



Marilou M. Johnson

Vice Provost for Academic Development
James Madison University

Marilou Johnson serves as Vice Provost for Academic Development where she works with a variety of programs focused on students and faculty including the Center for Faculty Innovation, the Office of Cross Disciplinary Studies and Diversity Engagement, the Office of the Registrar, the Learning Centers, Academic Policy and Curriculum Development, Academic Program Review, Academic Student Services, the Honor Council and the Furious Flower Poetry Center.

Prior to joining the Provost's staff in 2015 she served a variety of administrative roles beginning in 1995 when she was named assistant dean in the College of Arts and Letters and then later associate dean. In that role she worked with faculty on curriculum development, managed major maintenance requests and facilitated the award of grants and leaves for faculty in the college. In 1997 she served for a semester as interim director of the Institute for Technical and Scientific Communication.

In 2003-2004 she served as interim director of the School of Music. The following year she was named interim director of the School of Art and Art History and also interim dean of a newly forming college focused exclusively on the arts. From 2004 to 2008 she served as interim dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and during that time she was the shepherd for the construction of the 175,000 sq. ft. Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. She represented the faculty and staff of the School of Music and School of Theatre and Dance at all construction progress meetings and managed the procurement of furnishing and equipment for the facility. In addition, in her role as interim dean she managed the budget for the college and oversaw all curricular, personnel and facilities initiatives.

In 2008 she returned to her role as associate dean in the College of Visual and Performing Arts where she was responsible for monitoring the academic progress of students, as well as curriculum development and faculty grants and leaves. She facilitated procurement of all furnishings and equipment for renovation and expansion of the visual arts building on campus.

In 2014-2015 Marilou served as director of the School of Media Arts and Design at JMU.

Marilou is a native of Abingdon, Virginia. She received the Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Arts from James Madison University, the Master of Mass Communication degree from Arkansas State University and the Ph.D. in Communications from The University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

She taught broadcast journalism and television production at Arkansas State University and Carson-Newman College before joining the faculty of what is now the School of Media Arts and Design at James Madison University in 1988. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi.

She served as an Institutional Representative for the Virginia Network from 1999-2014 and is participated in the VA Network Senior Seminar in 1999-2000. She has been on the Board of the VA Network since 2015. She participated in the LEAD Virginia class of 2010.