

[College of Business]

Human resources management expert takes helm of College of Business

BY BILL WYATT

Mary Gowan, an expert in human resources management, is the new dean of the JMU College of Business. Gowan becomes only the third female dean among the 15 top public undergraduate business schools nationally.

A former dean and professor of management at the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business at Elon University, Gowan is looking forward to the college's continued contributions to local, regional and national business communities.

"I am honored to serve as dean of the College of Business at James Madison University," she says. "The college is well regarded for its innovative and cutting-edge programs that are the direct result of the collaborative efforts of an excellent faculty and staff supported by the JMU administration. ... I am looking forward to being part of the continued upward trajectory of the college."

JMU College of Business graduates have a median starting



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salary of \$58,000, ranking JMU among the top public business schools in the country in return on investment. Forty percent of students have accepted an offer of employment before commencement and more than 90 percent of College of Busi-

ness graduates accept full-time employment in a business field within six months of graduation. With more than 25,000 alumni nationwide, the JMU College of Business counts many influential industry leaders among its graduates.

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— MARY GOWAN

Gowan has extensive con-

sulting and executive education experience with private and public organizations in the areas of leadership, human resources management and organizational behavior. Her clients have included Lockheed Martin, Harris Teeter, Mar-

riott, Sears, Bank of America, Wachovia and the cities of Charlotte, N.C. and El Paso, Texas. Additionally, she was a professor in the executive MBA program at LG Electronics' headquarters in South Korea.

Gowan has received numerous awards for her teaching, research and professional service. Her research focuses on corporate reputation and career transitions. Maribeth Herod ('82), a senior vice president at Bank of America and chair of the JMU College of Business Executive Advisory Council, touted the future of the college under Gowan's leadership. "She will do an outstanding job taking over such a successful program and leading the JMU College of Business to the future. The college will benefit from her strategic vision, approach and attitude. She is definitely JMU quality, and I look forward to supporting her going forward." ❧

* Learn more about the College of Business at www.jmu.edu/cob

[Alumni Association]

Turning vision into reality

More than 60 alumni leaders returned to Harrisonburg the first weekend of June to attend the annual Madison Alumni Conference, which was highlighted by the presentation of a \$100,000 check from the JMU Alumni Association to the Madison Forever Vision Fund. The alumni association sponsored a three-month matching-gift fundraising



effort resulting in more than \$350,000 raised. The conference featured presentations from JMU President Jonathan Alger, Senior Vice President Mark Warner ('79, '81M, '85Ed.S), JMU Alumni Association Executive Director Ashley Privott and Margaret Sloan from JMU's School of Strategic Leadership Studies. The annual Madison Alumni Conference trains volunteers and builds a network of JMU graduates who are informed, involved and invested in shaping the future of JMU.

* Make your gift to the JMU Vision Fund at www.jmu.edu/madisonforever/vision-fund.shtml