

BOV Picking New Name For MWC's Future

By Mark H. Rodeffer
Bulletin Assistant News Editor

With a change to university status likely in Mary Washington College's future, the Board of Visitors may select an "umbrella name" to cover the Fredericksburg campus, which will retain the Mary Washington College name, and the James Monroe Center for Graduate and Professional Studies in Stafford, according to administration and BOV officials.

The BOV could vote on the new umbrella name as early as December, but Paul Dresser, BOV rector, says that a December vote is unlikely.

"I don't feel a sense of urgency to get this done right now," Dresser said. "For me, this is too important a topic to rush into willy-nilly."

Dresser said that the agenda for the December meeting has not yet been set and said he doesn't know what will be on that agenda.

Phil Hall, vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty, said that although the name will change, the Fredericksburg campus will still be known as Mary Washington College and the mission of the college will remain unchanged.

"What we know as Mary Washington College will be carefully preserved. It's not just the name, but what the school actually is," Hall said.

"We aren't going to become another James Madison University of Old Dominion University with 10,000 to 15,000 students, teaching assistants, grad students and all other kinds of programs," he said. "It isn't going to happen."

Dresser echoed Hall's sentiment.

"We do not want to change the culture of dignity of this incredibly well-respected liberal arts college," Dresser said.