



Big man on campus

JMU acquires James Madison statue

James Madison Day convocation 2002 brought big news to campus. JMU President Linwood H. Rose announced a "presidential residency" on campus - in the form of a bronze statue of James Madison, fourth U.S. president.

During Madison Day, when the university lauded its best and brightest scholars and celebrated James Madison's 251st birthday, Rose said, "On this occasion we honor the man whose name this university bears." He announced that JMU will acquire a life-sized bronze statue of James Madison, contributed by Bruce and Lois Forbes ('64), their son, Jeff ('90, '92M), and their daughter-in-law, Stephanie ('92, '93M).

The statue was created by South Dakota sculptors Lee Leuning and Sherri Treeby. The two also sculpted a George Washington statue that, along with another cast of Madison, are part of a City of Presidents exhibit located near Mount Rushmore in Rapid City, S.D.

Mr. Madison has arrived on campus and awaits a plaza-like outdoor home, which will be created for the statue in front of Varner House, while a replica of Montpelier's temple, paid for in part by the Senior Class Challenge of 2002, will face the statue from the front of Burruss Hall.

Story by Allison Swanson ('02)