

## Notes from the Provost

Office of the Provost <provost@jmu.edu>

Thu 5/4/2023 9:21 AM

To: FAC-AA-RESPONSE-L@LISTSERV.JMU.EDU <FAC-AA-RESPONSE-L@LISTSERV.JMU.EDU>;'pt-fac-response-l@listserv.jmu.edu' <pt-fac-response-l@listserv.jmu.edu>;'Staff Classified (Staff-Classified-AA-L@listserv.jmu.edu)' <Staff-Classified-AA-L@listserv.jmu.edu>;'AA-Wage (Staff-Wage-AA-L@listserv.jmu.edu)' <Staff-Wage-AA-L@listserv.jmu.edu>

May 4, 2023

Hello colleagues,

I hope your semester is going well as we move closer to commencement. Once again, I'm happy to share updates on recent achievements by your colleagues.

- I previously mentioned Sofia Samatar's recent book, *The White Mosque*. That work is now also the winner of the 2023 [Bernard J. Brommel Award for Biography and Memoir](#) from the Society of Midland Authors. Congratulations!
- [Bill Lukens](#), Assistant Professor of Geology and Environmental Science, was interviewed by WHSV regarding his research recently published in *Science*. Check out the interview [here](#).
- The [Center for Assessment and Research Studies](#) (CARS) won an award for distinguished and sustained leadership for assessment. See [this article](#) for details on the Trudy W. Banta Lifetime Achievement in Assessment Award and how CARS faculty and staff work with doctoral psychology students in assessment and measurement.

Last week I received this inquiry: *How are updates/achievements chosen for the Provost's emails?* This is a great question! My goal is to highlight as many of the amazing activities involving faculty and staff as possible. Some featured stories come from [JMU News](#), while others rise to the top of various college [news feeds](#), [social media](#) and [newsletters](#). I'd love to feature awards and achievements that may not have received notice in another forum, so please send ideas – for yourself or your colleagues – to [provost@jmu.edu](mailto:provost@jmu.edu).

Please keep submitting questions and comments! You can email [provost@jmu.edu](mailto:provost@jmu.edu) or submit a question through the [Ask the Provost](#) option online.

Sincerely,  
Heather

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