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Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 305

To: Virginia Tech Faculty, Staff, and Students

From: Timothy D. Sands 

Date: May 7, 2018

Subject: **Recognition of Indigenous People's Day at Virginia Tech on October 8, 2018**

During spring semester 2018, the Native at VT student organization brought to the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity (CEOD) a proposal to designate the second Monday of October each year as Indigenous People's Day beginning in 2018. The organization had also separately expressed its opposition to the commemoration of Columbus Day.

Because there was insufficient time during the spring 2018 semester to allow for the proposal to be brought forward as a resolution with due deliberation through the regular governance process, I committed at the May 7 University Council meeting to issuing a Presidential Policy Memorandum to designate October 8, 2018, as Indigenous People's Day.

Therefore, Virginia Tech will observe Indigenous People's Day on October 8, 2018. This action does not create a holiday; the university will remain open, and classes will be held.

To continue the commemoration of Indigenous People's Day at Virginia Tech beyond fall 2018 will require a formal resolution to be brought forward through the university governance system following the normal process.

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This policy will expire on October 9, 2018.