
Institute for Environment

Dr. Steven Frysinger, Chair

The Institute for Environment is a collegial association of environmental faculty from James Madison University, crossing departmental, college and academic program boundaries.

Mission

The Institute for Environment (IFE) will promote synergism and faculty/student collaboration in environmental research, projects, and degree programs, helping to ensure that JMU is identified as an institution with a world-class environmental presence which is both coordinated and diverse.

Activities

The IFE conducts a variety of activities intended to foster communication and collaboration among the JMU environmental faculty and students, as well as their external stakeholders. Examples of these activities include:

- Maintenance of a World Wide Web presence (www.jmu.edu/InstituteForEnvironment), which serves as an electronic "front door" to environmental programs and activities at JMU.
- Facilitation of dialog about the various environmental programs offered or proposed.
- Operation of a directory and e-mail list to help institute members discover each other's expertise and communicate with each other.

- Dissemination of news of interest to institute members via either electronic or paper means.
- Maintenance of a resource list to help faculty and students locate environmental instruments, equipment and software on campus.
- Organization of mini-conferences/workshops on the environment to showcase student and faculty work from all academic units.
- Sponsorship of scholarships/grants to help students with research expenses, conference travel, etc.

Related Programs

JMU offers the following environmental programs:

- Environmental Information Systems minor
- Environmental Management minor
- Environmental Studies concentration (Geography program)
- Environmental Studies minor (Geology Department)
- Environmental and Natural Resource concentration (Economics program)
- Environment concentration (Integrated Science and Technology program)

Membership

Faculty members from all colleges of the university participate in the IFE. A complete and current roster may be found at www.jmu.edu/InstituteForEnvironment/.

JMU Environmental Education Center

Dr. Steven Frysinger, Faculty Sponsor

The JMU Environmental Education Center (EEC) is located on the JMU farm in Port Republic, consisting of 12 hectares (30 acres) of second growth forest, 300 meters (1000 feet) of frontage on the North River (just upstream of the formation of the Shenandoah River), and an historic brick house. This facility is intended to:

- provide an ideal space in which to disseminate environmental information to school students and community groups.
- support on-going JMU student projects involving air quality, surface and ground water quality, and alternative energy systems.

- provide an inviting off-campus venue for workshops, meetings and symposia.

The EEC conducts operations in community and in-service teacher environmental education, taking advantage of the pavilion located on the property to provide shelter for these activities when necessary.