

## Notes from the Provost

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Wed 3/22/2023 1:57 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>

3/22/2023

Hello colleagues,

I'm pleased to once again shared some of your colleagues' recent achievements from the last few weeks.

- JMU pre-law students traveled to Richmond on March 8, where they met with JMU alum Mark R. Colombell ('99), who serves as a U.S. magistrate judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. The visit was coordinated by pre-law adviser and Professor of Political Science Melinda Adams and College of Arts and Letters Director of Professional Development and Engagement Shannon Wilson. Students also listened to oral arguments at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit and had lunch at the law firm Sands Anderson PC, where they were joined by JMU alums Ashley Burgess ('99) and Chris Mackenzie ('06). Our students so benefit from the relationships faculty maintain with our alums.
- JMU Libraries [Special Collections](#) faculty Tiffany Cole, Kate Morris and Bodeene Amyot Cairdeas recently worked with graduate students Grace Thomsen (English), Mariam Ismail (Communication and Advocacy) and Kayleigh Bishop (English) on JMU's [Guide to the ESPN College GameDay Posters, 2015, 2017](#). Grace Thomsen won an award from the [Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference](#), and reviewers noted that the guide does an "excellent job of serving as a model for collections of ephemeral material, especially of material that would not be understood in the future without contextual information."
- Three recent graduates of the School Psychology Ed.S. program presented research findings from their thesis projects at the [National Association of School Psychologists](#) annual conference in Denver, CO. Aj Levy, Cara McQuaid and Madeline Brawley were supported by faculty mentors Dr. Tammy Gilligan, Dr. Tiffany Hornsby and Dr. Debi Kipps-Vaughan from the [Department of Graduate Psychology](#).
- Professor of Art History Dr. Laura Katzman was awarded a travel grant from APISEI to help fund her book launch and panel discussion on "The Museum of the Old Colony" in Puerto Rico. The grant makes it possible for her to lead this event and to celebrate the book that was inspired by the [Duke Gallery exhibition](#) of the same name. The subject of the book, Pablo Delano, will also be present at the event.

Ten departments and academic units in Academic Affairs underwent their Academic Program Reviews (APR) this year. The feedback from these reports is vital for maintaining the health of our programs. APRs are, however, a lot of work, so I'd like to thank everyone who worked on a committee this year. A special thanks to those who chaired the APR committees:

- Andrea Adams
- Kevin Apple
- Mace Bentley
- Dan Holt
- Fletcher Linder
- Andy Peachey

- Margaret Sloan
- Joseph Spear
- Emily York
- Traci Zimmerman

I appreciate your time and effort.

I'm happy to keep hearing from you all and responding to your questions or comments. You can email [provost@jmu.edu](mailto:provost@jmu.edu) or submit a question anonymously through the [Ask the Provost](#) option online.

Sincerely,  
Heather

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