



The College of
WILLIAM & MARY

Arts and Sciences, Faculty Affairs Committee

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TO: President Taylor Reveley; Provost Michael Halleran

FROM: Arts & Sciences Faculty Affairs Committee: Barbette Spaeth (Chair), Suzanne Raitt, Gul Ozyegin, William Cooke, Berhanu Abegaz, Gregory Hancock

RE: EVMS Proposal

Date: 26 February 2013

The FAC wishes to thank the Provost for responding to our inquiry about the status of the EVMS merger proposal and the role of faculty in the decision-making process. We now understand that the due diligence committee has recommended a two-fold approach for going forward: (a) to explore a pilot partnership in the area of 'health care delivery science' in the next twelve to eighteen months (with possible support of \$200,000 from Richmond), and (b) to then consider the case for a fuller partnership between the two institutions.

While we are appreciative of the deliberative approach to this important matter and the involvement of some faculty in advising the Provost, we must also note that a number of faculty in Arts and Sciences remain quietly apprehensive. They have two major concerns. Some people are worried about a creeping commitment to a closer relationship with EVMS without meaningful input from faculty. Others wonder whether a focus on the EVMS collaboration will distract the attention of the Administration and the Board of Visitors from the highest priorities identified by the strategic planning process, for example: lifting faculty salaries from the bottom of our peer group, preventing the TE/NTE ratio from decreasing, and boosting funds to support faculty-led academic innovations.

In response to these concerns, we recommend early and ongoing consultation with faculty as the pilot program develops. This will ensure that faculty concerns can be addressed fully and openly, and that the likely impact of our collaboration with EVMS on our other ongoing efforts can be judged. Extensive consultation with faculty will increase the likelihood of the long-term success of any new venture, and if it turns out that a partnership with EVMS is unwise, that will be revealed early in the process.

We, therefore, urge you to work in tandem with the faculties of Arts and Sciences and the relevant Schools to ensure that (1) our strategic priorities are pursued credibly and single-mindedly and (2) no initiative such as this goes forward without the formal review and proper endorsement of the faculty. In particular, we respectfully suggest a strong faculty presence on the new advisory body that is mentioned on p.4 of the December 13, 2012 report of the William & Mary EVMS Due Diligence Committee. We also note that the Arts and Sciences Educational Policy Committee has responsibility for approving new undergraduate programs involving Arts and Sciences, and that new Arts and Sciences graduate programs are approved by the Committee on Graduate Studies (see By-

laws of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Article V, Secs. 3.1-3.3 and Article VI, Sec. 1.2). We look forward to the review of any proposal for the pilot program in health care delivery science by the relevant Arts and Sciences faculty committees and subsequently by the full Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Thank you.

CC: Kate Conley, Dean of Arts & Sciences