

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Institution Name: Washington & Lee University

Location: Monacan homelands / Lexington, VA

Website: <https://www.wlu.edu/>

1. Key administrative personnel and faculty contact information

Dean for Diversity, Inclusion & Student Engagement, Tamara Futrell (tfutrell@wlu.edu); Assoc. Director of Community-Based Learning, Alessandra Del Conte Dickovick (delcontedickovick@wlu.edu); Director of the Mudd Center for Ethics, Melissa Kerin (kerinm@wlu.edu); Prof. of Anthropology, Alison Bell (bella@wlu.edu); Asst. Prof. of History, Franklin Sammons (fsammons@wlu.edu); Asst. Director of Institutional History, Jessica Wager (wagerj@wlu.edu); Native American & Indigenous Employee Resource Group chairs, Kelly Fujiwara (Miwok), cfujiwara@wlu.edu; Victoria Ferguson (Monacan), **no tribal liaison position**

2. About your institution

Founded in 1749; **Undergraduate highlights:** ~1,850 full-time undergrad students in the College and the Williams School of Commerce; 36 undergraduate major degrees; 15 students in the average classroom; **Law School:** ~380 students; **Athletics:** 24 men's and women's varsity teams in NCAA Division III ODAC Conference; **Financial Aid highlights:** 100% of need met without loans, \$0 tuition for undergraduate students from families earning less than \$125,000, Johnson Scholar Program.

3. If your institution has a land acknowledgment, mention it here or detail efforts to create a land acknowledgment.

Individual departments read and post land acknowledgements: Athletics, Mudd Center for Ethics, Sustainability. Staff and faculty presentations from within the Native American and Indigenous Cohort (NAIC) created a land acknowledgement (LA) guide for campus to use which includes an LA by NAIC Monacan community member, Victoria Ferguson.

4. If your institution has a tribal consultation policy, mention it here or detail efforts to create a consultation policy.

There is not currently a tribal consultation policy, only the option of individual memorandums of understanding between community partners and the university.

5. Describe your institution's goals regarding inclusion of and relations with Virginia's Indigenous Nations. Please specifically address each of the 6 VINHE focus areas in your answer.

a. VINHE's Six Focus Areas

i. Land and Watershed Management and Conservation

Office of Sustainability: Irish Creek Conservation Partnership, W&L is proud to partner with the Indigenous-led nonprofit organization **NDPonics** on a distinctive collaboration for the promotion of environmental and cultural conservation, place-based learning, and community building.

ii. Cultural Resources: History, Archives, Justice

University Archives: sharing out to Indigenous citizens of digitally recorded events by Monacan and other Indigenous speakers (standard speaker release

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form) to be used by tribal leadership for educational and cultural classes/initiatives/etc.

Archeology: New initiative to identify artifacts collected in the 1950s from Native American sites in Virginia and elsewhere in North America, with the intent to repatriate them if of interest to the relevant tribes. The collections do not contain human remains.

- iii. Preparation for, Access to, and Success in Higher Education
 - iv. Legal Issues, Infrastructure, and Business Development
 - v. Embracing Tribal History in K-12 Education Standards
 - vi. Tribal Community Health
- See Mudd Center for Ethics below.

6. Provide any resources of interest including relevant academic programs, student groups, initiatives, etc.

• **Native American and Indigenous Cohort (NAIC):** Founded in 2019: 13 active members drawn from faculty, staff, and community. NAIC’s mission is to improve awareness and education on campus and advance Native community partnerships and support networks.

• **Native American Student Organization (NASO):** Founded in 2021. Currently has 6 active members. Organizes student trips and campus events.

• **Office of Community Based Learning:** CBL supports “mutually beneficial, reciprocal collaborations that enrich engaged teaching and learning while advancing community interests”. <https://my.wlu.edu/office-of-community-based-learning>

• **Law School Clinics:** Provide legal assistance in a wide range of areas including disability, civil rights, racial justice, immigration and taxes. law.wlu.edu/clinics

• **Mudd Center for Ethics:** MCE will address two topics directly related to Native American and Alaskan Indigenous communities. The first will be a panel on medical research, which will highlight the mistreatment of genetic samples from Havasupai tribe members in 2003. The second will feature the artwork of Erica Lord (a citizen of the Nenana Native Association), whose work brings attention to diseases that disproportionately affect native communities in the Americas and addresses the cognate social issue of unequal access to quality health care among these same populations. <https://my.wlu.edu/mudd-center>

• **Sociology, Anthropology, Archeology:** Teaching and research in cultural variation, behavior, diversity, interconnection, and relationships among people, the environment, social structures, political dynamics, belief systems, and values. <https://my.wlu.edu/sociology-and-anthropology-department>

• **History:** History department offers several courses designed to emphasize Native American and Indigenous history, culture, politics, and perspectives. Those include: The Indigenous South; Borderlands, Empires, and Encounter in Colonial North America; Educating Otherness; Latin America: Incas/Aztecs to Independence; Modern Latin America: Independence to Today; Popular Culture in Latin America.

• **DeLaney Center:** Est. in 2021; interdisciplinary academic forum that promotes teaching and research on race and Southern identity; provides unique opportunities for students, faculty, alumni, community partners, and higher education colleagues to ponder how W&L's long and complex history intersects with the racial issues that have defined and continue to shape both the

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U.S. South and the entire country. <https://my.wlu.edu/delaney-center>

- 7. Provide information on any existing partnerships you have with tribal nations.**
W&L does not currently have any existing partnerships with tribal nations.

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