THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

THE VISITORS OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Volume LVII No. 1

**Minutes of the Meeting of July 7, 2020**

The Visitors of James Madison University met on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 by electronic means, Lara Major, Rector, called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

**PRESENT:**

Evans-Grevious, Vanessa

Falcon, Chris

Gadams, Frank

Grass, Jeff

Gray-Keeling, Matthew

Herod, Maribeth

Hutchinson, Lucy

Jankowski, Maria

Lynch, John

Major, Lara, Rector

Ragon, Maggie

Rothenberger, John  
Tompkins Johnson, Deborah

Warden, Kathy

Welburn, Craig

III Jones, Norman, Student Representative to the Board 2020-21

Harper, Donna, Secretary

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Alger, Jonathan, President

Coltman, Heather, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

King, Charles, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance

Langridge, Nick, Vice President for University Advancement

Miller, Tim, Vice President for Student Affairs

Larsen, Val, Speaker, Faculty Senate

Knight, Jack, University Counsel

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

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

* Welcomed new board members, Chris Falcon and John Lynch;
* One responsibility this summer is to ensure that we review and amend our Title IX policies and procedures on sexual harassment and assault to comply with new federal regulations that are scheduled to take effect on August 14;
* After 32 years of service to JMU, Vice Provost Marilou Johnson is retiring
* Cynthia Bauerle, will serve as interim Vice Provost for Faculty and Curriculum and Samantha Prins will become Interim Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics; and,
* Provided an update on the thoughtful reexamination of the naming of three buildings on campus named for Confederate leaders.

**BUILDING NAMES**

Following an introduction by President Alger on the current status of three building names on campus, on motion by Deborah Tompkins Johnson, seconded by Craig Welburn, the board approved the removal of the names of Confederate military leaders from Jackson, Ashby and Maury Halls, effective immediately; and authorized the administration to provide temporary, non-honorific designations for these three buildings in order for our JMU community to follow an inclusive process over this coming academic year with regard to new names.

**COVID-19 UPDATE**

President Jonathan Alger shared that the University has been working diligently to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and to plan for the re-opening of campus in the fall. In accordance with state guidance, a plan was submitted yesterday to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia that outlines these efforts. The president shared that JMU will need to postpone the August commencement ceremonies that were planned for the Class of 2020. JMU must comply with the most recent Executive Order, #67, which prohibits in-person public gatherings of more than 250 people, whether indoors or outdoors.

* A report was provided by Charlie King, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, to cover issues related to technology, facilities and Human Resources;
* A report was provided by Jeff Bourne, Director of Athletics, to talk about current plans regarding Athletics;
* A report was provided by Heather Coltman, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, to discuss plans for teaching and learning; and,
* A report was provided by Tim Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs, to discuss issues related to student life, including residence halls and medical preparations.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

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Lara Major, Rector

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Donna L. Harper, Secretary