



ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Mission Statements and Goals

Updated November 2018

Academic Integrity

The mission of the Center is to place honor, leadership, and service at the heart of a distinctive and meaningful Mary Washington experience; to promote a “seamless” education, where the boundaries between curricular and co-curricular learning merge; and to foster collaboration among all members of the UMW community.

- To create and provide meaningful co-curricular experiences that foster the development of leadership skills, community engagement, academic and personal integrity.
- To create and provide meaningful curriculum-driven experiences that foster the development of leadership skills, community engagement, academic and personal integrity.
- To collaborate with on-campus and off-campus constituencies in creating opportunities to develop leadership skills, community engagement, and personal integrity.

Academic Services

The Office of Academic Services supports student success by developing relationships with students and providing high quality academic services. Through individual advising, tutoring, workshops, special events, and a deep understanding of university academic policies, the office guides undeclared students and special populations in setting and reaching their academic goals.

- Provide academic advising and services that support student success and achievement of academic goals while helping the University with retention efforts.
- Provide quality peer tutoring services for undergraduate students that operates in accordance with the College Reading and Learning level 1 certification guidelines.
- Provide support for students on probation and suspension.
- Provide support for transfer students as they enter UMW.

Athletics

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of Mary Washington we engage our community to teach, support, and celebrate our student-athletes in their quest for excellence. We bring the Eagle Nation together through events we host on campus and participate in across the nation. At the same time, we provide opportunities for tomorrow’s leaders to develop strong values through athletic competition: teamwork, sacrifice, preparation, adversity and success.

- To recruit, retain, and graduate quality student-athletes who will become successful and engaged alumni.

- To be competitively successful at the conference, regional, and national level.
- To provide a quality student-athlete experience that is safe, nurturing, and instills the values of leadership, teamwork and sportsmanship.
- To align with the mission of the University and to serve as a prominent advocate for the University.
- To maximize available resources and identify new funding opportunities.

Bachelor of Liberal Studies Program

The Bachelor of Liberal Studies (BLS) Program is dedicated to educating the nontraditional learner. The BLS Program extends the boundaries of the University of Mary Washington's traditional bachelor programs to include wider and more diverse populations of the Fredericksburg area. The BLS Program promotes the advancement of the non-traditional student's intellectual, academic, professional, and ethical development. BLS graduates are dedicated to community service as leaders in a global, diverse, and complex society. Rather than a traditional college-level opportunity which assumes a four-year residence at an institution of higher learning immediately after the completion of high school, these students require non-traditional strategies and opportunities to continue their education. National and regional adult completion programs recognize that working adults face barriers in pursuing higher education that are distinctive to their status in life. Such barriers preclude their earning an undergraduate degree by the traditional means of a four-year residence on a college campus.

- To promote the advancement of the non-traditional student's intellectual, academic, professional, and ethical development.
- To produce BLS graduates who are committed to community services and leaders in a global, diverse, and complex society.
- To prepare students to submit a portfolio that documents non-classroom experience to earn transfer credit for life and work experience.

Campus Recreation

To develop individuals understanding and appreciation for health of body and mind, foster leadership, encourage participation, and promote lifelong learning. This is accomplished by providing quality facilities and intentional, educational, enjoyable programming, for all members of the UMW community.

Campus Recreation Vision

We strive to provide high quality and diverse experiences to the UMW community as well as provide healthy lifestyle education to each individual we connect with. By offering engaging programs, quality services and up to date facilities we aim to increase student involvement and retention. Finding creative cost-savings and revenue streams will continue to be a priority for the sustainability of the department.

- Demonstrate improved organizational efficiency and financial sustainability through participation in programs, the use of facilities, and access to services.
- Provide support in the operation of university-recognized sport clubs along with a quality recreation and wellness experience.
- Provide and maintain the highest standards and quality of recreational facilities and equipment for the safety of all participants
- Collaborate with other departments to provide an appreciation for wellness within the community for students' academic success.

Center for Career and Professional Development

The “Center for Career and Professional Development” prepares students for the transition from college to career and the dynamic and ever-changing world of work.

- Support students in identifying, pursuing, and obtaining meaningful careers and the skills and habits of mind necessary for lifetime employability.
- Articulate the connection between liberal education and the world of work.
- Create career and professional opportunities for UMW students and alumni by cultivating and stewarding relationships.
- Advance UMW's competitive position through collection, aggregation, and reporting on student outcomes.

Center for Community Engagement

[Preparing a mission statement and goals in 2018-2019]

Center for International Education

The mission of the Center for International Education (CIE) is to build an internationally-minded UMW community in order to prepare UMW students to be globally competent citizens. The Center values diversity and offers an environment that fosters cross-cultural understanding and international cooperation and engagement through transformational programs and experiences.

- Coordinate with other units across the campus to create and sustain a campus culture that welcomes and supports international students and scholars.
- Collaborate strategically with the Office of Financial Aid to better support students in need of aid for their education abroad programs.
- Create and sustain a UMW community committed to global engagement.

Center for Teaching Excellence and Innovation

The mission of the Center of Teaching Excellence and Innovation is to promote and sustain excellence in teaching, advancing student learning, and explore and develop innovative pedagogy and curriculum. The Center will identify and provide ready access to high quality research, resources and programs on effective and engaging teaching, meaningful assessment, emerging technologies, and other instructional resources

- Provide a variety of faculty development initiatives focused on teaching excellence and innovation.
- Support and develop further understanding of teaching and learning by helping faculty to analyze and reflect on how their own teaching can best promote learning outcomes through the exploration and experimentation with new models and tools.
- Provide information and other resources on best teaching practices, innovative curriculum, teaching technologies, and tools.

Continuing and Professional Studies

[Preparing a mission statement and goals in 2018-2019]

Debate Program

Debate at the University of Mary Washington is a co-curricular, interdisciplinary and high-impact learning activity that supports the University's mission of providing undergraduates with a superior liberal arts education as preparation for making positive changes in the world. As an educational enterprise, debate has been central to the pursuit of excellence in liberal learning for more than twenty-five hundred years. A debate education hones the skills of civic engagement and democratic participation, by enhancing communication, critical thinking and problem solving skills, by generating critical thought and reflection on the significant public issues of the day, and promoting undergraduate research through in-depth and rigorous study of a wide variety of significant contemporary public controversies. The Debate Program at UMW provides undergraduate students with an opportunity to enhance their educational experience by participating in intercollegiate debate competitions and public debate exhibitions.

- The UMW Debate Program prepares students to compete successfully in intercollegiate debate competitions.
- UMW policy debaters produce substantial undergraduate research through in-depth and rigorous study of a wide variety of significant contemporary controversies.
- The UMW Debate Program prepares students to engage public audiences on contemporary controversies.

Office of Disability Resources

The mission of the ODR is to support the university's mission of providing high quality instruction by eliminating barriers and creating a welcoming and inclusive learning, programmatic and physical environment for students with disabilities. ODR fosters students' intellectual and creative independence by providing an open, welcoming, and inclusive environment for students with disabilities, providing accommodations and direct services for students with disabilities and providing support for the university community in creating inclusive environments for students with disabilities

- Provide accommodations and direct services with/for students with disabilities.
- Establish efficient and accessible operations of the Office of Disability Resources.
- Provide support for the university community to advance the Principles of Universal Design and Accessibility to promote inclusivity that aligns with UMW Principles of Diversity and Inclusion.

Health Center

The UMW Student Health Center is dedicated to supporting the academic and co-curricular missions of the University of Mary Washington. By addressing the health needs of our students, the SHC enables students to participate as fully as possible in the classroom, our community and in its cultural activities.

- Provide the means for students to receive efficient and cost-effective medical assessment and management of illnesses, injuries, and/or health concerns and needs.
- To collaborate with other Student Affairs departments to develop and offer programming and training that will help make students aware of ways to experience a healthy lifestyle themselves and to promote it in others
- Enhance current services and develop and implement new ones.
- To identify and quickly address new campus health problems.

Honors Program

As appropriate to a small liberal arts university with strong traditions of individualized attention, honor, and strong community connections, the Honors Program at the University of Mary Washington will enhance students' intellectual growth by engaging them in interdisciplinary first-year seminars, honors designated courses, extended research and creative projects, and community service that enhances their development as leaders. The program seeks students whose performance and intellectual abilities demonstrate that they have the range of talents and skills to thrive in diverse communities. Ongoing

assessment will ensure that the program is continually updated to meet the needs of our students and the institution.

- The Honors Program will provide coursework and experiences that expose students to more advanced topics and higher level of thought than a standard undergraduate class and demonstrate that they have acquired a well-rounded liberal arts education.
- The Honors Program will work with the Office of Admissions to attract and recruit high achieving students to UMW. The program will provide experiences and opportunities that will help to retain these students at UMW.
- The Honors Program will work with students, faculty, staff and community partners to provide high-impact experiences (i.e. service learning, co-curricular programming, and capstone research/creative projects) for UMW Students.
- The Honors Program will work with students, faculty, and staff to identify and support applications for scholastic and post-graduate opportunities by Honors Scholars.

James Farmer Multicultural Center

Multicultural Student Affairs strives to facilitate students' learning and personal development, including that of underrepresented groups, by increasing students' awareness and knowledge of diversity issues (i.e., cultural, ethnic, intellectual and social) that frame both the individual and the community.

- To create educational environments that broaden our understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism, diversity and social justice.
- To build relationships to establish a broader community network, within and external to the university, that is committed to improving the recognition and acceptance of the dignity and worth of every individual.
- To provide a warm, welcoming, supportive, and vibrant environment for all underrepresented students that will engage and enhance their social, intellectual, interpersonal and leadership development and skills.

James Farmer Scholar Program

The James Farmer Scholars Program prepares underrepresented middle and high school students from Fredericksburg and surrounding counties to apply, enroll and successfully attend college. This is in support of the University's mission of engagement to improve the regional quality of life and the goal of creating a diverse and inclusive institution.

- Prepare students for the application and enrollment process into 2 or 4 year college programs.
- Enhance student's academic performance and productivity.

- Provide academic support and engage in enrichment activities that improve academic skills and increase cultural knowledge.

Department of Public Safety

The mission of the Department of Public Safety is to provide a safe and secure campus environment that supports high quality instruction. We promote values, integrity and community oriented customer service while maintaining a high level of professionalism. We are committed to the expert development of our officers and the prevention and solving of crimes to improve the quality of the campus community.

- Provide a safe and secure campus environment that allows the University to perform its mission.
- Promote and enhance community partnerships and policing activities.
- Understand and promote an environment where all personnel are committed to the professional code of ethics, accountability and personal responsibility.
- To provide information and awareness for all university community members on emergency preparedness and safety education.
- Support an emergency operations plan that provides adequate coverage to meet the needs of all university community.
- Evaluate and provide emergency support for all hazards that could affect the response and recovery efforts at UMW.

Quality Enhancement Program

The University of Mary Washington Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is designed to help improve our first-year seminar (FSEM), producing better researchers, writers, and speakers. With the QEP we will cultivate the FSEM course as the cornerstone of the First-Year Experience and implement five specific student learning outcomes for all FSEM courses.

- Utilize a variety of research techniques to retrieve information efficiently, evaluate retrieved information, and synthesize information effectively to support their messages or arguments.
- Improve development and organization of written arguments.
- Demonstrate the ability to edit and revise in the writing process.
- Apply the basic theories and principles of oral communication.
- Communicate effectively in a variety of settings, including public speaking and group discussion.
- Enhance the first-year seminar as the cornerstone of the First-Year Experience at UMW.

Rappahannock Scholars Program

The mission of the Rappahannock Scholar Program is to support the University's mission of being a nexus for engagement among diverse communities by recruiting, retaining, and supporting underrepresented, first generation, and economically disadvantaged students in high schools from the Northern Neck Virginia to attended college.

- To select, enroll, and support first-generation underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students from high schools on the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula.
- To examine the impact on the scholars' enrollment at UMW because of a shift in the financial aid policy to only provide one student with a financial aid package that met his or her full demonstrated need (without a loan). In the past five years, 100% of the scholars enrolled needs were met.
- The RSP works with first-generation and low-income students to raise their level of understanding of the college experience.
- Eighty-five percent of the RSP Scholars Cohort are expected to finish college in four-years.

Registrar

The Office of the Registrar supports the University's mission of provision of high quality instruction by providing accurate, responsive and respectful services and timely information regarding course schedules and academic achievement. The office is the steward of student records and is committed to maintaining the confidentiality, integrity and security of these academic records

- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the registration process from initial enrollment until graduation.
- Enhance confidentiality, integrity and security of student academic records.
- Encourage personal and professional development to retain a dynamic workforce.

Residence Life

At the University of Mary Washington, the mission of Residence Life and Housing is to build and sustain a research-informed, inclusive, and developmentally-based program that will encourage students' growth and development, build interpersonal relationships, and integrate student learning opportunities across their college experience. By reimagining and renovating residence halls and apartments and incorporating learning opportunities into on-campus living, UMW will combine new collaborative and digital spaces with the

historical essence and beauty of our campus. In so doing, we will enhance our liberal arts and sciences mission and encourage connections to UMW that will last a lifetime.

- To support out-of-class experiences within the residential living/learning community.
- To foster collaborative relationships and communication between Residence Life and the University community.
- To develop an atmosphere that supports the celebration of diversity and encourages self-responsibility, mutual-respect with the common goal of learning.

Speaking Center/ Speaking Intensive Program

The mission of the Speaking Intensive Program is primarily to support the development of our students' oral communication skills, as demonstrated and exhibited in satisfaction of the Speaking Intensive graduation requirement. This requirement, and expectation, speaks directly to the University mission to share in the creation and exploration of knowledge through freedom of inquiry as oral communication skills are essential and central to that endeavor.

- Enhance student learning through Speaking-Intensive courses that use oral communication activities appropriate to the subject matter and goals of the course
- Provide students with a variety of contexts in which they may obtain and practice oral communication skills.
- Provide student development opportunities, including student workshops, access to support materials, and individual and group work with trained student consultants.
- Program will provide students with sufficient and appropriate opportunities to develop an appreciation of the importance of oral communication in both academic and non-academic settings.
- Provide appropriate support for offering Speaking-Intensive courses across-the-curriculum. This includes providing opportunities for faculty development, and support of the Speaking Intensive Committee.

Office of Student Activities and Engagement

Student Activities and Engagement strives to create a holistic experience through both co-curricular and educational opportunities that foster leadership development and complement the liberal arts focus at the University of Mary Washington. We encourage students to explore their passions and cultivate habits of lifelong learning by providing avenues for personal, professional, intellectual, and social growth in a collaborative environment.

- To increase and diversify the array of co-curricular experiences offered to help students meet their individual, interpersonal, and intellectual well-being.

- To provide student organizations, and students within those organizations, support and opportunities for learning, growth, and leadership development.
- To provide targeted experiences to prepare student leaders for the next step in their career.

Office of Student Conduct and Responsibility

The Office of Student Conduct and Responsibility (OSCAR) supports the Division of Student Affairs's overarching mission to promote student success, learning, and personal wellness. In doing so, it also supports the University's overall mission, which is to provide students with a superior education that inspires and enables them to make positive changes in the world. OSCAR supports these missions by upholding a Code of Conduct, a set of guidelines for how UMW students are to conduct themselves, and what conduct they should expect from each other. These guidelines, based on principles of student development, are intended to facilitate all students' learning and personal growth within the University and beyond, and to create a community of integrity. Students' success, ability to learn, and wellness should not be negatively impacted by the conduct of other students, or by their own conduct. Students whose actions are inconsistent with the Code of Conduct are held accountable through a fair and compassionate process in which education is a primary value. OSCAR upholds an environment in which personal growth is facilitated, citizenship is promoted, and sensitivity to others within the community is balanced against each student's need for personal expression. Related to their conduct, UMW students have both rights and responsibilities, and OSCAR assists students in understanding how those rights and responsibilities benefit all members of the UMW community, including themselves.

- To adjudicate alleged violations of the University's judicial policies, and to provide educational sanctions whenever appropriate.
- To promote a campus environment that supports students in their educational and personal development, and encourages them to make good life decisions.

Student Transition Program

The mission of the Student Transition Program (STP) is to provide a supportive environment that prepares underrepresented or 1st generation students for the rigors of academic life at the University of Mary Washington. STP is a structured academic experience advancing UMW's mission derived goal to retain a more diverse and representative student population.

- To help students successfully transition from high school to the University of Mary Washington.
- To provide instruction and educational support services to enhance student academic success.

Talley Center for Counseling Services

Through assessment, counseling and psychotherapy, consultation and outreach, CAPS works to enhance student learning and reduce psychological distress both by (a) empowering and encouraging students to be responsible for their development and (b) intervening clinically with students when necessary. CAPS aids students in the acquisition of skills and abilities that result in increased self-efficacy, increased understanding of self and others, and enhanced ability to meet future challenges as capable and productive members of society. This statement acknowledges that the mission of CAPS, along with that of the University, is to facilitate seamless and life-long learning, citizenship, leadership, wellness, personal growth and responsibility and service to the community. Our mission emphasizes high quality services such as an early intervention, primary and secondary prevention, and mental health and wellness through education, outreach, crisis intervention and brief therapy.

- To enhance student learning and wellness by providing comprehensive mental health interventions.
- To increase awareness and knowledge of mental health issues and intervention skills within the UMW community and other mental health professionals.
- Committed to enhancing the professional development and training of emerging mental health providers who serve the UMW community.

Teaching and Learning Technologies

The Division of Teaching and Learning Technologies (DTLT) assists the University of Mary Washington in maintaining its commitment to academic excellence by supporting the instructional technology needs of the entire UMW community through instructional design and support, research, advocacy, and consulting.

- Drive faculty development in digital pedagogy as well as teaching and learning technologies.
- Support faculty in their needs with teaching and learning technologies.
- Engage in research and development related to DTLT'S mission.

Office of Transfer and Off-Campus Student Services

[Preparing a mission statement and goals in 2018-2019]

University Libraries

The UMW Libraries constitute the knowledge center of the university -- a physical and virtual manifestation of the institution's mission of connected, integrated, and engaged

teaching, learning, research, and service. The UMW Libraries are committed to creating an environment where students, faculty, and staff share in the creation and exploration of knowledge, in the development of their academic and professional interests, and in practicing the habits of mind necessary for life-long learning.

- Libraries are the intellectual commons where users interact with ideas in both physical and virtual environments to expand learning and facilitate the creation of new knowledge.
- Libraries provide access to collections sufficient in quality, depth, diversity, format, and currency to support the research and teaching missions of the institution. Libraries also enable users to discover information in all formats through effective use of technology and organization of knowledge.
- Libraries partner in the educational mission of the institution to develop and support information-literate learners who can discover, access, and use information effectively for academic success, research, and lifelong learning.
- Cultivate the habits of mind and practice among students, faculty and staff for shared creation, use, organization, and dissemination of our collective information resources.
- Libraries provide sufficient number and quality of personnel to ensure excellence and to function successfully in an environment of continuous change.

University Research

The place of research within UMW's educational mission is expressed this way in the institutional mission statement: "Through a professionally engaged faculty, the University supports ongoing research appropriate to the development of student abilities and faculty interests. It especially encourages the participation of undergraduates in research."

- UMW will increase the amount of sponsored research support achieved from external sources.
- The amount of faculty research activity conducted in each college should meet or exceed the benchmarks established by the college.
- The amount of undergraduate research activity completed by graduates of programs in each college should meet or exceed the benchmarks established by the college.
- Research activity conducted graduate students earning degrees in each college should meet or exceed the benchmarks established by the college (unless the college has determined that research is "not appropriate" as an expectation for a particular degree).

Writing Center / Writing Intensive Program

The University of Mary Washington's Writing Centers seek to enhance and support high quality education through engaged tutorials, workshops, and community outreach. Supporting undergraduate and graduate students in disciplinary and interdisciplinary studies as well as research, the Writing Centers offer one-on-one tutorials by professional and highly-trained tutors. The Writing Centers promote and practice integrity by adhering to and educating about the Honor Code, especially as it pertains to writing. The Writing Centers also promote life-long learning by encouraging students to apply their knowledge and broad-based educational experiences to their own writing, thus developing habits that translate into becoming better writers and academicians during and beyond life at the University of Mary Washington.

- Students will have adequate resources to support their writing experience
- Students will demonstrate satisfactory knowledge of the varying strategies to convey arguments, main ideas, and support/evidence.
- To enhance students' knowledge of the varying patterns of composition organization and development.
- To enhance students' knowledge of the audience, the role of the writer, and rhetorical strategies.
- Students will demonstrate satisfactory knowledge of the writing conventions and correctness.
- Faculty believe students will have adequate resources to support their writing experience.