

JMU Graduate Community News

From here, everything is possible!

February 8, 2016



Present your work at the 2nd Annual Showcase of Graduate Scholarship and Creative Activities.

The Graduate Showcase of Scholarship and Creative Activities is a day-long celebration of the diversity of graduate student work across 60 degree programs offered at James Madison University. The showcase provides the opportunity for students to present their work in a variety of formats in a professional conference setting, including

panel presentations, exhibition of creative work, and poster presentations. Top presentations will receive awards. **Save the date!** This event will be held on Thursday, April 14, from 8 AM – 3 PM. **The deadline for submissions is March 4, 2016.** [Full details and submission requirements.](#)

Call for Award Nominations. The Graduate School invites nominations of graduate students for inaugural awards for Excellence in Scholarship, Innovation and Engagement. These awards recognize exemplary contributions of graduate students and celebrate the diversity of their work across the university. Awardees will be recognized at The Graduate School's Award Reception on April 17, 2016 and at the May Graduate Commencement Ceremony. These awards will recognize students for the following distinctions:

- Outstanding Dissertation
- Outstanding Thesis
- Outstanding Innovation and Creativity
- Exemplary Community Engagement
- Exemplary Civic Engagement

The Deadline for nominations is March 15, 2016. [Additional information and nomination procedures.](#)

TGS Travel Grants. These grants support graduate student travel to professional conferences in order that students share their scholarly and creative work. The final deadline to make a request during this academic year is **February 16.** [More information including application instructions.](#)

Engaged Learning Collaboratory. All JMU students are invited to the first Engaged Learning Collaboratory on February 16 (Tuesday) from 9:15-4:00 in the Student Success Center (room 1075). The collaboratory – a collaborative, creative laboratory – is an open space for students to share ideas on how JMU's learning environment engages, challenges, and sustains the mind and heart. Designed for both extraverts and introspective students, the collaboratory will host a range of stations with an array of expressive activities. *Stop by at any time for as long as you'd like! Food will be served.* For more information contact Cara Meixner (meixnecx@jmu.edu).

All Together One Nominations. Do you know a student or faculty/staff member who exemplifies the JMU spirit of "all together one?" Nominate them for the All Together One Award, presented by the JMU Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa. Nominations may be submitted as an email attachment to odk@jmu.edu or hand delivered to Sue Bauer in Madison Union, Room 200. The nominations deadline is **March 21.**

Need help with math, writing, or other subject areas? JMU offers assistance to students at various Learning Centers across campus including the University Writing Center and the Science and Math Learning Center. Students can even attend tutoring sessions for digital communication related assignments. For more information, [visit the JMU Learning Centers website](#).

Looking for something to do in Harrisonburg? Check out the Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance [website](#) for entertainment options in Downtown Harrisonburg. For example, Valentine's Day deals are available.

Keep up with Graduate Student Association (GSA) Events. The GSA is a student-led and student-run organization that provides professional and social opportunities to all JMU graduate students and alumni. [Like them on Facebook](#). [Find them on Twitter](#). (gsa@jmu.edu; 568-7088) [More information](#)

Generate a buzz about your research and creative activities on Twitter! Tweet interesting findings, conference presentations, publications, performances and exhibitions using either #JMUgradresearch or #JMUgradwork. The GSA and The Graduate School will retweet your stories!

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **February 9: Student Assessment Day.** Undergraduate students will be participating in Assessment Day. Please contact your instructor to find out whether your classes will be held. Classes beginning at or after 4 PM will be held as usual.
- **Furious Flower III – Film Screening and Panel Discussion,** February 11, 4 PM. The Furious Flower Poetry Center will provide a partial screening of the new film *Furious Flower III: Seeding the Future of African American Poetry*. After, an esteemed panel of individuals, including the Emmy-Award-winning producer Judith McCray, will lead a discussion with the audience. This celebration of outstanding African American poetry will be held in Madison Union/Taylor 405. [More Information](#)
- **Travel Grants for Graduate Students.** The final deadline to submit a grant to travel during this academic year is February 16. [More Information](#)
- **Contemporary Music Festival,** February 16-18. Guest composer, Stephen Hartke, and The Virginia Sinfonietta are two of the great participants in the JMU School of Music's Contemporary Music Festival! Mr. Hartke will present a discussion about his music, as well as a composition masterclass. Student composers will also host a recital that will feature award winning compositions from JMU students. For full details and times, visit the [Music Events page](#), and look for Contemporary Music Festival events.
- **Spring 2016 Career & Internship Fair,** Career and Academic Planning will hold a career and internship fairs on February 16 & 17 from 11 AM – 3 PM in the Festival Conference and Student Center. Students are invited to network with employers and have a professional photograph taken at the LinkedIn photo booth. Dress professionally! [More Information](#)
- **Diversity at JMU: Campus Climate and Its Impact on Our Community,** February 17, 7 PM. Dr. Matt Lee and students from the CARDS Lab will facilitate discussion relating to survey findings on the experiences of different identities on campus. Students will have the opportunity to learn about different identities and engage in peer-to-peer discussions about diversity at JMU. Located in Madison Union Ballroom. This is a DEEP Impact event sponsored by the [Center for Multicultural Student Services](#).
- **Toward a Small Family Ethic** will be the topic of a presentation by Dr. Travis Reider. This talk and the discussion that will follow will focus on bioethics and the idea that humans should have two or fewer children for moral reasons. February 19, 3:30 PM, Cleveland Hall 114. [More Information](#)
- **GSA Meeting.** February 21, 5 PM in the Cohen Center (Wilson 107). Get to know other graduate students, help plan and take part in grad student events, and ultimately contribute to graduate student life at JMU. All graduate students are welcome!
- **The Wild Party – A Roaring Twenties Musical.** The Forbes Center at JMU presents *The Wild Party*, an award-winning musical about an extravagant 1920's party that quickly turns violent due to jealousy and rage. February 23-28, show times vary. [Ticket Pricing and Show Times](#)

- **Common Ground – Soil Biodiversity and Sustainability** will be the topic of the presentation by Dr. Diana Wall, Director of Colorado State University’s School of Global Environmental Sustainability and Senior Scientist at the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory at CSU. Dr. Wall, will speak about her research on the Antarctic Dry Valleys and the effects of climate change on soil biodiversity and ecosystem processes. February 26, 11 AM. [More Information](#)
- **Women in Leadership Conference: “Leadership at Every Level.”** February 27, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM. The third annual Women in Leadership Conference will be held on Saturday, February 27. All students are welcome to take part in this day-long event celebrating the work of women. Women from a vast array of fields will be speaking, so every participant is likely to find a presentation that inspires. Students will also be given the opportunity to connect one-on-one with outstanding female alumni and network. To register and learn more about the conference, please visit the conference’s [website](#).
- **Ryan Sallans: Eating Disorders, Body Image, and My Trans Identity.** As a part of Eating Disorders Awareness Month, Ryan Sallans known for being a public speaker, publisher, and author, will discuss his experience with eating disorders, as well as his journey of self-acceptance as a transgender man. February 29, 7 PM in Grafton-Stovall Theater. [More Information](#)
- **Ethical Dilemmas in the Digital Age.** Virginia Military Institute will be hosting their 2016 Leadership Conference March 7-8. The conference will discuss questions, challenges and dilemmas that have arisen as a result of new technologies and how they affect our individual and national character. [More Information](#)
- **March 7 – March 11:** Spring Break
- **“Migration: A Phenomenon of Human History from Its Ancient Origins to the Present Global Situation.** April 14-15. Graduate students and faculty are invited to submit presentation proposals by March 20. The Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures is organizing its 14th conference at JMU. This conference will bring together scholars/researchers from a variety of disciplines to investigate ways in which global migration affects and affected countries all over the world. [More Information](#)
- **The Graduate School’s Awards for Excellence in Scholarship, Innovation & Engagement will be held on Sunday, April 17, 2016.** Located in the Madison Ballroom. [More information](#)

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, withdrawals, dismissals or academic progress concerns	Laura Ryman (rymanle@jmu.edu)
Transfer credit, waivers & substitutions, comprehensive exams, concentration or advisor changes degree completion, commencement planning,	Debbie Juhasz (juhaszsj@jmu.edu)
Travel grants, graduate community newsletter submissions, general questions	Justin Whetzel (grad@jmu.edu)

We welcome suggestions for this newsletter, including events and opportunities. Please send your submission to grad@jmu.edu.

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