

JMU Faculty Senate Vision Grant Task Force Report

Vision Grant Task Force members:

- Mark Piper (Philosophy and Religion)
- Kimberly DuVall (Psychology)
- Andrea Knopp (Nursing)
- Tara Parsons (Justice Studies)
- Dave Shonk (Hospitality, Sports & Recreation Management)
- Leslie Harlacker (Part-Time Faculty (Sociology & Anthropology))

The three parts of engagement:

- **Engaged Learning** – Developing deep, purposeful and reflective learning, while uniting campus and community in the pursuit, creation, application and dissemination of knowledge.
- **Civic Engagement** – Advancing the legacy of James Madison, the Father of the Constitution, by preparing individuals to be active and responsible participants in a representative democracy dedicated to the common good.
- **Community Engagement** – Fostering mutually beneficial and reciprocal partnerships, ranging from local to global, that connect learning to practice, address critical societal problems and improve quality of life.

The Vision Grant

- \$10,000 (give or take)
- Earmarked for Faculty Senate-associated initiatives for engagement (for any particular kind of engagement, or for multiple kinds of engagement at once)
- Possibility that the Grant can be renewed in the coming year(s)

The Tasks of the VG Task Force:

- Raise awareness within the Faculty Senate about the new JMU Vision Statement, the three main aspects of engagement, and the purpose of the Vision Grant
- Collect and generate ideas for possible Vision Grant engagement initiatives
- Compile a general list of initiative ideas while recommending a short list of initiative ideas for special consideration
- Engage in some (but not all) research on how the shortlisted initiatives might be operationalized

Honorable mentions for each engagement category

1. Engaged learning

- The Scholarship Of Application: Undergraduate Praxis in The Arts, Sciences, Humanities, and Professions (Val Larson)
- JMU Undergraduate Research Journal: Special Issue on Student Perspectives on the Most Important Forms of Engagement
- Internal Conference on Engagement, with representatives from each College

2. Community engagement

- JMU/Harrisonburg Community Focus Group Meetings
- Open JMU/Harrisonburg Community Conference
- JMU Events in Downtown Harrisonburg
- JMU Engagement Coffee Hour

3. Civic engagement

- *Local, State, Federal* – a student-focused newsletter/website devoted to sharing developments in government and public policy

Main recommendations for each engagement category

1. Engaged learning

Madison Vision Teaching Excellence Award (Mark Rankin) – see attachment

2. Community engagement

The Madison Stand

- A ‘Speaker’s Corner’ at JMU
- Some constraints would likely be needed; could be associated with specific public events, for example it could be held after particular campus events of note.
- Hence can partner with other forms of engagement on campus

3. Civic engagement

JMU Citizen Cards

- To replace current JAC Cards
- Would list most basic rights and responsibilities of all JMU members
- Likely SGA involvement

4. General

Faculty Senate JMU Vision mini-grants

- Open to all instructional faculty
- Mini-grants between \$500-\$2000 for new (or expanded) faculty engagement initiatives
- We would need to set up a committee to establish and advertise grant criteria, review applications, and make judgments, but entire Senate could potentially get involved

What now?

- Mark Rankin has a motion relating to his Madison Vision Teaching Excellence Award idea
- Discussion of alternatives (during Open Discussion period?)
- Further developments will depend on what the Faculty Senate decides to support, or will depend on individual initiatives. (In other words, the Vision Grant Task Force has no authority to implement any recommendations.)