

Document Title

James Madison University Annual Executive Summary
January, 2023 – December, 2023

Author

James Madison University

Enabling Authority

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Executive Summary

James Madison University was established in 1908 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg and became James Madison University in 1977. The Board of Visitors was established in 1964 and currently has fifteen members who serve on the board. Mr. Jonathan R. Alger serves as the sixth president of the university. The Board of Visitors met five times in 2023: February 9-10; April 20-21; April 22 (retreat); September 14-15 and November 9-10. The Executive Committee met once: September 7 for the annual performance review of the president. At the board's retreat they heard a presentation from EAB on the trends and future visioning for higher education and the board discussed research, diversity, campus environment, and value proposition. The board also held a public comment period on the proposed tuition and fees on April 5, 2023.

The Board has the following committees: Academic Excellence, Advancement and Engagement, Athletics, Audit, Risk and Compliance; Executive Committee; Finance and Physical Development, Governance, and Student Affairs. All of these committees, with the exception of the Executive Committee, meet during the two-day board meeting. The committees hear reports from various staff regarding current issues, new initiatives, and compliance with requirements and/or regulations. Committee minutes are available at this link: <https://www.jmu.edu/visitors/meetings/committee-minutes/index.shtml>

The Board approved the following items during the 2023 calendar year:

- Graduate certificate in Health Policy;
- Master of Science in Computer Science with a concentration in Cybersecurity;
- Bylaw changes to the Board Manual;
- Affiliation Agreement (MOU) with the JMU Foundation;
- Doctorate of Humanities honorary degree;
- Revisions to the Faculty Handbook;
- Six-Year Plan;
- 2023-24 Tuition and fees; 2023-24 Summer Tuition and fees;
- 2023-24 Budget;
- Discontinuation of the Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education and the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Speech Pathology;

- Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Earth Science;
- Name change from the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures to Department of World Languages and Cultures;
- Bond Resolution for Phase 1 of the Village Housing project;
- Real Estate transactions; and
- Personnel Action reports.

The Board heard updates and provided feedback on the following topics during the board meetings:

- Student Aid Index;
- General Assembly Updates;
- Free Speech – conducted a professional development exercise based on scenarios shared at the SCHEV Board Orientation;
- Research Institutes and Centers;
- JMU Valor;
- Big Ideas;
- Career Outcomes;
- Inclusive Excellence and Attracting the Students of Tomorrow;
- Meeting Workforce Needs in nursing, physician assistants and teachers; and
- State Government Relations.

In addition, at each board meeting the President provides an update on events, accomplishments, trends and issues and significant recognitions. A summary of his presentation can be found at this link: <https://www.jmu.edu/visitors/meetings/summaries/index.shtml>. The representative from the Faculty Senate shares a report at the Academic Excellence Committee and the student representative to the Board and the president of the Student Government Association share a report at the Student Affairs Committee.

The Rector met with President Alger for the annual evaluation and then shared the evaluation with the full board.