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

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of September 14, 2023

The Governance Committee of the James Madison University Board of Visitors met on Thursday, September 14, 2023 in the Festival Conference and Student Center at James Madison University. Jack White, chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

PRESENT:

Falcon, Chris
Fiorina, Carly
Harper, Donna, liaison

Herod, Maribeth
Major, Lara
White, Jack, Chair

ALSO PRESENT:

Alger, Jonathan, President
Knight, Jack, University Legal Counsel

On motion by Chris Falcon, seconded by Lara Major, approved the minutes of the April 20, 2023 meeting.

Bylaw Revisions

On motion by Carly Fiorina, seconded by Lara Major, approved the following revisions to the Board Manual:

1) Article VII. Terms of Appointment

The non-voting student representative serves a term of one year. The student representative may be ~~appointed~~ *elected* to a second one-year term but is not eligible to serve for more than two successive one-year terms. *The term of office shall be from the date of the May graduation to the following May graduation.*

2) Article IX. Rights and Powers

4. The board has the authority to make all needful rules and regulations concerning the university, including the following:

~~d. The bylaws of the Faculty Senate are subject to approval by the board.~~

Delete this from the Manual. No other universities require this approval of the Faculty Senate bylaws by the board.

3) Article X. Officers

ADD: C. Secretary, Powers and Duties

9. *The president shall recommend a university employee to the Nominating Committee to serve as Secretary to the Board of Visitors.*

These changes will be brought to the full board at the November meeting.

2024 Retreat

The board discussed the role/purpose of the retreat and what should the board hope to accomplish. The committee reviewed feedback from board members who attended the 2023 retreat. Key topics included: the JMU value proposition; return on investment for specific stakeholders; clarity on what makes JMU special/unique; how does the vision and mission statements translate for students; and connecting outcomes with the strategic plan. The committee will continue to develop a structure for the retreat.

Topics for Future Meetings

The chair asked the members to consider topics they would like the committee to address at future meetings and send such topics to him.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 12:57 pm.

Jack White, Chair

Donna L. Harper, Secretary to the Board