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

Volume LIX No. 4

**Minutes of the Meeting of April 21, 2023**

The Visitors of James Madison University met on Friday, April 21, 2023 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               | Major, Lara               |
| Edwards, Terrie            | Obenshain, Suzanne        |
| Falcon, Chris, Vice Rector | Rothenberger, John        |
| Grass, Jeff                | Stoltzfus, Michael        |
| Gray-Keeling, Matthew      | Tompkins Johnson, Deborah |
| Herod, Maribeth, Rector    | Welburn, Craig            |
| Lynch, John                | White, Jack               |

Williams, Xaiver, Student Representative to the Board, 2022-23  
Harper, Donna, Secretary

**ABSENT:**

Jankowski, Maria

**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  
Langridge, Nick, Vice President for University Advancement  
Miller, Tim, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Moore, Towana, Vice President for Administration and Finance

Vass, Mary-Hope, Executive Director of Communications  
Ott Walter, Kathy, Speaker, Faculty Senate  
Knight, Jack, University Counsel

The Rector recognized the newly elected student representative to the board, Abby Cannella and Nate Hazen, the new Student Government Association President. She also recognized Shawdee Bakhtiari, “retiring” Student Government Association President and Xaiver Williams, “retiring” student representative to the Board of Visitors.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion of John Rothenberger, seconded by Deborah Tompkins Johnson, the consent agenda was approved including minutes of the February 10, 2023 meeting and the minutes from the Public Comment meeting on April 5, 2023.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Academic Excellence Committee

Matthew Gray-Keeling, Chair, presented the report of the Academic Excellence Committee. The minutes of the February 10, 2023 meeting were approved. (Attachment A)

Mr. Gray-Keeling reported on the following topics from the committee meeting:

- 1) Comments from Heather Coltman, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs;
- 2) Update on the Bridge to Madison Program with Blue Ridge Community College;
- 3) Jennifer Campfield, Assistant Vice President for Academic Initiatives and Planning shared the Academic Affairs Strategic Plan;
- 4) College spotlight – Honors College;
- 5) Revisions to the Faculty Handbook:
  - a. On motion from committee, the board approved the revisions to the Faculty Handbook; and
- 6) Report from the Speaker of the Faculty Senate, Kathy Ott Walter.

On motion of Mr. Gray-Keeling, seconded by Craig Welburn, the report of the Academic Excellence Committee was accepted.

### Advancement and Engagement Committee

Craig Welburn, Chair, presented the report of the Advancement and Engagement Committee. The minutes of the February 10, 2023 meeting were approved. (Attachment B)

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

- 1) Fundraising report from Jared Lowry, Duke Club and Jeff Gillian, Advancement;
- 2) Update from Nick Langridge, Vice President for Advancement;
- 3) Chris Myers, Senior Director for Enrollment Marketing presented on university advertising strategies;
- 4) John Meck, Director for Corporate Relations, reported on the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Madison Trust;
- 5) Caitlyn Read, Director for Government Relations provided an overview of engagement during this past General Assembly.

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

### Athletics Committee

John Lynch, Chair, presented the report of the Athletics Committee. The minutes of the February 10, 2023 meeting were approved. (Attachment C)

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

- 1) Sports update;
- 2) Results from the recent Title IX report;
- 3) Student Athlete Leadership program update;
- 4) NCAA waiver update;
- 5) Development update from the Duke Club.

On motion of Mr. Lynch, seconded by Deborah Tompkins Johnson, the Athletics report was accepted.

### Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee

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Chris Falcon, Chair, presented the report of the Audit Committee. The minutes of the February 10, 2023 meeting were approved. (Attachment D)

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

- 1) April Cassada and Nick Nonnemacker of the Auditor of Public Accounts presented the results of the JMU Financial Audit;
- 2) Jen Grossman Leopard, Director of Student Life, provided an overview of JMU's response to Adam's Law; and
- 3) Matt Bingay, WMRA station manager, discussed the results of the WMRA financial audit.

On motion of Mr. Falcon, seconded by Lara Major, the Audit report was accepted.

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

John Rothenberger, Chair, presented the report of the Finance and Physical Development Committee. The minutes from the February 10, 2023 meeting were approved. (Attachment E)

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

- 1) Financial Review;
- 2) 2021-22 Audit Review received an unmodified opinion statements with no written comments;
- 3) General Assembly update;
- 4) Six-Year Capital Plan:
  - a. On motion from committee, the board approved the Six-Year Capital Plan;
- 5) 2023-24 Proposed Tuition and Fees and 2024 Summer Tuition and Fees; and
- 6) 2023-24 Proposed Budget.

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. The minutes of the February 10, 2023 meeting were approved. (Attachment F)

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

- 1) Plans for the upcoming Board retreat;
- 2) Presidential succession:
  - a. On motion from committee, approved the following change to the Board Manual: Article IX. Rights and Powers, Section A. 2C: "In case of the president's incapacity because of disability or death" be replaced with "In the case of a planned or unplanned departure of the president".
- 3) Reviewed the last year to pass along to the next committee; and
- 4) Discussed the possibility/purpose of Board liaisons.

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 Education and Student Life Committee. The minutes from the February 10, 2023 meeting were approved. (Attachment G)

Ms. Tompkins Johnson reported on the following topics from the committee meeting:

- 1) Report from Tim Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs;

- 2) SGA report from Shawdee Bakhtiari, Student Government Association President;
- 3) Report from Xavier Williams. Student Representative to the Board;
- 4) Career, Experiential Learning and Transition Spotlight; and
- 5) A student panel.

On motion of Ms. Tompkins Johnson, seconded by Lara Major, the Student Affairs Committee report was accepted.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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

- An admissions update was provided with the following information: There are 37,001 first-year applicants, which is a 17% increase over 2022 and a 68% increase over 2021. First-year applicant demographics are 46% out-of-state, 21.5% first-generation, 34.4% underrepresented minorities and 565 international applicants. Applicants represent 50 states, Washington, D.C., U.S. territories and 112 countries;
- Class of 2027 update: Almost 4,105 deposits (in-state: 2,945 and out-of-state: 1,156) have been received with a class goal of 4,650. First-year class demographics are: 21% underrepresented minorities, 15% first generation; 41% male; 59% female. They represent 37 states and 28 countries. 265 deposits are from transfer students;
- JMU successfully completed the on-site review with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and for the second consecutive decennial review, JMU received zero recommendations as a result of the site visit;
- Funded by the Virginia General Assembly, JMU received a \$250,000 grant as part of the Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership, which will expand paid and credit-bearing student internships and other work-based learning opportunities in collaboration with Virginia Employers;
- A Student Engagement Symposium was hosted on campus and organized by a JMU Presidential Engagement Fellow. This focused on the work of engaged students with a wide cross-section of the university, focusing on engaged learning, community engagement and civic engagement;
- Mya Wilcox, public policy and administration major, has been appointed to the Virginia Governor's Fellows Program;
- Reggie Wilcox was awarded a Newman Civic Fellow, which is an award to a select group of students from around the nation by Campus Compact. Reggie is a junior at JMU and an integrated science and technology major;
- Ava Galgano, chemistry major, and Stephanie Ouderkirk, biophysical chemistry major, were named as Goldwater Scholars. This is a premier award and selects high-achieving students who will pursue research careers in their chosen STEM fields;
- Junior music major, Haven Kahn, was named the Petrichor Grand Prize Winner – under 21 category – and won second place in the Vandoren Emerging Artist competition. This is one of the most prestigious competitions in classical saxophone;
- Ken Rutherford, political science professor and world renowned expert on global conflict and stability and recovery operations, was appointed to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources by Governor Youngkin;
- Aramark received the Gold Medal at the Aramark Culinary Excellence competition;
- Over 400 people attended JMU's Diversity Conference. The audience was made up of faculty, staff, students, community partners and representatives from peer institutions;
- The College of Education visited Rwanda to formalize its partnerships with the Ministry of Education. During the 2023-24 academic year, Rwanda teachers will enroll in JMU's Graduate Certificate for teacher leadership. The College of Education at the University of Rwanda plans to

partner with JMU to provide faculty exchanges, share information on faculty support and compare curriculum at the undergraduate and graduate levels;

- David Kirkpatrick has been named Executive Director of the Madison Center for Civic Engagement. A discussion, Europe at the Crossroads, was held with a lively discussion with students and faculty. JMU partnered with the Constructive Dialogue Institute and is considered a Voter Friendly Campus;
- JMU hosted Dr. Anthony Fauci and CNN Anchor Jim Acosta ('93) for a town hall discussion with more than 1,000 people attending; and
- JMU Women's Basketball was the Sun Belt Conference Champion, JMU Lacrosse ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the Nation, all spring sports are over .500 and the fall football schedule has been finalized.

**2023-24 PROPOSED TUITION AND FEES**

Towana Moore, Vice President for Administration and Finance shared the challenges, considerations and university investment that will impact the decision on tuition and fees. (Attachment I). On motion from the Finance and Physical Development Committee, the board approved the following tuition and fees for 2023-24 with Richard Bell, Terrie Edwards, Suzanne Obenshain and Jack White opposing:

**UNDERGRADUATE**

| VIRGINIA STUDENT             | 2023-24          |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Tuition & Fees               | 7,914            |
| Comprehensive Fee            | 5,662            |
| <b>TOTAL COMMUTER COSTS</b>  | <b>\$ 13,576</b> |
| Room & Board                 | 11,988           |
| <b>TOTAL ON-CAMPUS COSTS</b> | <b>\$ 25,564</b> |

| NON-VIRGINIA STUDENT         |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Tuition & Fees               | 25,128           |
| Comprehensive Fee            | 5,662            |
| <b>TOTAL COMMUTER COSTS</b>  | <b>\$ 30,790</b> |
| Room & Board                 | 11,988           |
| <b>TOTAL ON-CAMPUS COSTS</b> | <b>\$ 42,778</b> |

| GRADUATE<br>(Per Credit Hour) | 2023-24  |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Virginia                      | \$ 545   |
| Non-Virginia                  | \$ 1,272 |

**2023-24 PROPOSED SUMMER TUITION AND FEES**

Towana Moore, Vice President for Administration and Finance shared the proposed 2024 summer tuition and fees. On motion from the Finance and Physical Development Committee, the board approved the following summer tuition for 2024:

| Summer 2024  |         |
|--|---------|
| Tuition and Education & General Fees (Per Credit Hour) |         |
| Virginia Undergraduate                                 | \$408   |
| Non-Virginia Undergraduate                             | \$985   |
| Virginia Graduate                                      | \$475   |
| Non-Virginia Graduate                                  | \$1,117 |

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| <b>Student Services Fee (Per Credit Hour)</b> |       |
| Virginia Undergraduate                        | \$27  |
| Non-Virginia Undergraduate                    | \$27  |
| Virginia Graduate                             | \$27  |
| Non-Virginia Graduate                         | \$27  |
| <b>Room &amp; Board (Per Week)</b>            |       |
| Room  | \$114 |
| Board - 19 Meals No Dining Dollars            | \$140 |

### 2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET

Towana Moore, Vice President for Administration and Finance explained the institutional revenue and projected expenses for the coming fiscal year. On motion from the Finance and Physical Development Committee the board approved the 2023-24 budget with Richard Bell, Terrie Edwards, Suzanne Obenshain and Jack White opposing. (Attachment J)

|  |           |              |
|--|-----------|--------------|
| <b>2023-24 Budget Summary (Millions)</b> |           |              |
| Education & General                      |           | 403.5        |
| Auxiliary Enterprises                    |           | 242.5        |
| Financial Aid                            |           | 31.0         |
| E&G, F/A & Auxiliary                     | \$        | 677.0        |
| Sponsored Programs                       | \$        | 46.8         |
| <b>Total Operating*</b>                  | <b>\$</b> | <b>723.8</b> |
| * Excludes Equipment Trust Fund          |           |              |

### RESEARCH INSTITUTES AND CENTERS

Anthony Tongen, Vice Provost for Research and Scholarship, provided background information on the role of research institutes and centers and the goals for the future. Dr. Delores Phillips, Director for the African, African American, and Diaspora (AAAD) Studies Center and Dr. Maryam Sharifian, Director of Early Childhood Initiatives and the Center for Innovation in Early Childhood Development (CIECD) shared the vision for these new centers.

The Rector and President then recognized the board members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2023: Jeff Grass, Matt Gray-Keeling, Maria Jankowki (absent), Deborah Tompkins Johnson, and Craig Welburn.

Rector Herod then called for the board to move into Closed Session. Chris Falcon 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, performance, 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.”

The motion was seconded by Jeff Grass and the Board moved into closed session. Following the closed session, Ms. 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  
Gray-Keeling, Matthew  
Herod, Maribeth, Rector  
Lynch, John

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

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

On motion from John Rothenberger, seconded by Michael Stoltzfus, approved the purchase of 449 Eastover Drive at a price of \$279,500.

On motion from John Rothenberger, seconded by John Lynch, approved the quitclaim deed for property at 11352 Sassafras Ridge, Markham, Va.

On motion from John Rothenberger, seconded by Lara Major, approved the Personnel Action Report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion of Chris Falcon, seconded by John Rothenberger, the Board voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 pm.

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Maribeth Herod, Rector

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Donna L. Harper, Secretary