Remember, Recognize, Reaffirm
A Guide for Practicing the Principles of Community

The Virginia Tech Principles of Community is an aspirational statement that speaks to what we want to be as an institution. At its core is the belief that Virginia Tech is a community built on respect for all people and each of its members share in the responsibility for upholding its values. Every March during the week following spring break the university recognizes Principles of Community Week to commemorate and reaffirm our commitments. This guide offers suggestions for integrating a reaffirmation of the Principles of Community in your unit.

Remember

Learn more about how the Principles of Community came to be. The Inclusive VT Insight, "What Are the Principles of Community and Why Are They Referenced So Often?" describes the collaborative process by which they were authored and then endorsed by the Board of Visitors in March 2005.

- View the 9-minute video with your team, department, students, or residence hall.
- Use the companion discussion guide to prompt further discussion about how institutions are reckoning with and reshaping their legacies to foster greater inclusion, equity, and belonging for all.
- Visit the seven historical markers installed on campus for the sesquicentennial that offer viewers a glimpse into our shared past while providing an opportunity to embrace our shared values, today and into the future.

Recognize

Who embodies the Principles of Community in your area? Raise up students and colleagues whose lives reflect the values of civility and respect, and an active commitment to inclusion and diversity.

- Nominate them for the Principles of Community Award.
- Tell their story in campus communications or invite them to tell their own story in the Solitude House recording studio for the VT Stories archive.
- Express appreciation often and center the Principles of Community in all professional interactions.

Reaffirm

Principles of Community Week is an opportunity to revisit our shared values and refresh the skills of listening, collaborating, and communicating across differences.

- Participate in a planned Principles of Community week event.
- Host an opportunity in your area (and be sure to use the We Affirm logos!)
- Enroll in a professional development session through TLOS or Talent Development's Page Up LMS to build your competencies.
- Make a personal connection with someone new.

We Affirm the Principles of Community

 URLs for sites listed in the text.

Remember

Inclusive VT Insight "What are the Principles of Community and Why are they Referenced So Often?"
http://www.inclusive.vt.edu/education/inclusive-insights/POC-referenced.html

Companion discussion guide for the Inclusive VT Insight video.
https://www.inclusive.vt.edu/content/dam/inclusive_vt_edu/Guide.PrinciplesofCommunity.pdf

Map of the seven historical markers.
https://strategicaffairs.vt.edu/CouncilonVTHistory/historic-markers.html

Recognize

Principles of Community Award nomination details.
https://www.inclusive.vt.edu/about/vtpoc/poc_award.html

VT Stories archive.
https://strategicaffairs.vt.edu/CouncilonVTHistory/vt-stories.html

Reaffirm

Principles of Community Week website.
https://www.inclusive.vt.edu/about/vtpoc/poc-week.html

Professional Development Network
https://tlos.vt.edu/learn/pdn.html

Talent Development Page Up Learning Management System
https://training.vt.edu/pageup-lms-training.html