

## Campus History Committee Final Report for 2022-23

### Membership:

Member	Role/Representing
Meg Mulrooney	Chair
Ruthie Bosch	CoE & Hispanic Caucus
Tiffany Cole ('10M)	Spec. Colls
Mike Davis	Pres Office
Monyette Martin	Admissions
DeAndre Powell	CMSS
Carole Nash ('83)	CISE/DEI leaders
Cassidy Mechalske	SOGIE
Karen Risch Mott ( '20M)	Advancement
Christina Wulf	ODS
Craig Short	Finance
Richard Finkelstein	Faculty Senate

- **Charge:**
  - Develop the Campus Commemorative Landscape mapping project to inform and make recommendations with regard to naming plans and commemorative opportunities moving forward.
  - Examine the JMU story that is told by or in various publications, offices and groups (e.g., the Student Ambassadors) about the history of campus and develop ways the story being told to our various constituents (including current and prospective students, parents, alumni, the community, etc.) can be more inclusive and complete.

### Summary of Activity for 2022-23:

The committee met by Zoom in September, October, November, January, February, and March. An MS Teams site provided collaborative space in the fall to plan a series of manageable activities. Most of these activities centered on a tour of sites on the historic Quad. Substantially based on her research and public history pedagogy, Mulrooney continues to refine site

descriptions and related narratives for in-person, guided tours that she and other members of the committee lead. In addition, she collaborated with Risch Mott, Cole, and colleagues in University Advancement to create a digital, self-guided tour with historic and contemporary photos, as well as hyperlinks for deeper study.

Digital Quad History Tour: [j.mu/quadtour](https://map.jmu.edu/?id=1869#!ct/49588,49581?s/?t/3725:1)

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Tours are a common and familiar way to share historical information about a place. Moving from site to site, guides engage participants in considering the relationship between a cultural landscape and the people (past and present) who make and use it. They are especially useful for sharing untold stories about groups, individuals, and events that are intentionally omitted from “official” histories of a place, and as such, they promote belonging and community. The JMU tour is informed by scholarship on tours as well as on place-based learning. Finally, it is informed by similar tours created on college campuses as part of the national campus history movement. Such tours may be in person like the University of Alabama’s or digital like UNC Chapel Hill’s. Some campuses, including ours, have both; so far, roughly 900 people have experienced the in-person, guided tour of JMU’s Quad. Responses gathered through Slido, verbal comments, and emails have been wholly positive.

## Fall 2022

- Provided guided campus history tours in August for ~75 new freshmen and 10 CS-L staff in partnership with CS-L for Dukes Making a Difference; after the tour, committee members facilitated a discussion session and used Slido polls to gather student responses. <https://www.jmu.edu/csl/serve/dmad.shtml>
- Provided guided tours to multiple groups of JMU administrators, faculty, and students
- Initiated digital version of the Quad history tour with University Marketing & Branding for inclusion in the JMU map website in October; Risch Mott, Cole, and Mulrooney collaborated on text and photos for inclusion in November; all assets were gathered and delivered by the end of the year.
- Nash presented to about 20 members of UNITED (a University Advancement group focused on DEI) on JMU’s current and past connections with local tribal communities, as well as on perspectives related to land acknowledgements.
- Mulrooney represented JMU at Universities Studying Slavery (USS) fall conference, “Legacies of Slavery, Landscapes of Segregation” at UVA <https://slavery.virginia.edu/fall-2022-universities-studying-slavery-conference-sept-28-oct-1/>
- Mulrooney collaborated with colleagues in Advancement to produce an essay on Yuri Nemoto ('46), Madison’s first Asian American student, for *Madison* magazine <https://www.jmu.edu/news/2022/09/06-madison-magazine-fall-2022-issue-revealed.shtml> and also <https://madisonmagazine.yourwebedition.com/>
- Submitted proposal to present on JMU’s work at USS spring meeting (accepted)

## Spring 2023

- Jan-Feb, completed/launched digital tour after review and refinement.
- Feb. 19. Cole, Finkelstein and Mulrooney attended the training session for new student Ambassadors to introduce them to the digital tour and discuss why they should be more accurate and inclusive when sharing information with prospective students and their families. About 100 new Ambassadors attended.
- March 16-17. Mulrooney and Risch Mott represented JMU at the Universities Studying Slavery spring meeting “At this Place” in March at UNC Chapel Hill <https://historyandrace.unc.edu/special-events/>. They presented a talk titled, “Reclaiming, Renaming, Repairing: Campus History at JMU” to an audience of about 40 people.
- March 22. Hosted a session at JMU’s Diversity Conference. Bosch, Risch Mott, Nash, and Mulrooney co-facilitated this session to introduce 10 participants to the digital Quad History tour and solicit feedback, especially on the idea of future tours on different areas of campus or different themes.
- March 24. Mulrooney and Cole provided an in-person tour to Libraries leadership team.
- March 30-April 10. Emails and bulk email announcing launch of digital tour.
- April 11. Mulrooney provided an in-person tour to a History class of 15 students.
- April 21. Mulrooney provided an in-person tour to 25 Admissions staff.
- May 17. Nash, Bosch, Martin, and Mulrooney presented a place-based pedagogies session at CFI’s May Symposium that provided 4 JMU faculty with information and resources to incorporate the Quad tour and its content into their own courses.
- May 18. Nash, Bosch, Risch Mott, and Mulrooney presented the digital Quad tour to 14 JMU employees during a session for Employee Appreciation Day. Committee member Craig Short solicited this session as a way to share information beyond Academic Affairs.
- May 19. Martin, Risch Mott, and Mulrooney provided in-person tours to 50+ Women for Madison Summit attendees, most of whom are alumnae.
- June 6. Mulrooney will provide in-person tour to Registrar’s staff.