THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

THE VISITORS OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Volume LVI No. 2

**Minutes of the Meeting of November 15, 2019**

The Visitors of James Madison University met on Friday, November 15, 2019 in the Festival Conference and Student Center Board Room on the campus of James Madison University. Mrs. Maribeth Herod, Rector, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**PRESENT:**

Evans-Grevious, Vanessa

Gadams, Frank

Grass, Jeff

Gray-Keeling, Matthew

Herod, Maribeth, Rector

Hutchinson, Lucy

Jankowski, Maria

Johnson, Deborah

Major, Lara, Vice Rector

Ragon, Maggie

Rothenberger, John

Thomas, Mike

Warden, Kathy

Welburn, Craig

Jones III, Norman, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors

Donna Harper, Secretary to the Board of Visitors

**ABSENT:**

Battle, Mike

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Alger, Jonathan, President

King, Charles, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance

Langridge, Nick, Vice President for University Advancement

Johnson, Marilou, Vice Provost for Faculty and Curriculum, Academic Affairs

Miller, Tim, Vice President for Student Affairs

Wyatt, Bill, Senior Director of Communications & University Spokesperson

Piper, Mark, Speaker, Faculty Senate

Knight, Jack, University Counsel

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Rothenberger, the minutes of the September 13, 2019 meeting were approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Academics and Student Life Committee**

Mrs. Lara Major, Chair, presented the report of the Academics and Student Life Committee. The minutes from the September 13, 2019 meeting were approved. (Attachment A)

Mrs. Major reported on the following topics from the committee meeting:

* Heard divisional updates from Academic Affairs and Student Affairs;
* On motion from committee, the revisions to the Faculty Handbook were approved;
* Mr. Kevin Meaney, Director of Residence Life, shared information on the newest residence hall, Jennings Hall;
* The College of Health and Behavioral Studies shared information on a study abroad experience in Rwanda and interventions being provided in Page County;
* Ms. Sheena Ramirez, Director of Recruitment for the College of Visual and Performing Arts, presented the college’s strategies for supporting recruitment activites in collaboration with the Office of Admissions;
* Heard reports from the Faculty Senate, student representative to the Board of Visitors, and the Student Government Association.

On motion of Mrs. Major, seconded by Mrs. Ragon, the Academics & Student Life Committee report was accepted.

**Advancement Committee**

Mr. John Rothenberger, presented the report of the Advancement Committee. The minutes of the September 13, 2019 meeting were approved. (Attachment B)

Mr. Rothenberger reported on the following topics from the committee meeting:

* Mr. Justin Jannuzzi, Senior Associate Athletic Director for Development, and Mr. Jeff Gilligan, Associate Vice President for Development, shared information on the athletics annual giving and major gift fund-raising efforts to date;
* Mr. Khalil Garriott, Director of Branded Content, provided an overview of JMU’s branded content;
* Mr. Andy Perrine, Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing and Mr. Bill Wyatt, Director of Communications, provided insight into university rankings;
* Dr. Nick Langridge, Vice President for Advancement, shared an update on Unleashed the Campaign; and
* Pierre Mbala and Tim Custer, Valley Scholar alums, shared their experience transitioning to JMU.

On motion of Mr. Rothenberger, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Advancement report was accepted.

**Athletics Committee**

Mr. Craig Welburn, substituting for the Chair, presented the report of the Athletics Committee. The minutes of the September 13, 2019 meeting were approved. (Attachment C)

Mr. Welburn reported on the following topics from the committee meeting:

* Mr. Jeff Bourne, Director of Athletics, provided a sports update;
* Mr. Tom Kuster, Associate Athletics Director of Integrated Health and Sports Performance, spoke on student-athlete mental health and the resources available;
* Ms. Jennifer Phillips, Associate Athletics Director for Compliance/SWA, shared potential legislation under consideration involving the name, image, and likeness of student-athleties;
* Ms. Phillips provided an academic update for the 2018-19 year; and
* Mr. Justin Jannuzzi, Associate Athletics Director for Development, provided a fund-raising report.

On motion of Mr. Welburn, seconded by Mrs. Major, the Athletics report was accepted.

**Audit Committee**

Mrs. Maggie Ragon, Chair, presented the report of the Audit Committee. The minutes of the September 13, 2019 meeting were approved. (Attachment D)

Mrs. Ragon reported on the following topics from the committee meeting:

* Ms. Becky Holmes, Director of Audit and Management Services presented a status report on management action plans.

On motion of Mrs. Ragon, seconded by Mrs. Evans-Grevious, the Audit report was accepted.

#### Finance and Physical Development Committee

Mr. Mike Thomas, Chair, presented the report of the Finance and Physical Development Committee. The minutes from the September 13, 2019 meeting were approved. (Attachment E)

Mr. Thomas reported on the following from the committee meeting:

* Mr. Mark Angel, Assistant Vice President for Finance, reviewed the financial report for the first quarter and Mr. King briefed the committee on a budget reduction plan required by the Governor for 2020-22 budget;
* Mr. Angel gave an update on the University’s Auxiliary Services Reserve;
* Mr. Angel presented a review of the University debt portfolio for fiscal year 2019;
* Mr. King presented a request to grant an easement to the City of Harrisonburg for a 20-foot public water line for a new fire hydrant for Foundation Hall. On motion from committee, the motion for the easement was approved.
* Mr. King presented the proposed 2020 summer tuition and fees indicating no increase. On motion from committee, the 2020 summer tuition and fees were approved;
* Mr. Bill Yates, Director of Parking Services, provided an overview on Parking Services; and
* Ms. Towana Moore, Associate Vice President for Business Services, gave a report on the University’s capital facilities program.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Rothenberger, the Finance and Physical Development report was accepted.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Alger presented information on the following: (Attachment F)

* The Madison Vision Series has hosted two events this semester: one with author John Grisham with historian Jon Meacham, the other with Dr. Rosemarie Zagarri who focused on the impact of women in the founding of America;
* A JMU bumper sticker made a cameo appearance in a national Carmax television commercial. Carmax CEO Bill Nash (’91) and The Martin Agency CEO Kristen Cavallo (’91) are both JMU alumni;
* A grand opening for Paul Jennings Hall was held on October 11. Fourteen Jennings descendants were in attendance;
* The Furious Flower Poetry Center celebrated its 25th anniversary at a gala held in the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.;
* The university has formed an economic development task force to develop a strategic plan for the university’s role in economic development both internally and externally;
* JMU has signed a memorandum of understanding with the state to participate in the Tech Talent Investment Program which will provide JMU with $14.3 million in state funding to produce additional computer science graduates over the next 20 years;
* JMU’s ROTC Duke Battalion earned first place at the Ranger Challenge competition;
* Laura Trull, assistant professor of Social Work, was awarded the United Way Collaborative Champion Award for her collaborative approach to community development and contributions to the greater good;
* Yvonne Frazier, program manager of Health Families of Page and Shenandoah Counties, received a Governor’s Honor Award for Enhancing the Prosperity and Quality of Life in Rural Virginia;
* President Jonathan Alger received one of two ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge Standout Campus President Awards;
* Non-white students make up 1/3 of applicants and acceptances and 22% of enrolled students;
* Financial aid is the biggest barrier to yield for non-white students;
* Faculty and staff numbers by race/ethnicity have increased by several percentage points in recent years;
* Recent access, diversity and inclusion efforts include meetings with affinity groups, the new University Accessibility Committee, first generation programming involving faculty, staff and students, working with Virginia Latino Higher Education Network, diversity outreach and training in faculty searches, and following up on Task Force on Inclusion report including a comprehensive climate study.

**PROFESSIONAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Dr. Melissa Lubin, Dean of Professional and Continuing Education shared information on the mission and activities of the office. (Attachment G)

**ENROLLMENT CONVERSATION**

Dr. Melissa Lubin, Dr. John Burgess, Interim Dean of the Graduate School, Ms. Leigh Williams, Assistant Director in Admissions, Ms. Kerri Wilson, Director of Marketing in Admissions, and Mrs. Donna Harper, Vice President for Access and Enrollment Management shared information on the strategies in progress related to enhancing enrollment. (Attachment H)

**BOARD MANUAL**

The proposed changes were presented to the board for their review. On motion by Mrs. Evans-Grevious, seconded by Mrs. Ragon, the changes/revisions were approved. (Attachment I)

Rector Herod then called for the board to move into Closed Session. Mrs. Major made the following motion:

“I move the Board go into closed session to discuss the following matters: 1) pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 A-1, to discuss personnel matters involving promotions, retirements, hiring, resignations, salary adjustments, and status changes of various faculty members, administrators and appointees, as well as the award of tenure to faculty members;

2) pursuant to Section 2.2-3711-A-3 of the Code of Virginia to discuss the acquisition/disposal of real property; 3) pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 A-7 of the Code of Virginia to consult with legal counsel and be briefed by staff members/consultants pertaining to litigation; 4) pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 A-11 to consider an honorary degree.”

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Evans-Grevious and the Board moved into closed session.

Following the closed session, Mrs. Herod then stated the following:

**During the closed session, the board discussed only matters lawfully**

**exempted from open meeting requirements and only those types of matters**

**identified in the motion for the closed session.**

**RECORDED VOTE: the following is an affirmative recorded, member by**

**member vote:**

Evans-Grevious, Vanessa

Gadams, Frank

Grass, Jeff

Gray-Keeling, Matthew

Herod, Maribeth

Hutchinson, Lucy

Jankowski, Maria

Johnson, Deborah

Major, Lara

Ragon, Maggie

Rothenberger, John

Thomas, Mike

Warden, Kathy

Welburn, Craig

Mrs. Herod then asked if there were any motions to come forward.

On motion of Mr. Welburn, seconded by Mrs. Major, approved the personnel action report.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Rothenberger, approved the purchase of property at 201 Port Republic Road for $245,000.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Rothenberger, approved the purchase of properties at 725 S. Main Street and 760 Walnut Lane for $2.4 million.

On motion of Mrs. Major, seconded by Mr. Welburn, approved an honorary degree in humanities for Doris Harper Allen.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Major, seconded by Mrs. Evans-Grevious the Board voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

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Maribeth Herod, Rector

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Donna L. Harper, Secretary