To Whom It May Concern:

We, the students of the University of Virginia School of Medicine, would like to echo our faculty in requesting that the University of Virginia honor Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a holiday on both the academic and health system sides of its institution. While Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is currently observed by all other schools within the University of Virginia, it is not honored at the University of Virginia School of Medicine nor the University of Virginia Health System. In contrast, federal holidays including Memorial Day, commemorating those who died in service in our country's armed forces; Independence Day, acknowledging the birth of our nation; and Labor Day, honoring laborers and the labor movement, are uniformly observed across the entire institution. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is the only U.S. federal holiday that fails to be observed institution-wide, and we would like to petition for a change.

Since 2000, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day has been been observed across all 50 states. It honors the life and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., an important American champion of racial justice and equality, who not only dreamed of a color-blind society, but who also led a movement that achieved historic reforms to help make it a reality. The University of Virginia School of Medicine is proud to be one of the most diverse medical schools in the country, and here, we share the same vision of inclusivity as Dr. King. At several recent post-election town hall meetings hosted by the medical education leadership, students, faculty, and staff shared their hopes for an institutional culture reflected by the display of solidarity outside McLeod Hall of the School of Nursing: "We are a community of compassion and respect. We stand firmly against racism and injustice *of any kind*."

Observing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day across our institution sends a powerful message of such a commitment to our students, our faculty and staff, and our community. It reiterates the importance of inclusivity as a part of our institution's identity. When we consider the University's long history of institutionalized racism and sexism, we believe failure to observe this holiday sends a troubling message to our staff, trainees, patients, and visitors. While the University has recently undergone reforms to acknowledge the contributions of minorities to our community past and present, uniform observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day across our institution is integral to this progress.

In today's political climate, a strong reiteration of our institution's commitment to inclusivity is more important than ever. We strongly urge the University of Virginia to fully recognize Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, offering our community a formal opportunity to reflect on Dr. King's accomplishments and remind us of the work ahead.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

1. Yucong Zhang, Class of 2020

2. Miriam Orinda, Class of 2020
3. Mattia Wruble, Class of 2020
4. John-Henry Dean, Class of 2020
5. Daniel R. Phadke, Class of 2020
6. J. Yates Congleton, Class of 2020
7. Bickey Chang, Class of 2020
8. Nicole Thieken, Class of 2020
9. Allison Bosch, Class of 2020
10. Shannon Wright, Class of 2020
11. Carlin Byrd, Class of 2020
12. Kristen Laaman, Class of 2020
13. Samhita Nelamangala, Class of 2020
14. Brianna Bagalkotkar, Class of 2020
15. Eric Ott, Class of 2020
16. Betsy Gammon, Class of 2020
17. Shawn Tsutsui, Class of 2020
18. Benjamin Tran, Class of 2020
19. Luke Myhre, Class of 2018
20. Daniel Bitner, Class of 2018
21. Grace Grogman, Class of 2018
22. Gavin Jones, Class of 2018
23. Neil Shah, Class of 2018
24. Julia Roithmayr, Class of 2020
25. Krista Roncone, Class of 2020
26. James McLean, Class of 2018
27. Ray Richhart, Class of 2020
28. Heidi Messiha, Class of 2020
29. Alyssa Mendoza, Class of 2020
30. Chris Hodge, Class of 2020
31. Lydia Luu, Class of 2020
32. Brandon Podyma, Class of 2020
33. Anne Knisely, Class of 2018
34. Leland Stratton, Class of 2018
35. Lauren Falk, Class of 2020
36. Kendra Jackson, Class of 2018
37. Corey Benjamin, Class of 2020
38. Meagan Briley, Class of 2020
39. Angel Hsu, Class of 2020
40. Ilana Green, Class of 2020
41. John Heller, Class of 2018
42. Katya Swarts, Class of 2020
43. Janet Zhang, Class of 2020
44. Lillian Waller, Class of 2020
45. John Mershon, Class of 2020

46. Brittany Heck, Class of 2020
47. Adishesh Narahari, Class of 2018
48. Lindsay King, Class of 2020
49. Ajay Chatrath, Class of 2020
50. Emily Lawrence, Class of 2020
51. Sarah Dudley, Class of 2020
52. Lisa Le, Class of 2020
53. Ryan Sutyla, Class of 2020
54. Lois Davis, Class of 2020
55. Shannon May, Class of 2020
56. Paul Mitchell, Class of 2020
57. Chris Kaperak, Class of 2020
58. Joseph Mort, Class of 2020
59. Steven Magister, Class of 2018
60. Zachary Swenson, Class of 2020
61. Peter Liaw, Class of 2020
62. Pamela Moore, Class of 2020
63. Elena Lagon, Class of 2019
64. Madeline Carmain, Class of 2019
65. Janice Park, Class of 2019
66. Vanessa Ford, Class of 2019
67. Monica Janke, Class of 2019
68. Troy Rivera, Class of 2019
69. Anna Tappel, Class of 2019
70. Jeffrey Hirsh, Class of 2019
71. Jocelyn Ray, Class of 2019
72. Michaela Banks, Class of 2019
73. Mackenzie W. Sullivan, Class of 2019
74. Sebastian Estrada, Class of 2019
75. Lisa Friedman, Class of 2019
76. Mrinmayee Takle, Class of 2019
77. Harrison Lands, Class of 2019
78. Chelsea Lau, Class of 2019
79. Sneha Gadi, Class of 2018
80. Laura Walsh, Class of 2020
81. Matthew Oehler, Class of 2020
82. Darian Hoagland, Class of 2020
83. Lindsey McClelland, Class of 2020
84. Edwin Lu, Class of 2020
85. Joscelyn Seaton, Class of 2020
86. Kristina Cain, Class of 2020
87. Khadija Razzaq, Class of 2020
88. April Hyon, Class of 2020
89. Ory Streeter, Class of 2019

90. Samuel Kessel, Class of 2019
91. Corinne Roberts, Class of 2020
92. Devon Fiorino, Class of 2020
93. Christopher Harris, Jr., Class of 2017
94. Takahiro Nakamura, Class of 2018
95. Isabelle Duerr, Class of 2020
96. Bhavishya Ramamoorthy, Class of 2020
97. Jennifer Alejo, Class of 2018
98. Brielle Gerry, Class of 2019
99. Abra Guo, Class of 2019
100. James McParland, Class of 2020
101. J.P. Baker, Class of 2019
102. Laura Starzenski, Class of 2020
103. Cyrelle Fermin, Class of 2019
104. Ahmar Hashmi, Class of 2019
105. Martha Getachew, Class of 2020
106. Allison Weatherly, Class of 2018
107. Nadine Michel, Class of 2018
108. Jacqueline Norman, PGY-3
109. Jewel C. Llamas, Class of 2018
110. Aubrie Carroll, Class of 2020
111. Lauren King, Class of 2020
112. Scott Feeley, Class of 2020
113. Briana Wilson, Class of 2020
114. Anna Julia Miller, Class of 2020
115. Sergio Patton, Class of 2018
116. Dr. Sareena Pabla Brown, CLAS Class of 2009, SOM Class 2014, Fam Med Resident Class of 2017! - This would be a long time coming, make this change to help our health system become more racially aware and open.
117. Anthony Wiggins, Class of 2019
118. Ziyi Fan, Class of 2020
119. Dingxiang Luo, Class of 2020
120. Michael Cameron Hayes, Class of 2020
121. Basil Abdalla, Class of 2020
122. Alazar Haregu, Class of 2018
123. Risa Reid, Class of 2017
124. Danielle Oliver, Class of 2018
125. Adriana Phillips, Class of 2019
126. Maren Leibowitz, Class of 2019
127. Alexis Thurmond, Class of 2019
128. Amanda Ward, Class of 2019
129. Hannah Carr, Class of 2019
130. Brett Kurpiel, Class of 2020
131. Jasmine Thompson, Class of 2020

132. Simone Reaves, Class of 2019
133. Sarah Dillon, Class of 2019
134. Ramey Elsarrag, Class of 2020
135. Albert Chang, Class of 2020
136. Helena Frischtak, Class of 2018
137. Bakhtiar Chaudry, Class of 2020
138. Scott Cabaniss, Class of 2020
139. Omar Uribe, Class of 2018
140. Jonathan Pierre, Class of 2017
141. Sameh Saleh, Class of 2017
142. Mazin Elsarrag, Class of 2020
143. Kristine Karvonen, Class of 2017
144. Jacobi Hines, Class of 2018
145. Idorenyin Ndem, Class of 2018
146. Chih-Huan Lu, Class of 2019
147. Shaunte McKay, Class of 2017
148. Kimberly Curtis, Class of 2018
149. Brian Hernandez, Class of 2017
150. Alison Kosmacki, Class of 2019
151. Nebil Nuradin, Class of 2019
152. Kirabo Herbert, Class of 2017
153. Adam Lu, Class of 2018
154. Amy Law, Class of 2019
155. Evan Rajadhyaksha, Class of 2020
156. Ralph Grauer, Class of 2020
157. Malcolm Roberson, Class of 2020
158. Shambhavi Singh, Class of 2018
159. Nicele Puente, Class of 2017
160. Kristen Knapp, Class of 2020
161. Mohammed Olufemi Suraju, Class of 2019
162. Thomas Hunold, Class of 2020
163. Christine Tran, Class of 2019
164. Gloria Koskey, Class of 2017
165. Iris Lin, Class of 2018
166. Lindsay Chatfield, Class of 2018
167. Marie Bangura, Class of 2018
168. Ashley O'Keefe, Class of 2020
169. Kristine Bauer-Nilsen, Class of 2018
170. Daniel Foley, Class of 2019
171. Elizabeth Homan, Class of 2018
172. Madison Crutcher, Class of 2017
173. Martha Stewart, Class of 2020
174. Shriram Sundararaman, Class of 2020
175. Anisha Hegde, Class of 2018

176. Luke Soshnik-Schierling, Class of 2019
177. Korey Marshall, Class of 2019
178. Victoria Adewale, Class of 2019
179. Shadi Khalil, Class of 2019
180. Nnamdi Udeh, Class of 2018
181. Shawn Shah, Class of 2019
182. Sarah Seifu, Class of 2018
183. Jomar Aryee, Class of 2020
184. James Foley, Class of 2020
185. Emmarie Myers, Class of 2018
186. Tobenna Ubu, Class of 2018
187. John Popovich, Class of 2020
188. Timothy Herberg, Class of 2018
189. Thomas Ball, Class of 2017
190. Tamara Saint-Surin, Class of 2017
191. Mia Waliszewski, Class of 2020
192. Zollie White III, Class of 2019
193. Charlotte Campbell, Class of 2017
194. Peter Kehr, Class of 2020
195. Santana VanDyke, Class of 2019
196. Brittany Smith, Class of 2019
197. Nikki Floyd, Class of 2020
198. Haley Smith, Class of 2020
199. Stephanie Hunt, Class of 2017
200. Osman Alam, Class of 2018
201. Tzu-Ying Chuang, Class of 2018
202. Christina Briscoe Abath, Class of 2017
203. Genesis Hines, Class of 2018