Faculty of Arts & Sciences Statement
On Dual Career and Family Issues

The Faculty of Arts & Sciences recognizes that for many candidates for tenure-eligible faculty positions a primary consideration is whether or not their partner or spouse is able to find meaningful work in the Williamsburg area. Arts & Sciences is committed to helping faculty candidates in the search for employment for their partners or spouses. Whether or not we are able to offer a position for the partner or spouse depends on which positions are available or could be made available, considering budgetary restraints, as well as your partner or spouse’s experiences, skills, and areas of expertise. If a position for your spouse or partner is an issue affecting your decision about an offer from William & Mary, you may share that information with the search committee chair, department chair, or one of the Arts & Sciences deans at any point in the search. Your sharing or not sharing this information will not prejudice our decision on whether or not to offer you the position.

There are potential opportunities for faculty and staff positions at neighboring institutions: Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Old Dominion University, Eastern Virginia Medical School and Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Hampton University in Hampton, and Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Union University, and University of Richmond, all in Richmond. Many people from the Williamsburg area commute to jobs in state government and private employment in Richmond, the state capital, and to private employers and the large number of military installations in the Hampton Roads area—Newport News, Hampton, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. In general, the labor market in the Richmond and Hampton Roads areas has been less affected by the recession than much of the rest of the country.

The dean’s office will be happy to help identify resources that may assist your spouse in obtaining employment in the area. In many cases, partners or spouses have been able to find employment after a candidate takes a faculty position at the University, and they take up residence in the Williamsburg area.

William & Mary offers excellent day care at the Sara Ives Gore Child Care Center on the Williamsburg campus, although places there are in high demand. There are several other excellent child care centers and pre-schools in the area. The public schools in James City County/Williamsburg and York County have very good reputations, and there are a number of strong private schools as well. Candidates are encouraged to seek information on schools, housing, services, and employment prospects. The University does not endorse or take responsibility for recommending any commercial or educational organization.

More information can be found at http://www.wm.edu/sites/dualcareers/index.php.