**THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

**THE VISITORS OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**

#### Minutes of the Student Affairs Committee

The Student Affairs Committee met on Thursday, September 15, 2022, in Ballroom B of the Festival Conference and Student Center at James Madison University. Deborah Tompkins Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

# Present:

Edwards, Terrie   
Lynch, John

Tompkins Johnson, Deborah, Chair

# Absent:

Major, Lara

**Others:**

Anderson, Jackie, Senior, Business Management and Communication Studies

Bakhtiari, Shawdee, President, Student Government Association

Blyer, Kristina, Associate Vice President Health and Well-Being

Cottrell, Kevin, Junior, Psychology, Dean of Students Representative

Hall, Hollie, Dean of Students

Herod, Maribeth, Rector

Miller, Tim, Vice President for Student Affairs

Moore, Madison, Graduate Student, School Counseling M.Ed./Ed.S. Program

Phommachanthone, Hannah, Senior, Biology

Rouzer, Nerissa, Associate University Counsel

Williams, Xaiver, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors

**Approval of Minutes**

On the motion of M­­aribeth ­Herod and seconded by John Lynch, the minutes of April 21, 2022, were approved.

**Opening Remarks**

Deborah Tompkins Johnson welcomed new committee members Terri Edwards and John Lynch.

**Student Affairs Update**

Tim Miller provided an overview of the last several months including Weeks of Welcome, Move-In, the launch of both TimelyCare and Kognito, and our creation of the Coalition to End Sexual Violence at JMU, the Alcohol Council, and the President’s committee on Health and Well-Being. He also shared updates on trainings related to Adam’s Law which focuses on hazing prevention and a campus-wide partnership with Athletics about civility and fan behavior at sporting events.

**Student Government Association Report**

Shawdee Bakhtiari, Student Government Association President, has made it her goal to support

the needs of the student body, incoming and returning, as we adjust and readjust to the culture

and environment of James Madison University during this transitional period of the global

pandemic. The Student Government Association has transitioned its focus on the needs of the

student body as well as strengthening relations with senior administrators and faculty to help streamline

the process of making change on campus as well as addressing current student needs. Shawdee

hopes to help facilitate and grow on campus unity and strengthen the bond of the JMU

community as we reenter this era.

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

Xaiver Williams, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors, shared with the committee updates regarding the work he hopes to complete this semester. He shared updates regarding Student Convocation, Weeks of Welcome, events for students across campus, and utilizing climate study results to create sustainable solutions on campus. He also announced an upcoming student event, Half Time on the Quad, to be held on October 5th, 2022 5-6:30 p.m.

**Health and Well-Being and Dean of Students Spotlight**

Kristina Blyer, Associate Vice President of Health and Well-Being, reported on the health and well-being area within Student Affairs, which includes the Counseling Center, University Recreation, and the University Health Center. Together this area provided over 835,000 health and well-being visits for our students last year. Mental health is a global concern and requires a comprehensive approach. In August 2022, JMU became a part of the Health Promotion Campus Network in line with the Okanagan Chart. Additional efforts to address the mental health crisis include the President’s Council for Health and Well-being, the addition of TimelyCare for virtual mental health services, adoption of the JED foundation approach to suicide prevention, Kognito suicide prevention training for all staff and students, and the addition of fences to campus parking decks.

Hollie Hall, Dean of Students, reported that the Dean of Students office is extending hours of operation to provide support services to students in need of support after hours. This is a measure to address more issues in real time before students experience a significant mental health crisis. We are using the term wrap around services as we aim to wrap around our students with other support services to improve continuity of care and reduce the number of hours between a referral and point of contact for services.

**Student Panel**

Jackie Anderson, Senior, Business Management & Communication Studies, UREC Student Representative;

Kevin Cottrell, Junior, Psychology, Dean of Students Representative;

Madison Moore, Graduate Student, School Counseling M.Ed./Ed.S. Program, CC Student Representative; and

Hannah Phommachanthone, Senior, Biology, UHC Student Representative

The student panel shared their experiences serving as members of various jobs, clubs, and organizations on campus. Many of their efforts focus on the Health and Well-Being of JMU students as well as developing a sense of belonging. Some include Active Minds, Core and Connect, and interacting with students in an office/reception setting.

Hannah shared her volunteer experience at the height of the Pandemic in the Health Center and stated that she feels she helped many students and promoted a sense of belonging to the students during a difficult time.

Madison’s work at the Counseling Center included interacting with professional staff, and supporting survivors of sexual assault, which encouraged her to continue her studies to become a counselor.

Jackie shared her work at UREC as an Operations Supervisor and shared how her daily work positively impacted the lives of JMU students.

Kevin shared his experiences developing a peer-to-peer mental health support club and working directly in the Dean of Students’ office.

There being no further business, on the motion of Maribeth Herod and seconded by John Lynch the Student Affairs Committee meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deborah Tompkins Johnson, Chair

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Donna Harper, Secretary to the Board