

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

March 16, 2015

**WELCOME BACK!** The JMU Graduate School faculty and staff hope that you have had a wonderful Spring Break and are ready for the final few weeks of the spring semester!

*Please plan to attend the*

## **SHOWCASE OF GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

Thursday, April 2, 2015

Celebrating 60 years of graduate education at JMU, this event will include presentations, posters and performances by JMU Graduate Students. Please support your fellow students by participating in the public events that will include:

9:30-10:45 [Panel Presentation: Ethical Dilemmas in Our Response to Real World Problems](#)

11:00-12:15 [Panel Presentation: Factors that Influence Engagement](#)

2:00-3:00 [Poster and Creative Projects Session](#)

3:30-5:00 [Workshop for Graduate & Undergraduate Students:](#)  
Presenting Scholarship and Building Your Professional Identity

[More Information about the Graduate Symposium](#)

**Graduate Student Leadership Opportunities:** Consider applying for the 2015-2016 GSA executive council! Positions for President and Vice-Presidents are currently open. Develop professionally, foster the graduate student community, and leave your mark at JMU! Graduate students from all graduate programs are encouraged to apply. Applications due March 29. For more information, and to apply, [click here](#).

**2015 Graduate Community Impact Awards:** Do you know a graduate student or faculty member who has positively impacted JMU and The Graduate School community? Have their efforts stood out for dedication, compassion, selfless efforts, and/or civic mindedness? Nominate them today for the 2015 GSA Impact Awards! Award recipients will be announced at the Graduate Community Picnic on April 30<sup>th</sup>. [More information](#).

**Great Graduate Education.** We just learned that graduate programs in health and business disciplines at James Madison University are ranked in U.S. News & World Report's "Best Graduate Schools 2016" guidebook. Among the ranked programs are Nursing, Business Administration, and Audiology. We are so proud of these programs! Keep in mind that there are no ranking systems in place for many types of graduate programs, so many other great JMU programs may not be recognized in this way. [More information](#)

**GA Positions Available.** Eleven graduate assistantships are currently posted on Joblink for the 2015-16 academic year. Positions are available with the Graduate School Office (two positions), Athletics, Institutional Research, Off-Campus Life, The Health Center (Health Communications; Wellness, & Motivational Interviewing positions), University Recreation, the Adult Degree Program and Libraries and Educational Technologies. Additional positions are likely to be posted soon. See "Graduate Assistant Positions" on JMU Joblink. [More information](#)

**Student Assistant Positions Available for 2015-16.** Apply now for student assistant positions available during the 2015-16 academic year. Currently 15 positions are posted on JMU Joblink and additional positions are likely to be recruited before the end of the Spring semester. "See Student Positions" on JMU Joblink. [More information](#)

**Award for Feminist Scholarship and Creative Work.** To recruit, encourage and support feminist scholarship in the JMU community, the Women's and Gender Studies Program welcomes submissions from students and faculty for consideration for these awards. Submission deadline: March 18. [More information](#)

**Many Languages, One World.** Share your ideas and be heard! Students will be selected as delegates to the 2015 United Nations Academic Impact Global Youth Forum, and will present their plans at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, based on essays submitted by March 25. Entries must be in an official language of the United Nations that is not your first language, and was not your principal language of instruction during your primary and secondary education. [More information](#)

**Tolerance: A Global Necessity from Ancient Times to the Present** will be the subject of the spring conference being organized by the JMU Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures. This conference, to be held on April 8-9 at JMU, will bring together scholars/researchers from a variety of disciplines to address the meaning of tolerance, the virtue that makes peace possible. JMU graduate students and faculty are invited to propose presentations for the conference. Collaborative-team proposals are welcome. Proposals are due March 25. [More information](#)

### Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Health and Health Care: Can We Improve on Both at Sustainable Cost?** will be presented by Alice Rivlin of the Brookings Institution on Monday, March 16, at 4 PM, in the Madison Union Ballroom in the Warren Campus Center. One of the leading advisers to policymakers on this important topic, Dr. Rivlin founded and served as the first Director of the Congressional Budget Office 40 years ago. She also served as Vice Chair of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, among many other important and distinguished positions. [More information](#)
- **The Embodied Learning Project: Common Ground for Scientists and Artists** will be presented by Sharon Babcock (PPH and BIO) and Kate Trammell (STAD) on Wednesday, March 18, at Noon in Roop 208. Drs. Babcock and Trammell collaborate on a creative pedagogy that integrates a clinically-oriented approach to the study of anatomy with a dancer's multi-sensory perspective. They will discuss the energy that is sparked when students from the arts and sciences "mix it up" in an environment filled with movement, play, humor, and creativity. Please bring your lunch, coffee and dessert will be served.
- **A Mixed Methods Research Workshop** for graduate students and undergraduate honors students will be presented on March 18. This workshop by Karin Tollefson, John Hathcoat, Stephanie Baller, and Emeka Anaza will provide basic and applied learning experiences with mixed methods to students who are engaged in research projects. For more information contact Dr. Karin Tollefson-Hall ([tollefkl@jmu.edu](mailto:tollefkl@jmu.edu)).
- **A Poetry Reading by Rachel Eliza Griffiths** will be held on Thursday, March 19, 4 PM in the Duke Hall Gallery Court. [Rachel Eliza Griffiths'](#) full-length collection, *Mule & Pear* (2011), was selected for the 2012 Inaugural Poetry Award by the Black Caucus American Library Association. In it, the speakers echo and respond to some of the most important black women characters in the literature of the past 100 years. Both a poet and photographer, Griffiths presents her reading in the Duke Hall Gallery Court, which will help launch her latest book, *Lighting the Shadow* (2015) and showcase some of her images. [More information](#)
- **Japan's Lessons for China** will be presented by Professor Michael J. Smitka on Friday, March 20, 3:30 PM in Taylor 405. China can learn much from Japan's economic experience. Understanding what took place in Japan could help China avoid making the same mistakes as its own growth slows. Dr. Michael Smitka is a professor of economics at Washington & Lee University. His specialty is in East Asia. [More information](#)
- **Students as Neighbors: Engaging for Sustainable Solutions.** Join the Campus Community Partnership and the Campus Community Civic Collaborative (4C) as we seek to nurture positive relationships and help shape a Harrisonburg community that everyone will appreciate. Register for this event to be held on Saturday, March 21, 10 am – 12:30 PM in the JMU Student Success Center, Room 4044. [More information](#)
- **A GSA Ethics Slam** will be held on March 23 at 7:30 PM. Come out to Clementine and engage in our second "Ethics Slam," a lively and interactive evening of discussing and debating ethical issues of global, national, and local interest. Teams will present their arguments on two to three different ethical issues and judges will decide the most effective arguments in pursuit of the coveted "philosopher's hat." [More information](#)
- **Re-Examining Human Nature and Re-Creating Society: Four Cornerstones for Transformation** is the title of the next Madison Vision Series Lecture, March 25, 4 PM in Madison Union Ballroom. Dr. Eisler is President of the Center for Partnership Studies and internationally known as a systems scientist, attorney working for the human rights of women and children, and author of groundbreaking books such as *The Chalice and the Blade: Our*

*History, Our Future*, now in 26 foreign editions, and *The Real Wealth of Nations: Creating a Caring Economics*. Dr. Eisler has received many honors, including honorary PhDs and peace and human rights awards. [More information](#)

- **Logic and Reasoning Institute Conference on Goedel**, March 27, 1 – 5:30 PM in Wilson 107. Kurt Gödel, mathematician, logician, and philosopher, is responsible for what may be the most important mathematical result of the 20th century: his famous incompleteness theorem, which states that within any axiomatic mathematical system there are propositions that cannot be proved or disproved on the basis of the axioms within that system. This proof established Gödel as one of the greatest logicians since Aristotle. Its repercussions continue to be felt and debated today. Co-sponsored by the Cohen Center for Technological Humanism. [More information](#)
- **Showcase of Graduate Scholarship and Creative Activity**, April 2. Celebrating 60 years of graduate education at JMU, this event will include presentations, posters and performances by JMU Graduate Students. Please support your fellow students by participating in the public events. [More information](#)
- **Natural-Born Cyborgs? Reflections on Bodies, Minds, and Human Enhancement** will be the subject of the next Cohen Center Lecture by Dr. Andy Clark, Friday, April 3, 11 AM, Madison Union Ballroom. We are entering an age of widespread human enhancement. The technologies range from wearable, implantable, and pervasive computing, to new forms of onboard sensing, thought-controlled equipment, prosthetic legs able to win track races, and on to the humble but transformative smartphone. But what really matters is the way we are, as a result of this tidal wave of self- re-engineering opportunity, just starting to know ourselves: not as firmly bounded biological organisms but as delightfully reconfigurable nodes in a flux of information, communication, and action. This gives us a new opportunity to look at ourselves, and to ask the fundamental question: Where does the mind stop, and the rest of the world begin? [More information](#)
- **Thesis and Dissertation Projects** are due in the Graduate School office on April 22 for students graduating in May. [More information](#)
- **Graduate Community Picnic**. Thursday, April 30 on the Grace Street House Lawn. All members and family of the graduate school community will be invited to attend.
- **May Graduate Commencement** will be held on Thursday, May 7, at 7 PM in the Convocation Center. [More information](#)

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

**Did You Know?** For the first time, graduate students serving on the Graduate Student Association will be recognized at the spring commencement ceremony. All graduating GSA members will be donning a “white” cord to recognize their efforts in supporting the graduate school community at JMU.

**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](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu); 568-7088) [More information](#)

**Need a Job?** The JMU [Office of Student Employment](#) has links to positions now available on and off campus.

### 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	Debbie Juhasz ( <a href="mailto:juhaszdi@jmu.edu">juhaszdi@jmu.edu</a> )
Continuous Enrollment	Tracie Esmaili ( <a href="mailto:esmailtb@jmu.edu">esmailtb@jmu.edu</a> )
General Questions	Sara Harper ( <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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