

Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

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

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

Attendance

*Stacey Wilkerson (for Menah Pratt-Clarke)
*Sam Cook (for Mae Hey)
*Tamara Allen
*Gabby McCollum
*Ellen Banks
*Sally Shupe
*Latanya Walker
*Ellington Graves
*Banks Blair
*Annabelle Fuselier
*Kelly Oaks
*Anthony Scott
*Anthony Wright de Hernandez
*Shaila Mehra (for Laura Belmonte)
*Pam Vickers

*Christa Miller
*Sarah Leftwich
*Christina Miller (for Tamara Cherry-Clarke)
*Nina Ha
*Vivian Yamoah (for David Clubb)

Guests

April Myers
Jess Nguyen

Absent

Maia Greene-Havas (with notice)
Martina Svyantek
LaTawnya Burleson
Courtney Swanson
John Gray Williams

Agenda

Christa Miller called the meeting to order at 1:30pm

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. HEERF - Cares Funds Distribution, Dr. Ellington Graves
 - c. Tribal Nations consultation and Engagement policy, Sam Cook
4. Updates from UC
 - a. Membership resolution passed

Minutes

Christa Miller called the meeting to order at 1:30pm

1. Announcements
 - a. Reminder to please complete the Climate Survey
 - i. The data is anonymous and only available to 3 people within HR.
2. Voting
 - a. Chair
 - i. A motion to nominate Gabby McCollum for the position of chair. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
 - b. Vice chair
 - i. A motion was made by Gabby McCollum to nominate Banks Blair for the role of vice chair. The motion was seconded by Christa Miller and approved unanimously.
 - c. University Council Representative
 - i. There was a call for a nomination for the University Council representative role. No nominations were received. It was decided to wait until fall to select the representative. No objections were received.
 - d. Campus Development Committee
 - i. A nomination was made by Christa Miller to select Annabelle Fuseliere to continue in this role. The nomination was seconded by Ellen Banks and was approved unanimously.
3. Presentation
 - a. [APIDA Resolution](#) presentation, Jess Nguyen
 - i. Current president of AC student union, Jess Nguyen, presented the idea of a resolution in support of APIDA community.
 - ii. Anticipate that this will be written with the executive board.
 - iii. The Commission on Student Affairs will serve as partners.
 - iv. Jess will share a statement from ICAC and Vanderbilt that can be used as guides in this process.
 - v. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pv4aMPqJV2MwDZBst99Y0aDxTh9Yz2sZ5KytqwQlv6s/edit> (ICAC statement)
 - vi. Recommend that this be added as an agenda item for August.
 - b. HEERF - Cares Funds Distribution, Dr. Ellington Graves
 - i. Dr. Graves provided a brief update on how CARES funds were distributed and student scholarships. Financial Aid will present in August to provide a more fuller picture of details.
 - ii. There were 3 rounds of HERF funding, most extensive round occurred in the spring. There were a combination of grants based on certain criteria (pell eligibility, employed on campus and had lost a job, unmet need and maxed out subsidized loans). The amounts were between \$600 and \$2400.
 - iii. A sizeable amount of funds held out in spring 2020 for emergency

assistance requests which were vetted through Dean of Students Office, SOAR, and Financial Aid.

- c. Tribal Nations consultation and Engagement policy, Sam Cook
 - i. Dr. Cook was present for Mae Hey. He has been working as presidential advisor for AI initiatives with the role of making connections between university and tribal nations, specifically with tribal leaders and IRB arrangements.
 - ii. It is becoming increasingly necessary to explore how to implement a policy at VT related to IRB protocols. There are 7 federally recognized tribes in the state and 4 tribes which are not federally recognized but are state recognized.
 - iii. Dr. Cook wanted to get this information before the commission for awareness and will be bringing this to the commissions in the fall. It is the intent to move through the governance process within the upcoming year.
4. Updates from UC
 - a. Membership resolution passed
5. Additional discussion from member regarding a student issue involving harassment. OEA and Dean of Students offered to provide additional support and resources.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:12pm with a motion by Ellen Banks.