

Appendix 12

Draft Mission Statement of "Blank" University and Supporting Documentation

History and Development of the Institution

The institution was founded in 1908 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Fredericksburg. In 1914 it was renamed the State Normal School for Women at Fredericksburg, and in 1924, when four-year-degrees were authorized, it became the State Teacher's College. By 1938 the institution had transformed into Virginia's public liberal arts college for women, and the General Assembly of Virginia changed the name to Mary Washington College. In 1944 Mary Washington became affiliated with the University of Virginia as its women's undergraduate arts and science division. The entire University of Virginia system became coeducational in 1970, and two years later the College became an independent, state-supported institution for women and men, with its own governing board.

Mary Washington College holds a distinctive place within the Virginia system of higher education with its primarily undergraduate, residential student body, and a curriculum that focuses on the liberal arts and sciences. Through an emphasis on quality, the College remains highly selective in its admission policies and offers students an acclaimed general education program with additional across-the-curriculum requirements such as writing and speaking. Faculty and administration support undergraduate research, public service, and internships. To meet the diverse academic goals sought by students in today's society, Mary Washington College is organized into academic departments of one or more disciplines and offers more than thirty undergraduate programs in the liberal arts and sciences. The College awards four degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Liberal Studies, and Master of Science in Elementary Education.

In response to accelerating demographic changes that increased the demand for educational services within the region, in 1999 Mary Washington College opened the James Monroe Center for Graduate and Professional Studies (located in nearby Stafford County.) The two campuses possess separate faculty while both share senior administrative staff, facilities services, and other infrastructure. The Center is designed to offer programs appropriate to the region's educational and economic development and provide both degree and certificate programs that address the goals of students' life-long learning and professional advancement objectives. Many programs emphasize the increasing role of technology in the workplace. None of the course or degree offerings duplicate or overlap the courses and degree offerings of Mary Washington College, or those of the Virginia Community College System. Many programs at the Center are designed to offer flexible schedules of night and weekend courses tailored to meet the needs of residents and businesses within a commuting radius. The Center offers a variety of professional certificates as well as three degree programs: Bachelor of Professional Studies, Master of Business Administration, and Master of Education. It also provides

on-site consultation for business practitioners through the Rappahannock Region Small Business Development Center.

In 200*, BLANK University was established, encompassing both the residential campus which remains Mary Washington College and the renamed James Monroe College which offers programs appropriate to the region's educational and economic development needs. To fulfill the needs and interests of citizens in the region through the most effective use of existing resources, the University works in close cooperation with its neighboring state-supported institutions in planning and implementing new higher educational opportunities. The University also allows those who have completed degrees elsewhere to enroll for a second degree.

University Mission

BLANK University is committed to serving as a premier public institution of higher education, by cultivating an environment of academic excellence and fostering life-long learning. The University provides the structure to enable multiple colleges serving distinct populations to fulfill their missions. The University is designed to remain flexible in response to changing needs.

Mary Washington College Mission (Broad version)

Mary Washington College emphasizes excellence in the pursuit of liberal learning through freedom of inquiry, personal responsibility, and intellectual integrity. Instructional and experiential programs provide students a sound general education, the understanding of their responsibilities as citizens in the broader, diverse community, and the skills necessary for creative and productive lives.

Toward the achievement of these goals, the College requires its undergraduates to pursue broad studies in the arts, the humanities, and the sciences as a necessary supplement to concentration in a particular field. The College regards the provision of high-quality instruction as its most important function. The role of faculty research and scholarly endeavor in this context is to maintain the vitality of teaching, and, accordingly, the College encourages such research and scholarship. Furthermore, it especially encourages the participation of undergraduates in research.

James Monroe College Mission

The James Monroe College supports regional economic development, professional advancement and personal life-long learning, by providing accessible, quality education. The College offers programs tailored to the needs of adult learners, businesses and professionals.