

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
THE VISITORS OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**

**Minutes of the Student Affairs Committee**

The Student Affairs Committee met on Thursday, February 9, 2023, in the Student Success Center at James Madison University. Deborah Tompkins Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m.

**Present:**

Edwards, Terrie  
Lynch, John

Tompkins Johnson, Deborah, Chair  
Major, Lara

**Others:**

Allen, Dirron, Associate Vice President, Student Life and Involvement  
Bakhtiari, Shawdee, President, Student Government Association  
Blyer, Kristina, Associate Vice President, Health and Well-Being  
Bowers, Bailey, Graduate Student  
Brenneman, Anne, Director, University Health Center  
Campbell, Kathleen, Director, Office of Residence Life  
Dalton, Sofie, Junior  
Grossman-Leopard, Jen, Director, Student Life  
Hall, Hollie, Dean of Students  
Lewis, Brent, Associate Vice President, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility  
Robinson, Sydney, Sophomore,  
Miller, Tim, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Williams, Xavier, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors

**Approval of Minutes**

On the motion of Lara Major and seconded by John Lynch the minutes of November 17, 2022, were approved.

**Opening Remarks**

Deborah Tompkins Johnson welcomed members and guests. She held a moment of silence in support of the recent loss of life at JMU and recent worldwide events.

**Student Affairs Update**

Dr. Miller reflected on the beginning of the semester, including the recent vigil, and acknowledged how our community has honored these challenging moments and how the campus has come together to support each other. He shared appreciation for the Student Affairs Team that stepped in to support students who were impacted by the recent tragedy, as well as the teams that continued regular campus operations. He shared his excitement on seeing students out on the quad building community together.

**Student Government Association Report**

Shawdee Bakhtiari, Student Government Association President, shared appreciation for the strength of our community and the healing that has happened and is ongoing for many. She is continuing her outreach work and has met with student organizations such as SafeRides, Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, and Intercultural Greek Council.

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She is organizing a check-in for front-end budgeted student organizations. She was able to co-host Martin Luther King Jr. Week and shared about her experience serving on the planning committee.

### **Student Representative to the Board of Visitors Report**

Xaiver Williams, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors, shared updates regarding events and collaborations he has been able to be a part of at the beginning of the Spring 2023 semester, some of the positive outcomes and ways he has connected with the JMU Community and provided an update on his 2023-2024 Student Representative to the Board of Visitors Onboarding Initiative. He provided data on student engagement through social media.

### **Student Life and Involvement Spotlight**

Dirron Allen, Associate Vice President, Student Life and Involvement, provided updates for the Future of Housing which including the upcoming Ikenberry construction. Student Affairs and Finance and Administration will continue to collaborate as they review all campus housing locations. “The Village” Phase one construction will begin summer of 2023 with Ikenberry Hall. Students have partnered and provided input through multiple outlets including the Residence Life Student Advisory Board. The housing plan will represent the student voice and will contribute to the unique character and values of James Madison University.

### **Student Panel**

Bailey Bowers, Graduate Student – College Student Personnel Administration, Graduate Hall Director and member of the Residence Life Advisory Board

Sofie Dalton, Junior, second year Resident Advisor in Ikenberry Hall and member of the Residence Life Advisory Board

Sydney Robinson, sophomore, Resident Advisor for Paul Jennings Hall and member of the Residence Life Advisory Board

Residential student staff shared about their experience living on campus and what they enjoyed about each of the spaces. They talked about their experiences building community and supporting students in the halls, their visions for the future of housing, and the impact they have made with their residents.

There being no further business, on the motion of Terrie Edwards and seconded by Lara Major the Student Affairs Committee meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deborah Tompkins Johnson, Chair

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Donna Harper, Secretary to the Board