Minutes of the Mission Statement Work Group Meeting
March 2, 2022, at 4:00 pm, via Zoom

Attending: Sebastian Bawab, Karen Eck, Jean Kennedy-Sleeman, Sebastian Kuhn, Donna Meeks, Coulson Thomas, September Sanderlin, Tom Socha.

Finalizing the Draft Statement
Several members of the group submitted small changes to some words and phrases. The group discussed all the suggestions at length. One mention was to delete anything about pending partnerships as this would be premature. Sentences were moved around to help with the flow, and sentences 1 and 2 were combined into one paragraph. Other discussions included adding that “ODU is committed to the advancement of engaged research” and the use of “real world” vs. “real life” experiences. Changes were made on the section concerning the history of accessibility and inclusion and how the past is important, in addition to our continuing commitment. “The arts” was added into the first paragraph, and prominent was changed to preeminent.

Agreement by Committee Members
After the above changes were made, September Sanderlin asked the members if everyone agreed that the current draft (as it stands after today’s changes) is the statement that the group would like to share with the rest of the committee as the final draft (but not for vetting). Everyone agreed that today’s statement is the final draft. After sharing with the full committee, the statement will be submitted to the Steering Committee.

Next Steps
No new Work Group meeting is needed as this group has completed the final statement for submission. Next week’s meeting is cancelled. September Sanderlin and Tom Socha thanked the group for their diligent and thorough work and their dedication to the completion of the statement.