

## **Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward (September 19, 2022)**

### **DRAFT Minutes**

**Present:** **Commission Members:** Co-Chair Patricia Parker, Co-Chair Jim Leloudis, Nicholas Graham, Danita Mason-Hogans, Ronald Harris, Joseph Jordan, Simona Goldin, Ronald Harris, Giselle Corbie, Delores Bailey, Josmell Perez

**Guests:** Julie Truluck Thompson, Associate Director of Chancellor and Special Events, Ellen Bradley, Communications Consultant

**YouTube Link for Meeting:** <https://youtu.be/7TblAZaxuRw>

#### I. Welcome and Introduction:

Co-Chair Jim Leloudis welcomed commission members to the meeting. Co-chair Patricia Parker completed the roll call. Minutes from the June meeting were approved unanimously.

Co-Chair Parker introduced guests Ellen Bradley and Julie Thompson who gave brief introductions. Co-Chair Parker then announced Danielle Hiraldo, Director of the American Indian Center, as a new commission member. Danielle was not in attendance. Co-Chair Parker introduced Abby Wooten, a Chancellor's Fellow who is working with the commission this year.

#### II. Updates

Co-Chair Parker updated the commission on the Barbee Cemetery Project and the Unsung Founders Memorial. She emphasized that both these projects are proceeding in accordance with the commission's commitment to necessary engagement work. She explained that the co-chairs and commission members are continuing to work alongside members of descendant communities on these projects. A progress report on the Barbee Cemetery Project was given to the Chancellor last month (as previously reported). Co-Chair Parker notified the Commission that she and Co-Chair Leloudis are in conversation with organizations with expertise in social justice design, BlackSpace and the International Coalition on Sites of Conscience, to ensure a community-centered, descendant-led design for the next steps of the Unsung Founders Memorial project. She then fielded questions from Commission Members.

Co-Chair Leloudis updated the commission on the Land Acknowledgement project, informing members that he and Co-Chair Parker have been in conversation with Danielle Hiraldo (Director of the American Indian Center) and will work in partnership with her to take next steps. Co-Chair Leloudis also updated the commission on the process of name removal and the Names on the Landscape project on campus. He reminded commission members that the Ad-Hoc Naming Committee has continued their work and that links to their meetings are available on the commission website. He also noted that he is unsure when the naming recommendations will be discussed by the Board of Trustees.

Commission member Simona Goldin gave an update on the Equity in Schools initiative. Goldin told the commission about her course "Education in a Multicultural Society." She gave credit to commissioner Danita Mason-Hogans' work and the work of commissioner Nick Graham and Wilson Library. Goldin then read an excerpt of writing from one of her students to illustrate the course's impact

Co-Chair Parker applauded Simona and Danita for their excellent work and the application of their work to the public.

#### III. Universities Studying Slavery Conference

Abby Wooten updated the Commission on the Spring 2023 Universities Studying Slavery Conference being held at UNC-Chapel Hill in March 2023. She gave background on the Universities Studying Slavery Consortium and information about the Fall Conference being held at the University of Virginia.

Ellen Bradley gave the Commission updates on the Communications process for the Spring 2023 conference.

Abby and Ellen fielded questions from the Commission.

#### IV. Conclusions

Co-Chair Parker took questions from Commission members and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.