

# A-Dean Working Group (ADWG) Committee Annual Report - 2024-2025

## Membership

**Chair(s):** Elizabeth Oldmixon, Amy Thelk, Audrey Burnett

**Members:** Andrea Adams, Melinda Adams, Kevin Apple, Brycelyn Boardman, Molly Brown, BJ Bryson, Mindy Capaldi, Allison Fagan, Scott Gallagher, Oris Griffin, Bill Hartman, CJ Hartman, Demetria Henderson, Doug Hochstetler, Karina Kline-Gabel, Mike Lam, Sarah MacDonald, Cheryl Mast, Scott Paulson, Linda Plitt Donaldson, Laura Ryman, Wren Stevens, Michael Stoloff, Carolyn Schubert, Karin Tollefson, Afzal Upal, Felix Wang, Stefanie Warlick-Burrow, Siân White, Steven Whitmeyer, Bryan Zugelder

**Charge:** The A-Dean Working Group (ADWG) is charged with providing faculty members working at the Associate Dean or Assistant Dean level the opportunity to share knowledge, collaborate to develop effective strategies for college/unit-assigned activities, and provide feedback to academic leadership on problems and emerging issues.

## Summary of Annual Activity:

- *September* - Gilpatrick Hornsby from JMU's Center for Faculty Innovation (CFI) discussed changes, participation rates, and new programming on behalf of CFI. We then used the latter half of the meeting time to touch base with our project groups to create a respective game plan. The three topics, based on the Provost's requested projects and communicated to us by Dr. Oldmixon prior to the meeting, include the Centers and Institutes Policy, Curriculum, and Conference & Events working groups.
- *November* - During the first part of the meeting, three members of the JMU Handbook Revision Committee (Sarah Brooks, Scott Gallagher, and Liz Edwards) presented faculty revision feedback to-date, and took notes on ADWG's feedback. We used the latter half of our meeting time to touch base with our working groups. Working groups forwarded summaries to Dr. Oldmixon via email by the end of the semester.
- *February* - Chris Orem from JMU Planning, Analytics & Institutional Research (PAIR) joined us as a follow-up conversation regarding his team's SWOT analysis (requested by JMU's Board of Visitors). We had a rich discussion among ADWG's regarding strengths, weaknesses, and areas of growth relevant to JMU overall. Chris also requested that any additional feedback should be sent to him for his team to include in the SWOT.
- *April* - Brief discussion pertaining to the A-Dean policy (#13); Elizabeth requested that feedback be sent to her. The lengthier discussion pertained to the Provost's guidelines for sunseting programs. We also celebrated the retirements and departure of four of our ADWG members: Molly Brown (R), Scott Gallagher (R), Wren Stevens (R), and Bryan Zugelder (D).

## Future Work Planned:

- A brief survey will be sent to ADWGs at the end of this semester to determine what is working, what is not working, suggestions for topics for next year, etc.

- Elizabeth, Audrey, and Amy plan to meet in early summer to plan next year's ADWG agendas.
  - What is working in terms of logistics: Should we morph into AUH group that meets monthly for briefings? Or, should ADWGs remain a project group? Go back to the old model (i.e., the A-Team)?
  - Periodic lunches in D-Hall for whomever is available during summer.
  - Meet monthly for briefing and once a month for lunch in the fall and spring.

## **Appendices**

- None