

JMU Graduate Community News

From here, everything is possible!

April 11, 2016

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL SHOWCASE OF SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES



This week, Thursday, April 14, from 8 AM – 3 PM. Please participate in this day-long celebration of graduate student work across 60 degree programs offered at JMU. Overall [schedule](#):

Time	Session	Location
9-9:30	Continental Breakfast and Registration	The Cohen Center, Wilson 107
9:30-10:45	Opening Remarks and Panel Session I	The Cohen Center, Wilson 107
11-12:15	Panel Session II	The Cohen Center, Wilson 107
12:30-1:30	Lunch for Conference Participants (Please register in advance)	Madison Union Ballroom
1:30-3:00	Poster Presentation Session	Madison Union Ballroom
5:00-6:00	Graduate Student Life Panel	The Cohen Center, Wilson 107

To help us plan, please RSVP at grad@jmu.edu with your **name**, the **sessions** you will be attending, and whether you will be joining us for **lunch**. [Full schedule of presentations and events](#).

The Graduate School Awards Ceremony, April 17 at 7 PM in Madison Union Ballroom. Students and faculty are strongly encouraged to attend The Graduate School's Awards for Excellence in Scholarship, Innovation, and Engagement. Award winners will be honored in the areas of outstanding theses, outstanding dissertations, and community engagement. Travel grant recipients and others will also be recognized. GSA Impact award winners will be announced. **To help us plan, please RSVP at grad@jmu.edu** with your **name** and the **number of guests** you intend to bring. Appetizers will be served. We look forward to celebrating with you!

GSA Impact Awards. Nominate students and faculty members for the Graduate Student Association Impact Awards. If you know of an individual who has had a positive impact on graduate students and/or the local community, please nominate them for an Impact Award by **April 10**. Awards will be announced at the TGS Awards Ceremony on April 17.

Call for Nominations: The President's Purple Star Awards. The Office of the President is seeking award

nominations for the Purple Star Awards, which honor the hard work of JMU employees in the areas of customer service, teamwork, community service, and more. Purple Star recipients will also be nominated for a Governor's Award for Public Service. If you know of an exemplary employee whose work deserves recognition, please consider nominating them for this outstanding honor. [More information including nomination guidelines and procedures](#). **Deadline for nominations is April 13th.**

3rd Annual HeartChase. Love running or walking? Enjoy adventure games? Gather your friends, family, or colleagues and register your team for the 3rd Annual HeartChase on **April 23rd**. HeartChase is an interactive "chase" through downtown Harrisonburg for a good cause! [More information including registration](#).

Empowerment through Sport: Ability Olympics! April 22 & 23, individuals of any and all ages and disability are invited to participate in JMU's third annual Ability Olympics – where everyone can be an athlete! Each participant will receive 1:1 mentoring and the opportunity to learn four sports of his or her choosing. Plus, the event will host speakers, social events, and games. For additional questions, please contact Rylie Power at abilityolympicsjmu@gmail.com. [Event registration](#).

The Big Dig: Volleyball Tournament. Gather your friends and register for The Big Dig – a 4-on-4 volleyball tournament at UREC on **Saturday, April 23!** [Registration and more information](#).

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

- **Communal Art Project Opportunity! April 1 – 30.** In honor of Poetry Month, join the Furious Flower Poetry Center to add your contributions to a communal poem. Visit Carrier Library lobby every day from 2-3 pm during the month of April to participate. For more information call 568-8883 or email furiousflower@jmu.edu.
- **The College of Science and Mathematics** is conducting multiple events across fields of study. [More Information](#)
- **April 14:** Last day for students to submit work to faculty to remove "incomplete" grade for fall semester 2015.
- **"Euthanasia and End-Stage Dementia: A Patient's Choice."** JMU Alumnus, John Gardner, conduct a thought-provoking discussion regarding the elderly population and self-requested euthanasia on **April 15**, 5:30 pm, Cleveland Hall. [More information](#)
- **Do you love trivia?** Head downtown on Saturday, April 16 for the Food 4 Thought: Downtown Trivia Crawl. Enjoy food, friendship, and mind-bending trivia as you travel from restaurant-to-restaurant answering questions. Prizes will be awarded, and food/drink specials will be available. [Register Here](#)
- **Enjoy Collegiate Debates?** You won't want to miss The Madison Cup, where peers from around the world compete for scholarship prizes. The topic will be Police militarization in the United States. **April 18**, 6 pm, Wilson Hall Auditorium. [More Information](#)
- **Unwind with Jazz.** Take a break from end-of-year stress and head to The Artful Dodger on **April 19** for an evening of jazz music. JMU Jazz Chamber Ensembles will be performing from 7-9 pm for this free event. [More information](#)
- **April 20:** Deadline for submission of thesis and dissertation documents to The Graduate School for spring 2016.
- **"From oceans to mice: The molecular ecology of microbial communities."** Dr. Steven Wilhelm from the University of Tennessee will give a seminar on molecular ecology on **April 22** in Bioscience 1007. 12:20-1:10 pm. [More information](#)

- **Taste of Downtown.** The highly-anticipated annual restaurant week will be taking place from April 24-28 in Downtown Harrisonburg. Explore an array of cuisine, and enjoy special offers with friends, family, and colleagues - all while supporting local businesses! [More Information](#)
- **Graduate Commencement Ceremony:** May 5 at 7 pm in the Convocation Center. [More information](#)
- **May 15:** Deadline to submit graduation application for December.
- **May 16:** Summer session courses begin.
- **May 30:** Memorial Day. Classes do not meet.

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 (juhaszdi@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 .

The Graduate School (TGS)

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