Virginia Tech is undeniably tied to this legacy.

We also acknowledge that Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus was previously the site of the Solitude Estate which enslaved at least 30 African men, women and children on this land. We acknowledge the contributions of the Fraction's and other enslaved persons in the creation and emergence of Virginia Tech as a major land-grant university, and in accordance with the university's efforts to transform an historic location into a site for the interpretation of the African-American experience on campus and the region.

Agenda

1. Announcements
 - a. Reminder to please complete the Climate Survey
2. Voting
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice chair
 - c. University Council Representative
 - d. Campus Development Committee
3. Presentation
 - a. APIDA Resolution presentation, Jess Nguyen
 - b. Cares Funds Distribution, Dr. Ellington Graves
4. Updates from UC
 - a. Membership resolution passed