



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Presidential Task Force *for Opportunity and Equity*

August 25, 2022

Minutes

Attendees: Chacolby Burns-Johnson, Kevin Coonrod, George Flowers, Joffery Gaymon, Dustin Johnson, Jared Russell, Cheryl Seals, JoEllen Sefton, Bruce Smith, Gretel Thornton, Alan Wilson, Jennifer Adams and Amy Weaver

- Dr. Joffery Gaymon and Dr. JoEllen Sefton announced that they had an informal conversation with President Roberts to give him a brief overview of the task force's work.
 - President Roberts will meet with the task force at its September meeting to learn about the subcommittees' recommendations.
 - Drs. Gaymon and Sefton said President Roberts was very positive about the task force's work and he wants to determine a permanent pathway forward.
- Dr. Melody Russell said she is working to schedule a meeting with Interim Provost Vini Nathan so that the subcommittee can present the Institute for African American and Black Studies proposal to her.

Institute for African American and Black Studies Subcommittee

Chair: Dr. Melody Russell

Members: Katrina Akande, Cori Akins, Molly Boudreaux, Taffye Clayton, Kevin Coonrod, Norman Godwin, Robin Jaffe, Kimberly Mulligan, Jared Russell, Bruce Smith, Lady Frances Hamilton, Scott Bishop, Gretel Thornton, and Jackson Thomas

- *The subcommittee did not meet this day.*

Graduate Students Subcommittee

Chairs: Dr. George Flowers and Dr. Jared Russell

Members: Olasubomi Akintola, Akilah Alwan, Mikayla Brown, Chacolby Burns-Johnson, Angela Cannon, Vinicia Biancardi, Astin Cole, Alexicia Richardson, Sedighe Zamani, Angela Cannon, Astin Cole, Brian Cornish, Dustin Johnson, Bridgett King, Ebony Robinson, Cheryl Seals, Aariyan Tooley, Jordan Branchman and Alan Wilson

- The minutes from the July meeting were reviewed and approved.
- A discussion was had regarding next steps and plans for following up with Gen. Burgess and President Roberts.
- Edits to the presentation given to Provost Nathan were reviewed and materials finalized for our September meeting with Gen. Burgess and President Roberts.