

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

February 13, 2017

## *Graduate Showcase of Scholarship & Creative Activities*

**Call for Proposals!** Don't miss this great opportunity to share your work at the annual Graduate Showcase of Scholarship & Creative Activities, April 20, 2017. Proposals may include graduate student research or creative projects highlighting how you are contributing to your academic discipline. Proposed presentations may take many forms including the use of narrative, performance, visual aids, multi-media, audio, and other elements appropriate to the project topic and discipline. **Proposals are due March 2.** All proposals must be submitted through JMU Scholarly Commons. [Submit your proposal](#)

**Call for Award Nominations!** The Graduate School invites nominations for graduate student awards for Excellence in the areas of Innovation, Community Engagement, and Civic Engagement; students who have completed outstanding theses and dissertations may also be nominated for awards. These awards recognize exemplary contributions of graduate students and celebrate the diversity of their work across the university. **The Nomination deadline is March 2.** [More information.](#)

**Woman of Distinction Awards.** Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017 Woman of Distinction Awards. Four awards will be given – one each for a JMU student, instructional faculty, A & P faculty, and staff. Award recipients will be honored during the annual Diversity Conference held on Monday, March 15, 2017. Submit your nominations to Chantelle Fordyce at [fordyce@jmu.edu](mailto:fordyce@jmu.edu) by **February 17.** [More information](#)

**Global Engagement Presentations.** The Office of International Programs is seeking proposals for presentations, panels, workshops, performances, readings, or other activities that celebrate "Global Engagement: Out of Many, One." Selected activities will become a part of International Week, September 25-30, 2017. **The submission deadline is March 1.** [More information](#)

**All Together One Nominations.** The JMU Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa invites you to nominate faculty, staff, and students for the Spring 2017 All Together One Awards. The All Together One Awards celebrate individuals that contribute to the positive spirit of the JMU Community through caring attitudes, commitment to collaboration, and inspiration to others. All members of the JMU community are eligible to be nominated. E-mail nominations to [odk@jmu.edu](mailto:odk@jmu.edu) or hand-deliver them to Sue Bauer in Madison Union 200; there is no specific form to use. Nominations must be submitted by **5 pm on March 20.**

**Do you want to make a difference in a child's life?** JMU's Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services is looking for volunteers to assist with the Reading Road Show (aka the Gus Bus). The Gus Bus uses two mobile literacy vehicles, that serve high-need neighborhoods in Harrisonburg and Page County. Volunteers can be tutors, read to children, and participate in the interactive S.T.E.A.M. afterschool enrichment program. For more information contact [gusbus@jmu.edu](mailto:gusbus@jmu.edu). [Sign up here](#)

**Summer Class Available: Mindfulness and Self Care for Helping Professionals (Psyc 501; 3 credits)** This course is designed for students who intend to work as a helping professional. This course will enhance knowledge and skills related to self-care and wellness, specifically through the understanding and application of mindfulness-based contemplative practices. In addition to exploring the evidence-based literature in a variety of helping professional fields of study and practice, students will learn about the role of mindfulness in: burnout prevention; physical, mental, emotional and relational well-being; and personal and interpersonal meaning-making through both play and nature. Self-care and wellness modalities will be practiced in order to help professionals avoid burnout and to develop skills and

attitudes that can help them thrive in their work. Finally, students will have the opportunity to explore their own professional identities in greater depth, and to offer interdisciplinary education and best practices in a collaborative classroom environment. This course meets during the first six weeks of summer, Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30-5:30, and June 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30-4:30. For more information, contact Dr. Tammy Gilligan ([gilligtd@jmu.edu](mailto:gilligtd@jmu.edu)).

**TGS Travel Grants.** Are you traveling to present your scholarship or creative work at a conference? All graduate students who are making a presentation at a conference are eligible to apply for a travel grant through The Graduate School. If you receive a travel grant, not only can you reduce the cost of professional travel, but you can also include this competitive award as an accomplishment on your resume. Please use the application form on the TGS website, and be sure to follow the submission instructions. **The final deadline for this semester is March 31.** [More information](#)

**Need a Job?** Currently, there are currently 13 graduate assistantships, 15 student positions, and 7 wage positions, for which graduate students might qualify, posted on JMU's [Joblink](#).

### Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Valentine's Day.** February 14.
- **Interviewing Workshop.** February 17, 11am, Student Success Center 3270. Sponsored by JMU Office of Career and Academic Planning.
- **Learning Strategies Workshop:** The GSA, The Cohen Center, and Learning Strategies Instruction are teaming up to provide students with a writing workshop. Students will learn about techniques, such as backwards mapping, that should be helpful when completing a thesis. February 17, 3 pm, Cohen Center (Wilson 107).
- **Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?** Attend a lecture by Dr. Frans De Waal, the Charles Howard Candler professor of Primate Behavior in the Emory University psychology department in Atlanta, Georgia, and director of the Living Links Center at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center. Dr. Waal will provide a general overview of the methods and findings of animal studies with an accent on primates and elephants, but also including octopuses, corvids, cetaceans, and fish. The central message of this new science, known as evolutionary cognition, is one of mental continuity across all species, with human intelligence being a variety of animal intelligence. This event is sponsored by the Cohen Center. February 20, 5 pm, Wilson Hall Auditorium. [More information](#)
- **GSA Happy Hour:** February 24, 5-7 pm at Pale Fire Brewing Co.
- **GSA Meeting:** February 26, 5-6 pm. Cohen Center (Wilson 107)
- **Restorative Practices Workshop.** The Office for Student Accountability and Restorative Practices will be hosting a workshop designed to introduce the concepts and practical applications of restorative practices to the JMU community. Just looking for an overview? Register for Day 1 only! Want to go the extra step and learn how to facilitate, volunteer, and apply restorative practices? Register for all three days! [Register here](#)
- **Spring Break:** March 6-10.
- **JMU Giving Day! March 14, 2017.** Help support JMU's Graduate Students!
- **Thesis/dissertation due to The Graduate School:** April 19.
- **May Graduate Commencement:** May 4.

For additional events of possible interest, regularly check <http://www.jmu.edu/events>

### Tips from TGS (The Graduate School)

**Graduate Policies.** You are responsible to read and follow the graduate policies set forth in the [Graduate Catalog](#). Important information regarding degree progress, including rules for successful progression and continuous enrollment are also on the [Graduate School website](#)

**Approval of a Thesis or Dissertation Committee.** Students who are completing these sorts of project must submit a signed approval form to The Graduate School by the second week of the semester in which the student first registers for thesis or dissertation credits. [Approval form](#)

**Monitor your Dukes E-Mail account!** Official information is sent to each student’s official [Dukes e-mail account](#). Check your @dukes.jmu.edu e-mail account on a regular basis.

**Monitor MyMadison!** The *Student Center* in [MyMadison](#) is where you will find advising information, register for classes, and where you can view “*To Do Items*” that will keep you on track towards graduation. Use the Student Center to update your mailing address and cell phone number. It is **your responsibility** to maintain accurate contact information. Check your account regularly. Don’t miss important information!

**Essential Links:**

- [Graduate School Website](#)
- [Graduate Policies](#)
- [JMU Student Handbook](#)
- [Forms for Graduate Students](#)
- [Thesis Guidelines](#)
- [Financial Aid Policies](#)

**Have Questions?** Please contact the following person if you have questions regarding:

Assistantships/Scholarships/Thesis/Dissertations	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Kathryn Brown ( <a href="mailto:wendelkt@jmu.edu">wendelkt@jmu.edu</a> )
Continuous Enrollment (Current Students)	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Initial Enrollment (Unable to Begin Program)	Sheree Will ( <a href="mailto:willsa@jmu.edu">willsa@jmu.edu</a> )
General Questions	Justin Whetzel ( <a href="mailto:grad@jmu.edu">grad@jmu.edu</a> )

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We welcome suggestions for this newsletter, including events and opportunities. Please send your submission to [grad@jmu.edu](mailto:grad@jmu.edu) .

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