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

Volume LIII No. 4

**Minutes of the Meeting of April 22, 2022**

The Visitors of James Madison University met on Friday, April 22, 2022 in the Festival Conference and Student Center Board Room on the campus of James Madison University. Lara Major, Rector, called the meeting to order at 8:33 am.

**PRESENT:**

Evans-Grevious, Vanessa	Lynch, John
Falcon, Chris	Major, Lara, Rector
Gadams, Frank	Ragon, Maggie
Grass, Jeff	Rothenberger, John
Gray-Keeling, Matthew	Tompkins Johnson, Deborah, Vice Rector
Herod, Maribeth	Warden, Kathy
Jankowski, Maria	Welburn, Craig

Williams, Xaiver, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors  
Harper, Donna, Secretary

**ABSENT:**

Hutchinson, Lucy

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Alger, Jonathan, President  
Coltman, Heather, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Langridge, Nick, Vice President for Advancement  
Miller, Tim, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Moore, Towana, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance

Vass, Mary-Hope, Executive Director of Communications & University Spokesperson  
Larsen, Val, Speaker, Faculty Senate  
Knight, Jack, University Counsel

The Rector recognized Jessani Collier, outgoing Student Government Association President; Xaiver Williams, finishing his first year as Student Representative to the Board; and Val Larsen, finishing his term as Faculty Senate Speaker.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion of Vanessa Evans-Grevious, seconded by John Rothenberger, the consent agenda was approved which included the minutes from the February 18, 2022 meeting and the personnel action report.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Academic Excellence Committee**

Matthew Gray-Keeling, substituting for Lucy Hutchinson, presented the report of the Academic Excellence Committee: (Attachment A)

- 1) Heather Coltman, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs provided a divisional update;
- 2) Heard a presentation on the Learning Access through Universal Design (LAUD) initiative;
- 3) On motion from committee, approved the Bachelor of Arts in Music degree;
- 4) On motion from committee, approved the Doctor of Education in Education program;
- 5) On motion from committee approved the changes to the Faculty Handbook; and
- 6) Heard the report from the speaker of the Faculty Senate.

On motion of Matthew Gray-Keeling, seconded by Maribeth Herod, the Academics Excellence report was accepted.

### **Advancement and Engagement Committee**

Buddy Gadams, Chair, presented the report of the Advancement and Engagement Committee: (Attachment B)

- 1) Miriam Bradley was introduced as the new Assistant Vice President for Principal Relationship Development;
- 2) Heard the fund-raising reports from Athletics and Advancement;
- 3) Heard an update on the marketing initiatives for prospective students;
- 4) The Corporate and Foundation Relations office shared their success in private organizational giving;
- 5) The Office of Alumni Relations partnered with the Black Alumni Chapter to launch the Mentor Collective;
- 6) Shared the success of the sixth annual Giving Day; and
- 7) Heard an update on events surrounding the Sun Belt football schedule.

On motion of Buddy Gadams, seconded by Vanessa Evan-Grevious, the Advancement and Engagement report was accepted.

### **Athletics Committee**

Vanessa Evans-Grevious, Chair, presented the report of the Athletics Committee: (Attachment C)

- 1) Geoff Polglase, Deputy Director of Athletics, gave a sports update;
- 2) Results were shared from the recently conducted Title IX Report;
- 3) Heard an update from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) on their activities and workshops;
- 4) Heard that overall athletics fund-raising is up compared to the last fiscal year; and
- 5) Information on the Sun Belt conference transition in preparation for the move was shared.

On motion of Vanessa Evans-Grevious, seconded by John Rothenberger, the Athletics report was accepted.

### **Audit Committee**

Maggie Ragon, Chair, presented the report of the Audit Committee (Attachment D)

- 1) April Cassada, Auditor of Public Accounts Project Manager, presented the results of the JMU financial audit for the year ended June 30, 2021;

- 2) Matt Bingay, WMRA station manager, discussed the results of the WMRA financial audit;
- 3) Becky Holmes, Director of Audit and Management Services, presented the audit plan for 2022-23 and reviewed mandatory disclosures required annually; and
- 4) The internal audit team's Quality Assurance and Improvement program was also discussed.

On motion of Maggie Ragon, seconded by Chris Falcon, the Audit report was accepted.

#### **Finance and Physical Development Committee**

John Rothenberger, Chair, presented the report of the Finance and Physical Development Committee: (Attachment E)

- 1) Heard the quarterly financial review from Mark Angel, Assistant Vice President for Finance;
- 2) The university received an unqualified opinion on the university's financial statement audit;
- 3) Heard an update on the budget status in the General Assembly;
- 4) Discussed the factors impacting the proposed 2022-23 Tuition and Fees and 2023 Summer Tuition and Fees based on current information available; and
- 5) Reviewed the proposed 2022-23 Budget.

On motion of John Rothenberger, seconded by Maggie Ragon, the Finance and Physical Development report was accepted.

#### **Governance Committee**

Jeff Grass, Chair, presented the report of the Governance Committee (Attachment F)

- 1) Jack Knight, University Legal Counsel recommended a change to the signature authority for WMRA;
  - a. On motion from committee, approved delegated signature to WMRA general manager and chief engineer;
- 2) Based on previous discussion regarding the composition of the executive committee-
  - a. On motion from committee, approved the Rector, Vice Rector and 3 Committee Chairs, selected by the Rector, shall serve on the Executive Committee; a Past Rector may serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee. In the event a Committee Chair is unable to attend a meeting, they may appoint a designee. This motion is to be effective following this annual meeting.
- 3) Proposed qualifications and competencies for board members were discussed and affirmed by the committee;
- 4) Board members will receive a self-evaluation to be completed in May;
- 5) The chair reviewed the schedule for the Board Retreat on Saturday, April 23.

The Rector thanked Jeff for chairing the first Governance Committee and the committee members who served.

On motion of Jeff Grass, seconded by Kathy Warden, the Governance report was accepted.

#### **Student Affairs Committee**

Deborah Tompkins Johnson, Chair, presented the report of the Student Affairs Committee (Attachment G)

- 1) Tim Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs, gave a divisional update;
- 2) Heard the report from the Student Government Association President, Jessani Collier;
- 3) Heard the report from the Student Representative to the Board of Visitors, Xavier Williams;

- 4) The associate vice presidents and Dean of Students gave updates on their respective areas;
- 5) Recognized Marsha Mays-Bernard for her years of service;
- 6) Heard an update on the Career, Experiential Learning and Transition Area;
- 7) A student panel shared their experiences in community service, the role of the University Career Center and the experience in Orientation; and
- 8) Tim Miller introduced the new Student Government Association President for 2022-23, Shawdee Bakhtiari.

On motion of Deborah Tompkins Johnson, seconded by Vanessa Evans-Grevious, the Student Affairs report was accepted.

The Rector thanked all those who served as chairs for the past two years.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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

- There was a 44% increase in first-year applications (31,711), with 44% being out of state and 33% being underrepresented minorities and 41% increase in early action applicants (18,589);
- To date, 3,410 deposits from the first-year 2026 class have been received, with 2,446 being in-state and 964 from out of state. First-year demographics as of this date are 19% underrepresented minorities, 13% first generation, and represent 37 states and 46 countries. There have been 344 transfer deposits received;
- The findings from the Campus Climate Study have been received and the Implementation Team will be reviewing to coordinate responses;
- The College of Arts and Letters presented the next cohort hire that will bring a Latinx studies focus to campus;
- Civic Engagement updates were presented on the Campus Compact national conference that included a plenary session with JMU Alum Harry Dunn and the Madison Center for Civic Engagement will now be led by Interim Executive Director David Kirkpatrick;
- Farah Pandith was the speaker on Monday for the Madison Vision Series and led a discussion about the importance of combating hate in the world. She also was recognized with the 2022 Madison Award for the Public Good;
- JMU participated in a recent summit at the Stanford School, which is focused on fostering innovative thinking in higher education. JMU continues to encourage interdisciplinary programs and initiatives;
- JMU will receive \$620,000 in federal funding for the university's teacher recruitment and retention as part of the FY2022 Federal Spending Bill. The University also supports a teacher residency program, which is facilitated by the College of Education;
- The Provost Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship will be presented to Ailton Coleman, Health Sciences; Kelly Naletelich, Marketing; Maryam Sharifian, Early Elementary and Reading Education; Matt Pardo, Theatre and Dance; Rebecca French, Libraries; Paul Raston, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Case Watkins, Justice Studies; and Kayla Yurco, Integrated Sciences;
- In support of JMU's transition to R2 status, the 2022-2023 Inaugural Fellows were announced: Christopher Berndsen, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Maureen Shanahan, Art, Design and Art History; Matthew Rebhorn, English;
- The College of Visual and Performing Arts honored the life of George Sparks, former dean, through an inspiring tribute including student performances;

- JMU's Brass Band has been invited to represent the United States as part of the World Music Contest in Kerkrade, The Netherlands, and is the only U.S. band to be invited;
- For the third year in a row, JMU has been named a Fullbright Top Producing institution for U.S. Student Grants among master's degree granting colleges and universities;
- JMU's Engineering Supermileage Team created a fuel-efficient vehicle that ran the 2.5 mile Indianapolis Circuit and was presented with the DuPont-sponsored Safety Award;
- JMU's Debate Team finished the season ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation by the Cross Examination Debate Association; and
- Lacrosse is ranked #11 and the Sun Belt transition continues with campus visits and visits to the Sun Belt offices.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT

Caitlyn Read, Director of Government Relations, gave an update on the activities of the General Assembly legislation affecting higher education and JMU activities during the session.

### 2022-23 PROPOSED TUITION AND FEES

Towana Moore, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance, shared the proposed 2022-23 tuition and fees and the factors impacting the need for an increase.

On motion from committee by John Rothenberger, the 2022-23 following tuition and fees were approved

**2022-23**

VIRGINIA STUDENT	
Tuition & Fees	\$ 7,754
Comprehensive Fee	\$ 5,408
<b>TOTAL COMMUTER COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 13,162</b>
Room & Board	\$ 11,448
<b>TOTAL ON-CAMPUS COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 24,610</b>

NON-VIRGINIA STUDENT	
Tuition & Fees	\$ 24,744
Comprehensive Fee	\$ 5,408
<b>TOTAL COMMUTER COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 30,152</b>
Room & Board	\$ 11,448

<b>TOTAL ON-CAMPUS COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 41,600</b>
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<b>2022-23</b>
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<b>GRADUATE (Per Credit Hour)</b>	
Virginia	<b>\$ 533</b>
Non-Virginia	<b>\$ 1,251</b>

On motion from committee by John Rothenberger, the 2023 following summer tuition and fees were approved:

	<b>Summer '23</b>
<b>Tuition and Education &amp; General Fees (Per Credit Hour)</b>	
Virginia Undergraduate	<b>\$396</b>
Non-Virginia Undergraduate	<b>\$971</b>
Virginia Graduate	<b>\$461</b>
Non-Virginia Graduate	<b>\$1,101</b>
<b>Student Services Fee (Per Credit Hour)</b>	
Virginia Undergraduate	<b>\$26</b>
Non-Virginia Undergraduate	<b>\$26</b>
Virginia Graduate	<b>\$26</b>
Non-Virginia Graduate	<b>\$26</b>
<b>Room &amp; Board (Per Week)</b>	
Room	<b>\$109</b>
Board	<b>\$124</b>

### **2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET**

Towana Moore, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance, shared the proposed 2022-23 budget.

On motion from committee by John Rothenberger, the 2022-23 budget was approved.

### **REAFFIRM THE UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT**

Brian Charette, Special Assistant to the President, explained the reaffirmation of the university mission statement was required as part of the SACSCOC accreditation process.

On motion by Maggie Ragon, seconded by Chris Falcon, affirmed the following mission statement:

“We are a community committed to preparing students to be educated and enlightened citizens who lead productive and meaning lives.”

### **RACIAL EQUITY UPDATE AND DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION**

Deborah Tompkins Johnson, Vice Rector, and one of the co-chairs of the Racial Equity Task Force, reviewed the organization of the task force and the process for the recommendations and the narrative of the task force. The President thanked all the members of the task force and acknowledged the process as most valuable.

### **COVID-19 UPDATE**

Tim Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs, provided a campus context on the current status of Covid-19.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Kathy Warden, chair of the Nominating Committee, shared the proposed slate of officers for 2022-24. On motion from committee, approved the recommendation of the Nominating Committee:

Rector: Maribeth Herod

Vice Rector: Chris Falcon

Secretary: Donna Harper

Jonathan Alger, President, then thanked the board members whose terms are expiring and presented them with a gift. He also recognized Lara Major, for her service and commitment as Rector for 2020-22.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion of Deborah Tompkins Johnson, seconded by Vanessa Evans-Grevious, the Board voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 am.

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Maribeth Herod, Rector

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Donna L. Harper, Secretary