



School of Strategic  
Leadership Studies

# Fall 2023 Newsletter

October 18, 2023

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## Events

### Applications Open for Fall 2024 Entry

October 12, 2023

Be a part of SSLS' next incoming cohort! Applications for Fall 2024 entry are open from October 12, 2023 until February 1, 2024. Email Kira Lambert at [lambe2ks@jmu.edu](mailto:lambe2ks@jmu.edu) with any questions regarding applications or to set up an informational session.

### Madison Celebration of Research & Scholarship featuring Dr. Nara Yoon

October 18, 2023

The Office of Research and Scholarship is hosting this event to celebrate the Provost Award Winners for Excellence in Research and Scholarship. SSLS faculty member Dr. Nara Yoon, along with other [2023 award winners](#), will deliver a lightening talk on her research.

### Fall Advisory Board Meeting & OneBoard Luncheon

October 27, 2023

### Madison Scholar Presentation featuring Dr. Adam Vanhove

November 1, 2023

Join the College of Business in celebrating their 2023 Madison Scholar, Dr. Adam Vanhove, with a presentation of research titled, "The future of AI is here... kind of: A meta-analysis of supervised machine learning classification performance in predicting HRM outcomes." This event will be held in person and over livestream, accessible with this link: <https://jmu-edu.zoom.us/j/88484528672>

### SSLS Research Forum

February 22nd, 2024

More information about joining the forum as a presenter or attendee to come later in 2023.

# DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

## Youth Business Leadership Development Camp

The Youth Leadership Business Development Camp, hosted in partnership between SSLS and Bridgewater's College of Business, invited 23 middle school students from the Harrisonburg/Rockingham area to dedicate a week of their summer break to grow their leadership potential. This transformative experience allowed students to identify and hone their unique leadership skills through a collaborative project asking groups to develop their own business concepts. The program culminated in a formal presentation of these ideas for friends and family of the students and program.

We'd like to extend a special thanks to SSLS alumni, Dr. Sevinj Iskandarova ('21), and SSLS faculty emeriti, Dr. Karen Ford, for their contributions to the program.

You can read more about the camp in this feature from the [College of Business' eNews](#).



## Community Leadership Course for Veterans

The Community Leadership Course for Veterans (CLCV) is a grant-funded project designed to connect veterans both at JMU and in the larger Harrisonburg-Rockingham area. With support from SSLS, CLCV two cohorts of students in the 2022-23 academic year, where 11 participants learned concepts relating to community engagement and project design.

Participants were each tasked with designing their own collaborative Community Impact Project (CIP), which were diverse in scope, and impact target populations of the participants' choosing. In the spring alone, over 400 individuals were touched by projects developed through CLCV!



### Spring 2023 projects include:

- The **Veteran's Appreciation Picnic** for military families at the Harrisonburg American Legion, featured on WHSV.
- The **Fallen Soldiers 5k** organized in collaboration with JMU ROTC.
- **Hubbard's Cupboard**, an extension of JMU's food pantry located in the VALOR student veteran lounge.
- **Boots + Grinds**, which provides space for veterans of all ages to connect over coffee and outdoor activity.

## Reaching New Heights

Financial stability and ongoing support are essential to providing high-impact professional development experiences to our students. We are delighted to share that **41** individual and household donors supported SSLS during the 2023 **Reaching New Heights** college-wide fundraising campaign!

Your financial contributions directly support our mission of developing scholar-practitioners by providing summer research stipends, dissertation research incentives, and SSLS programming that advances scholarly and professional development.



Get in touch with us at [ssls@jmu.edu](mailto:ssls@jmu.edu) for more information on ways to give including naming opportunities and participating in annual giving campaigns.

## Leading Change Conference

The third bi-annual *Leading Change* conference, held on February 24th-25th, 2023, became the first academic conference to be hosted in JMU's College of Business Learning Complex. The conference was fully in person for the first time since 2019 and welcomed over 87 participants from 23 organizations. The conference's keynote address from Dr. Felecia Commodore, professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership at Old Dominion University, was covered in the [COB Monthly eNewsletter](#).

### Conference Registrants

- 87 total registrants
- 23 organizations/institutions represented
- Attendee affiliation:
  - 39% faculty/professional
  - 61% graduate student
- 22 papers presented

### Survey Responses:

- 58% of respondents said the conference **exceeded** their expectations.
- 100% of respondents said the conference met or exceeded their expectations.



We thank the 2023 Conference Chair, **Dr. Benjamin Selznick**, for his work towards advancing Leading Change along with the many SSLS students, faculty, and friends who volunteered their time to make the conference a success! Leading Change will return in 2025.

# STUDENT NEWS

## Spring 2023 Graduates

Congratulations to our three Spring 2023 graduates!



**Dr. Elizabeth Narehood**

Leading a Community Promise: A Mixed Method Study Exploring the Dynamics of Adaptive Leadership and Student Success



**Dr. Guy deBrun**

Developing and Establishing Validity Evidence for a Measure of Situational Leadership in an Outdoor Leadership Context



**Dr. Dan Finseth**

Higher Education Vulnerability: An Assessment Model

## Awards & Service

**Tatjana Titareva** won the NASPA foundation's 2023 Channing Briggs Small Research Grant for conducting mini-research on "Discovering Technology Leadership Influence on Intent to Adopt AI-based Early Student Success Systems at James Madison University."

**Elizabeth Narehood's** submission, "*Leading a community promise: A mixed methods case study exploring the dynamics of adaptive leadership and student success,*" was named the Best Doctoral Proposal at the 2023 Leading Change Conference.

## Josh Orndorff

**Josh Orndorff** was inducted into the 2023 cohort of AFTE John Wesley Fellows. This program promotes the renewal of theological education by supporting gifted scholar-teacher-leaders in the Wesleyan tradition selected for their promise for intellectual leadership in renewing the Church. Each fellow receives a scholarship of \$15,000 toward the completion of their doctoral studies.

[SEE THE 2023 FELLOWS](#)



Josh Orndorff

## Jalal Maqableh

**Jalal Maqableh** now serves on the board for the Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS), which brought him to the White House to attend a policy briefing for Arab American leaders. This event featured remarks from the White House and agency senior staff.



**Marcus Hubbard** received a scholarship from the Glasser Institute for Choice theory and research and has accepted a position on their board of directors.

## Student Presentations at #LEADCC23

### Rebeca Barge

*Postsecondary adaptive & inclusive leadership for DEIJ*

### Marleen Bett

*The impact of green transformational leadership on establishing sustainability practices in organizations*

### Guy deBrun

*Designing leadership measures using authentic assessments*

### Kennedy Musyoka

*The impact of board capital on the financial sustainability of nonprofits in the U.S.*

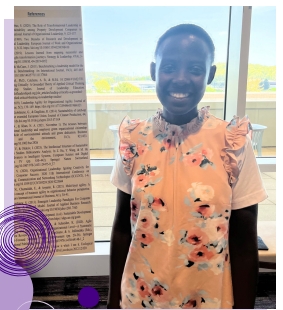
### Brian Smallwood & Virginia Soenksen

*Leadership in the fine arts industry: Development and practice*

## Addtl. Presentations

**Maureen Malomba** presented a poster at the Student Engagement Symposium as a representative of the Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World. The project is titled, "Promoting JMU's Academic, Civic, and Community Sustainability Opportunities to Current and Prospective Students."

**Marleen Bett** presented a poster at The Graduate School's 2023 Showcase of Scholarship titled, "An Overview of the Capabilities of an Economically Successful Sustainability Leader."



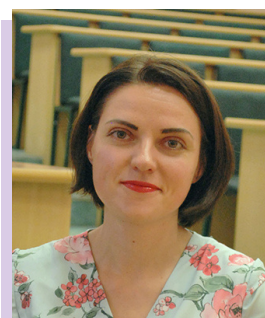
## Media Mentions

**Tatjana Titareva** was featured in the spring edition of Madison Magazine for her ongoing research on AI and higher education and journey to JMU as an international student.

[VIEW THE ARTICLE](#)

## Publications

**Brooke Graham** et al. published, "Closing the gender gap in healthcare leadership: Can administrative fellowships play a role?" in the *Journal of Healthcare Management*.



# ALUMNI NEWS

## Alumni Presentations at #LEADCC23

### Kathleen Johnson ('22)

Activist, entrepreneur, leader: *The influence of social justice advocacy and entrepreneurial orientation on leader self-efficacy*

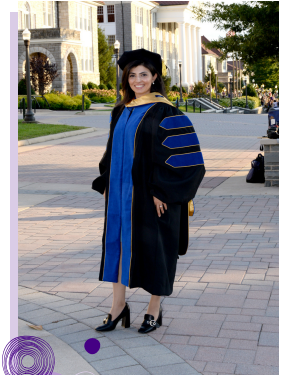
### Daisha Merritt ('15)

*Remittances as soft power*

## Publications

### Dr. Sevinj Iskandarova ('21)

published "System leadership: Self-driving vehicles regulation and the role of government" with colleague Dr. Samy El-Tawab in the 2023 IEEE International Conference on Smart Mobility proceedings.



## Service & Career

**Paul Mabrey ('17)** accepted a position as the Director of Student Success and Enrollment Analytics at James Madison University.

**Aaron Noland ('17)** is now the Chief of Staff at the University of Virginia McIntire School of Commerce.

**Kevin Meaney ('15)** was selected by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities for the 2023 Emerging Leaders Program.

**Sam Nickels ('16)** has now completed 111 declarations as a Country Conditions Expert working with at-risk Central American immigrants.

## Awards

**Dr. Jody Fagan ('14)** and colleague Ari Emilia Short were awarded Best Overall Proposal at the 2023 Leading Change Conference for their submission, "Searching for nonbinary and trans inclusion: A call to action for leadership studies."

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Presentations

### Adam Vanhove, Brooke Graham\*, & Tatjana Titareva\*

Vanhove, A. J., Graham, B. Z., Titareva, T., & Udomvisawakul, A. (2023) Classification performance of supervised machine learning to predict HRM outcomes: a meta-analysis using cross-classified multilevel modeling. Paper presented at the Academy of Management annual conference, Boston, MA, August 4-8, 2023.

*This paper was selected for a Best Paper Award at the AOM Annual Conference, marking the second year in a row an SSLs authored paper received such honor!*

## Collaborative Presentations at #LEADCC23

### **John W. Lee\* and Paul Mabrey ('17)**

*Leading learning improvement at scale*

### **Adam Vanhove & Josh Orndorff\***

*Subgroup differences in implicit leadership and followership theories: A comparison of subordinates and managers nested in dyads*

### Ben Selznick & Tatjana Titareva\*

Selznick, B., & Titareva, T. (2023) Postsecondary administrative technology leadership and educational AI: An ethical shared approach. Presented at the Beitzel Symposium, Harrisonburg, VA, September 27-28, 2023.

## Publications



### **Ben Selznick & Cover Heishman\***

Selznick, B. S., & Heishman, C. (2023) "I alone can't stop the spread": Mid-level conduct professionals sensemaking through COVID-19. *Georgia Journal of College Student Affairs*, 39(1). <https://doi.org/10.20429/gcpa.2023.390103>

### **Sevinj Iskandarova ('21) & Margaret Sloan**

Iskandarova, S., & Sloan, M. F. (2023) A national transfer credit system can increase students retention in public universities: A systems thinking leadership perspective. *Journal of Educational Leadership in Action*, 8(3).

### **Adam Vanhove & Brooke Graham\***

Vanhove, A. J., Graham, B. Z., Thornton, G. C. (2023). Moderators of sex- and race-based subgroup differences in assessment center ratings: A meta-analysis. *International Journal of Selection and Assessment*, 31(1), 63-91.

# FACULTY NEWS



**Dr. Nara Yoon** is the recipient of the 2023 Provost Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship which recognizes early career, tenure-track faculty members who have demonstrated significant achievement in research and scholarship. Dr. Yoon is also the recipient of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action 2023 Emerging Scholars Award.

**Dr. Adam Vanhove** was recognized as the College of Business' 2023 Madison Scholar, an award given to faculty who exemplify excellence and scholarly achievement in their respective discipline. As a Madison Scholar, Dr. Vanhove will present a lecture on his research regarding AI on November 1st.



## Publications

### **Ben Selznick**

Selznick, B. S., Hathcoat, J. D., & Shapovalov, Y. A. (2023) "We're on this journey together": Instructor perspectives on teaching and learning across disciplines. *Innovative Higher Education*. DOI: 10.1007/s10755-023-09663-8

Jach, E. A., Selznick, B. S., & Trolan T. L. (2023) Transforming applied learning opportunities to online education: A synthesis-to-practice approach. *American Journal of Distance Education*, 1-17.

McCready, A. M., Selznick, B. S., & Duran, A. (2023) Will anything change? Examining historically white fraternity members development of openness to diversity in contemporary times. *Research in Higher Education*, 1-20.

### **Adam Vanhove**

Fisher, D. M., LeNoble, C. A., Vanhove, A. J. (2023) An integrated perspective on individual and team resilience: Moving from multilevel structure to cross-level effects. *Applied Psychology*, 72(3), 1043-1074.

