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THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
THE VISITORS OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Volume LIX No. 1

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of September 16, 2022**

The Visitors of James Madison University met on Friday, September 16, 2022 in the Festival Conference and Student Center Board Room on the campus of James Madison University. Maribeth Herod, Rector, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

**PRESENT:**

Bell, Dickie  
Edwards, Terrie  
Falcon, Chris, Vice Rector  
Grass, Jeff  
Gray-Keeling, Matthew  
Herod, Maribeth, Rector  
Lynch, John

Obenshain, Suzanne  
Rothenberger, John  
Stoltzfus, Michael  
Tompkins Johnson, Deborah  
Welburn, Craig  
White, Jack

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

**ABSENT:**

Jankowski, Maria  
Major, Lara

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Alger, Jonathan, President  
Carter-Hoyt, Malika, Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Coltman, Heather, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Miller, Tim, Vice President for Student Affairs and University Planning  
Moore, Towana, Vice President for Administration and Finance

Cramer, Ginny, Associate Director, Communications  
Ott Walter, Kathy Speaker, Faculty Senate  
Knight, Jack, University Counsel

The Rector welcomed the new board members. She also welcomed Kathy Ott Walter, Speaker for the Faculty Senate; Xavier Williams, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors; and Shawdee Bakhtiari, Student Government Association President. Members of Dr.

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Hamilton's Management 390 class were also acknowledged. A new board orientation packet was shared with all the board members.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion of Chris Falcon, seconded by Craig Welburn, the consent agenda was approved which included the minutes from the April 22, 2022 meeting; minutes from the Executive Committee meetings on June 22 and August 29, 2022; and the bank resolution.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Academic Excellence Committee**

Matthew Gray-Keeling, Chair, presented the report of the Academic Excellence Committee: (Attachment A)

- Divisional update from Dr. Coltman;
- Report from the speaker of the faculty senate, Kathy Ott Walter;
- Presentation on the College of Education's Grow Your Own and Lab School programs from Mark L'Esperance, Dean;
- Faculty hiring update from Elizabeth Oldmixon, Vice Provost for Faculty and Curriculum;
- Update on Student Academic Success from Rudy Molina, Vice Provost; and
- College Spotlight on the College of Arts and Letters from Robert Aguirre, Dean.

On motion of Mr. Gray-Keeling, seconded by John Rothenberger, the Academics Excellence report was accepted.

#### **Advancement and Engagement Committee**

Craig Welburn, Chair, presented the report of the Advancement and Engagement Committee: (Attachment B)

- Fundraising report from Athletics and Advancement;
- Vice President update and introductions;
- Enrollment marketing update for fall, 2022; and
- Women for Madison 10-year anniversary and update.

On motion of Mr. Welburn, seconded by Chris Falcon, the Advancement and Engagement report was accepted.

#### **Athletics Committee**

John Lynch, Chair, presented the report of the Athletics Committee: (Attachment C)

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- Athletic Director update;
  - 2021-22 Strategic Plan Accountability Measures Report;
  - Compliance update;
  - Fundraising update; and
  - Sun Belt update.

On motion of Mr. Lynch, seconded by Craig Welburn, the Athletics report was accepted.

### **Audit Committee**

Chris Falcon, Chair, presented the report of the Audit Committee (Attachment D)

- JLARC (Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee) report on compliance with Level 3;
- Annual report review by Becky Holmes, Director; and
- Approval of the Internal Audit Budget and revised Internal Audit plan.

On motion of Mr. Falcon, seconded by Jeff Grass, 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)

- Financial Review by Mark Angel, Assistant Vice President;
- 2021-22 Receivables Write-Offs;
- Reviewed the revised 2022-23 budget;
- 2023-24 Budget Requests;
- Six-Year Plan update;
  - On motion from committee, the Board approved the updated Six Year Plan; and
- Workforce Planning and Development Report from Rick Larson, Assistant Vice President.

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

### **Governance Committee**

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

- Reviewed the main themes and key topics from the April retreat;
- Reviewed the board self-evaluation report and potential changes to the next self-evaluation process;

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- Reviewed the report of the Partners Group 2022 College Governing Board Accountability Assessment and suggestions for changes;
  - Confirmed the qualifications and competencies for board members:
    - On motion from committee the Board approved the qualifications and competencies amending the term “critical mass” to “a majority of the board members are JMU alumni”;
  - Reviewed the proposed changes to the Board Manual including the All-Virtual Meeting policy and Remote Participation requirements:
    - On motion from committee the Board approved the changes to the board manual.
  - Discussed expectations for attendance at board meeting and recommends this addition to the Board Manual:
    - On motion from committee the Board approved the following addition to Section XI: “All board members are expected to attend all meetings in person consistent with provisions in the Board Manual.”

On motion of Mr. Grass, seconded by Chris Falcon, the Governance report was accepted.

#### **Student Affairs Committee**

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

- Student Affairs update;
- Report from Shawdee Bakhtiari, Student Government Association President;
- Report from Xaiver Williams, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors;
- Presentation on Health and Well-Being from the Dean of Students office; and
- Heard from a student panel representing various student organizations.

On motion of Ms. Johnson, seconded by John Rothenberger, the Student Affairs report was accepted.

#### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

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

- The university welcomed 4,861 students as part of the class of 2026, with 1,257 being out of state, 23% being underrepresented minorities and 14% being first-generation students;
- A new Center for First-Generation Students was announced;

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- A summary of health and well-being resources and initiatives including Kognito training, TimelyCare telehealth support for students, and safeTALK training for the Office of Residence Life and the new 988 number;
  - A \$1.4 million National Science Foundation S-STEM grant to increase STEM degree completion of low-income undergraduates;
  - A \$1.4 million TRIO Talent Search grant to support local first-generation, low-wealth or disabled students;
  - The creation of an information technology major;
  - A snapshot of career outcomes. Over 95% of graduates are employed or pursuing an advanced degree; 60% of graduates remain in Virginia for employment; graduates are working in 49 states, Washington, D.C. and 14 countries;
  - JMU ranks #51 nationally in Washington Monthly ranking, #19 most cost-effective by Stackler and #72 public by US News & World Report;
  - There was record investment by the General Assembly in higher education and recognition of the university's historic funding disparity. Tuition will be held flat for in-state students with a one-time scholarship. Faculty and staff will receive salary increases;
  - Construction updates including plans for a complete renovation of Carrier Library, renovation of the old convocation center, demolition of Ikenberry Hall and construction of a 500-bed facility, softball stadium expansion and Sentara Park locker room addition;
  - An update on the economic revitalization series hosted by JMU and the creation of working groups to focus on workforce development, transportation, housing and childcare;
  - The *Unleashed* campaign wrapped up on June 30<sup>th</sup> raising over \$250 million;
  - The recognition of the IMPACT program with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities Award for Leadership Development and Diversity;
  - An introduction of new leadership within the Center for Civic Engagement and the focus on free speech, civil discourse and voter and civic engagement;
  - Introduction of vice president for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Mailka Carter-Hoyt;
  - Towana Moore's appointment as the new vice president for Administration and Finance;
  - The football team won their first two games and the Sun Belt Conference has a focus on sportsmanship;
  - Encouragement for participation in the Purple Friday initiative.

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## DASHBOARD UPDATE

Chris Orem, Director for Institutional Research explained the rationale and purpose of the Strategic Plan Performance Measures dashboard and shared examples from the dashboard.

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Heather Coltman and Anthony Tongen explained the strategy and analysis of resources and programs related to the criteria for Carnegie's National university and how the university will continue to meet this criteria. (Attachment I)

## UNLEASHED CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Andy Perrine, Associate Vice President for Marketing and Branding and Sheila Smith, Associate Vice President for Planning and Operations, shared the planning process and the successes of the *Unleashed* campaign.

## CLOSED SESSION

Chris Falcon made the following motion:

“Madam Rector: 1) pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711.A.1, to discuss personnel matters involving promotions, retirements, hiring, resignations, evaluation, salary adjustments, and status changes of faculty members, university administrators and appointees; 2) pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 of the Code of Virginia, to discuss the acquisition of real property located in Harrisonburg, Virginia; and 3) pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.7 of the Code of Virginia, to consult with legal counsel pertaining to actual litigation.”

The motion was seconded by Jeff Grass 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:**

Bell, Dickie  
Edwards, Terrie

Falcon, Chris, Vice Rector  
Grass, Jeff

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Gray-Keeling, Matthew  
Lynch, John  
Obenshain, Suzanne  
Rothenberger, John

Stoltzfus, Michael  
Tompkins Johnson, Deborah  
Welburn, Craig  
White, Jack

The Rector then asked if there were any motions to come forward.

On motion from John Rothenberger, seconded by Jeff Grass, approved the following real estate transactions with Terrie Edwards recusing herself:

- a. 709 Hickory Hill Drive at a purchase price of \$410,000;
- b. 1617 South Main Street at a purchase price of \$477,000;
- c. 1625 South Main Street at a purchase price of \$397,000;
- d. 1641 South Main Street at a purchase price of \$397,500;
- e. 1681 South Main Street at a purchase price of \$371,000; and
- f. The East Fairview Alley being transferred from the City of Harrisonburg at no charge.

On motion from Chris Falcon, seconded by Terrie Edwards, approved the amended personnel action report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion of Chris Falcon, seconded by Deborah Tompkins Johnson, the Board voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12 :02 pm.

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Maribeth Herod, Rector

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Donna L. Harper, Secretary