



For Immediate Release

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ACAD Announces Recipient of Award for Excellence in Academic Leadership

Washington, DC – September 29, 2017 – The American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD) Board of Directors is proud to announce the recipient of the first annual Award for Excellence in Academic Leadership: Dr. Linda Cabe Halpern, Vice Provost for University Programs at James Madison University. The award was established by ACAD to recognize individuals who exemplify excellence in academic leadership through shaping and supporting positive change on their campuses and in their communities. The ACAD Board was pleased with the number of outstanding colleagues submitted by ACAD members

Dr. Halpern stood out among the nominees due to her demonstrated commitment to the liberal arts and her exemplary hard work to bring about positive change in higher education and its institutions. According to her nomination submission “It would be hard to come up with an example of a more outstanding and sustained effort over a longer period to draw the lines of academic leadership than what Dr. Halpern has achieved”. From art history faculty member to playing a pivotal role in key decisions that determine direction and priorities of JMU, Dr. Halpern demonstrates the energy, authoritative leadership, and sheer track record that it takes to shape positive change in the academy.

Beyond the university setting, Dr. Halpern played a critical role in helping ACAD grow into the influential role it plays in higher education and administration today. Her leadership on the ACAD Board was unprecedented and her work was transformative for the organization. Inside and outside the academy, Dr. Halpern truly embodies all that the ACAD Board wishes to promote and recognize as a recipient of this award. ACAD will present Dr. Halpern with the award during its Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The presentation will take place during the Keynote Luncheon on Friday, January 26, 2018.

Founded in 1945 ACAD is an individual membership organization dedicated to the professional development of academic leaders. Recognizing that provosts, deans, and other academic administrators undertake academic leadership as their “second discipline,” ACAD’s mission is to assist these leaders as they advance in careers dedicated to the ideals of liberal education.

Information about ACAD membership, programs, and publications can be found by visiting www.acad.org