

## Notes from the Provost

Office of the Provost <provost@jmu.edu>

Thu 4/6/2023 3:37 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>

4/5/2023

Hello colleagues,

I hope you've been able to get out of your office, spend some time on campus and enjoy the beautiful weather this week. Once again, I'm delighted to share updates on your colleagues' recent achievements.

- Congratulations to Associate Professor of Religion [Emily Gravett](#), who is the latest recipient of the [Katie G. Cannon Excellence in Teaching Award](#) from the American Academy of Religion. This award recognizes the importance of teaching and honors outstanding teaching in the field.
  
- There was a great turnout for the last Madison Vision Series event of the academic year, during which JMU alum Jim Acosta and junior health sciences major Hugh MacFarlane interviewed Dr. Anthony Fauci. An Honors student and Dingedline Scholarship recipient, Hugh also received the Madison Award for Academic Excellence.

President Alger presented Dr. Fauci with the Madison Award for the Public Good, which the university created in 2018 to recognize contributions to public well-being as reflected in our mission and the life of James Madison. Each year, the receives an original piece of art created by JMU faculty and students. This year's award was developed by [Greg Stewart](#), professor of sculpture, and Olivia Luke, a senior in the School of Art, Design, and Art History, and its elegance and simplicity impressed us all. If you missed the event, you can [view it online](#).

- As we head into the final months of the semester, I would like to highlight opportunities to focus on your wellness and wellbeing. The [Center for Faculty Innovation](#) is hosting the first Faculty Wellness and Wellbeing Week, April 10-14. This has been a collaborative effort with each college and partners across campus. There are two events on Thursday, April 13, that may be of particular interest.
  - The Faculty Lounge will occur in the Atlantic Union Bank Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy activities such as chair yoga, personal massages, puzzles and more! Balanced Dukes will be available to discuss the EAP and other resources addressing the eight wellness dimensions. JMU libraries will also have a makery space with 3D printers and VR Headsets.
  - In collaboration with General Education, JMU Alumni and nationally recognized author Kevin Gannon will join us on campus from 2:00-3:30 p.m. to discuss his book *Radical Hope* and how the themes in the book intersect with wellness and wellbeing. This session will also be available online.
  - For more information on these and other activities that week, visit [this website](#).

[All faculty and staff are welcome!](#)

I'd like to hear from you with questions and comments and look forward to responding. Email [provost@jmu.edu](mailto:provost@jmu.edu) or submit a question anonymously through the [Ask the Provost](#) option online.

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