

{Guest Editor's Note}

I love it here

When Shirley ('56) and I came to her 50th class reunion in 2006, we had not been back to the Madison campus in 25 years. It was the first time I heard JMU President Linwood H. Rose speak, and I'll never forget it. Instantly, I understood how he and JMU valued relationships.

That experience with Dr. Rose led to many more trips to Madison over the next five years. Each time, Shirley and I would make a point to walk around the campus, asking students if they liked JMU. Every single one of them said, "I love it here."

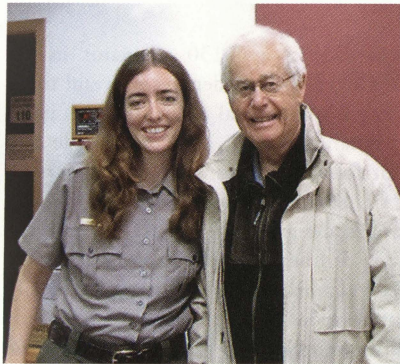
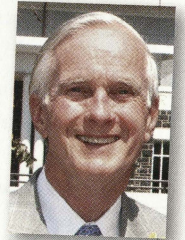
I wanted to know why. I came to learn that it comes from the close relationships students have with the teaching faculty, which is very rare in a university the size of James Madison University.

Such relationships can thrive only if the person at the very top supports and nurtures them. There are many subtle and not-so-subtle ways that any college or university could undercut this relationship, especially one growing as fast as JMU has grown under Dr. Rose. As a retired president and CEO myself, I understand that challenge. Some might repeat mantras like, "They'll still get an education," or "It's too expensive," or "Other things are more important." Dr. Rose made no such excuse. Instead, he understood the critical importance of faculty-student mentorship as essential to JMU's character and to the Madison Experience. He fully supported the intellectual and personal exchange that occurs inside and outside the classroom.

That kind of intangible relationship between a teacher and a learner is rare and invaluable, and it will sweep into young graduates' careers. It will influence how they treat other people. It will make a difference in their lives and those they encounter. I hope that it continues to flourish. As long it does, students will continue to say, "I love it here."

— RICHARD "DICK" ROBERTS

JMU benefactor who honored his wife Shirley ('56) by naming the Forbes Center's Shirley Hanson Roberts Center for Music Performance



U.S. Park Service Ranger Greta Doyle ('03) catches up with Professor Emeritus of Art Jerry Coulter in Roosevelt National Park.

another ranger offered, "I am, too." As we explored the connection, we discovered she is a 2003 JMU graduate and has worked for the National Park Service since graduation. Please share this photo of Professor Coulter and Greta Doyle ('03). We love the Roosevelt park as much as Greta and can highly recommend it as a destination for Dukes.

PHYLLIS COULTER
Harrisonburg, Va.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. LINWOOD H. ROSE

It has been a wonderful experience to watch President Linwood H. Rose lead James Madison University. He has given the university and the campus community his entire professional career and led Madison to great achievements and many wonderful new successes. I was glad to work with him for so many years.

DR. RONALD E. CARRIER,
President emeritus, Harrisonburg, Va.



Linwood H. Rose picked up the mantle of leadership from Ronald E. Carrier and has taken JMU to new heights.

How is an award-winning magazine made? by YOU!

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE District III) named *Madison* magazine the **2011 Grand Award Winner** in the Alumni Magazine III category for university publications.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the university magazine. In 2011, 385 alumni, students and faculty members contributed articles, essays, photographs, Professors You Love entries, Letters to the Editor and event support to *Madison* and the magazine staff.

YOU are the life of *Madison*.

So, turn the pages and let's get started on 2012!

DISTRICT
CASE III

COUNCIL FOR ADVANCEMENT
AND SUPPORT OF EDUCATION.