

University Closure for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs
(Amendment to Policy 4315 and PPM 221)
CAPFA 2007-08A

Approved by CAPFA:	January 10, 2008
First Reading by University Council:	February 4, 2008
Approved by University Council:	February 18, 2008
Approved by the President:	February 18, 2008
Approved by Board of Visitors:	March 31, 2008
Effective Date:	January 2008

Whereas, the third Monday in January is recognized by both the Commonwealth of Virginia and the federal government as a holiday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.; and

Whereas, this holiday is of great significance to members of the university community, the state, and the nation; and

Whereas, many members of the university community dedicate their time on this day to celebrating the life and accomplishments of Dr. King, participating in a variety of informative programs on issues that greatly impact minority and majority populations at Virginia Tech; and

Whereas, 22 of 25 SCHEV peer institutions close completely in observance of the holiday; and

Whereas, most Virginia colleges and universities and state government agencies also close in observance of the holiday; and

Whereas, Virginia Tech has recognized Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday by canceling classes and providing a paid holiday for staff; however, offices are open, requiring many staff to defer the holiday and administrative and professional faculty and research faculty are expected to be at work; and

Whereas, complete closure to honor the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., conveys a powerful, positive symbolic message to both majority and minority members of the university and external community, and closure provides students, faculty, and staff an opportunity to participate in significant educational experiences,

Therefore, be it resolved that effective January 14, 2008, policy 4315 be amended to designate Dr. King's birthday, the third Monday in January, as a holiday where the university is closed and holiday policies apply.