

<b>Sub Committee</b>	History and Context Working Group
<b>Co-Chairs &amp; Attendees</b>	Co-Chairs: David Owusu-Ansah and Eric Fife Attendees: Abe Goldberg, Yvonne Harris, Weston Hatfield, Jack Knight, Kate Morris, Meg Mulrooney, Steve Reich, Misty Tippetts, Matthew Hershberger, Colleen Waller, Amanda Johnson
<b>Meeting Dates (Please include the Diversity Conference)</b>	October 30, December 1, January 18, February 2, March 6, March 14, April 6 (note: does not include task force co-chairs meetings or meetings with other committee co-chair)
<b>Summary of Accomplishments</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Identification, discussion of charge</li> <li>2) Monthly meetings of group</li> <li>3) Creation of SharePoint site, with uploaded documents and links relevant to charge</li> <li>4) Several meetings of co-chairs groups</li> <li>5) Presentation at Diversity Conference, with conversations involving faculty, staff members, students, and members of an interested local corporation (Merck Pharmaceuticals)</li> <li>6) Presentation of relevant history by one group member at a library symposium, with some discussion following</li> <li>7) Construction of “best practices” list, derived from careful study of many other institutions facing related issues</li> <li>8) Identification of future possible partners</li> <li>9) Creation of web site, housed in Special Collections but linked to existing task force site, which includes historical information about the institution</li> <li>10) Joining of Universities Studying Slavery</li> </ol>
<b>Action Items for '18-'19</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Consider providing additional information about James and Dolley Madison, including less positive aspects of their lives, in appropriate forums (including James Madison week, but not including admission materials or tours).</li> <li>2) Create one or more campus/community dialogues, focused on presenting and then discussing the less well-known aspects of the institution’s history in a structured way.</li> <li>3) Increase research activities related to the institution’s past. Though we have some understanding of history through Dr.</li> </ol>

Mulrooney's work, there is still much we do not know. History faculty members engaged in this work might receive a course release or stipend, underscoring its importance to the institution. Additional research might lead to better understanding of the lives of black community members who worked at JMU prior to integration, among other tasks.

- 4) Avoid quick changes which would not be seen as transparent and inclusive.
- 5) Continue work of task force, changing membership in November to reflect interest of current participants and possible new members. Any current members who wish to remain should be able to do so. New members might include the following:
  - a) Multiple History faculty members;
  - b) Multiple students currently engaged in diversity efforts at JMU, including those responsible for the @JMUDiversity Twitter account;
  - c) Faculty/staff members directly engaged in diversity efforts at JMU;
  - d) Community members, as regular guests or official members;
  - e) Someone with expertise in dialogue facilitation;
  - f) One or two additional faculty/staff volunteers.