

Notes from the Provost

Office of the Provost <provost@jmu.edu>

Wed 2/8/2023 3:21 PM

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>

Hello all,

We're already four weeks into Spring 2023, and campus is buzzing with activity. There is so much amazing work going on throughout our division, it would be easy to miss some of your colleagues' successes. I wanted to pass along some updates that have been shared with me lately.

- Along with senate, my office formed the Joint Faculty Senate/Provost Academic Affairs Administrative and Professional Faculty Hiring Guidelines Task Force is to assess current Academic Affairs A&P faculty hiring processes and make suggestions related to the creation of formalized guidelines.
- The first year of the Geology and Environmental Science NSF U-ROCKS summer research experience for undergraduates was a strong success, resulting in:
 - 13 abstracts with student first authors at regional and national conferences
 - 3 accepted and one additional submitted (and pending) student-author peer-reviewed publications.

This 10-week residential summer research experience offered 10 students (9 from outside JMU and 1 JMU student) the opportunity to work with faculty on mentored research projects in cave and karst science.

- As part of the 50th anniversary of the beloved MRDs, Libraries Digital Scholarship and Distinctive Collections team collaborated with the Music Library on both physical and digital exhibits about MRD's history on campus, creating the [Marching Royal Dukes Celebration](#). These efforts, which included 3d scans of uniforms, historical images, streaming music and physical artifacts in three locations, helped celebrate this significant moment, as well as demonstrate new and creative ways the Libraries works to showcase and document our rich campus history.

I'm also delighted to share that the Provost's Office has allocated one-time funding of \$2,000,000, provided by Administration and Finance, across the division for equipment purchases, based on college priorities.

I so enjoyed my visits to COE, CISE, CAL and US over the last couple of weeks. I learned so much from those of you who were able to attend and took back a number of great ideas for initiatives and projects. And I loved receiving my own copy of Melanie Shoffner and Angela Webb's book, *Reconstructing Care in Teacher Education After COVID-19*. Your work is impressive! There will be more of these college visits in the next few weeks, and I can't wait to learn more about your work, scholarship and teaching.

I always want to hear from Academic Affairs faculty and staff that have questions or want to learn more about how the division operates. You can email provost@jmu.edu or submit a question anonymously through the [Ask the Provost](#) option online. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Heather

Heather J. Coltman, D.M.A.

Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs

James Madison University

(540) 568-3429

<https://www.facebook.com/provost4jmu/>

She/Her/Hers