

# COMMUNITY WITH IDEAS

The bi-annual newsletter highlighting achievements, outreach, and new IDEAS for the Division of Student Affairs and University Planning.

SPRING 2014

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*The Community with IDEAS committee wants to spotlight our departments within the Division of Student Affairs and University Planning and how they fulfill the university values in their daily operations. This newsletter will feature four of our SAUP directors highlighting a value of their choice and how that value is represented by their department. The upcoming Fall 2014 issue will feature the remaining eight directors and their departments.*

## Office of Disability Services

**“Live with integrity, respect the rights of other people, and follow your own bliss.”**

~Nathaniel Branden\*

Some might say that living with integrity is living in such a way that the choices or decisions you make when no one is looking are the same as those you would make when in the presence of others or when the decision will be made known to others. This definition is helpful as a start, but we must extend the conversation to understand integrity as shared value for our work together.

Following University and Division work on the strategic plan, and with superb support from Jennifer Campfield and Raymond Brown in Training & Development, the Office of Disability Services staff spent time this winter revising our departmental mission, vision and values statements to guide our work and deliberately align with them with SAUP and the University (see below). In discussing our values, we linked ethical reasoning and integrity.

ODS staff deal with many questions and problems on a daily basis and there are times when those who seek support or ask questions may receive different answers to what on the surface may appear to be “the same” question. However, each individual circumstance we face must be met and approached with authenticity. This supports mutual respect and an opportunity to engage in an interactive dialogue, examination of the facts, and exploration of possible alternatives or solutions to remove accessibility barriers given the specifics of the situation.

Therefore, the value of integrity for ODS results in an approach and

applied process that is consistent in terms of respecting the rights of all involved, applying ethical reasoning and valuing the individual’s opportunity to “follow their bliss.”

### **Mission**

ODS collaborates with the JMU community providing programs and services that support the university in creating inclusive, equitable environments that value disability, diversity and accessibility.

### **Vision**

To be the strategic campus partner for removing barriers and building capacity to ensure inclusion and equity for people with disabilities.

### **Values**

- Innovation
- Excellence
- Ethical Reasoning/Integrity
- Universal Design
- Academic Quality
- Student-Focus

\*Read more at <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/keywords/bliss.html#mZZjhjSRO8lyxtwM.99>



## Office of Institutional Research

As a part of the Student Affairs and University Planning division, the Office of Institutional Research is committed to compiling, analyzing and reporting data accurately. We embrace the university value of Integrity.

There are several definitions of the word “integrity,” but we will offer a few considerations as we talk about our office mission, vision and values.

Our mission: to assist the university in the pursuit of its mission by dynamically and efficiently supporting decision-making, accountability and planning.

Our Values: We value honesty, integrity, accuracy, timeliness, responsiveness, community, innovation, accountability and foresight.

One definition of integrity states “integrity is a sound, unimpaired, or perfect condition” like the hull of a ship is considered to have “water-tight integrity”. We endeavor to be sound or consistent in the way we gather, “clean,” organize, analyze, store and report data. We also seek to develop, collect and communicate measures of institutional effectiveness using these data.

Our office regularly responds to requests for data from the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV), legislative groups,

policy makers, the federal government and other agencies. We provide data and reports to senior leadership, deans and other administrators at JMU in an effort to inform management decisions. We provide university information to numerous external reporting groups such as US News and World Report, Petersons, College Board and Kiplinger’s. Additionally, we respond to a heavy volume of ad hoc requests from constituents both inside and outside of the university. In the presentation of all data, we strive to be consistent in the usage, analysis and reporting of the university’s data.

Integrity can also mean honesty. Honesty is a key value of our office in that we allow the data to speak for themselves in a straightforward and accurate manner. The Office of Institutional Research handles the university’s sensitive data with honesty and integrity. We will continue to do so as our federal and state governments demand more detailed and complex information for accountability.

## Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Justice

### Value: Community

Written by RJ Ohgren

James Madison University is a community. Community, at its core, is a network of relationships; each action a member of that community takes affects those relationships. As members of the community, we can improve our relationships with our actions, or we can act in ways that harm our relationships. The decisions we make are not insular. On a daily basis, this is the conversation with students the Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Justice is tasked with; our decisions don’t only affect ourselves, they affect others.

Getting students to see that, however, can be a difficult task. Developmentally, many of them are still only able to see the effects on themselves, as expanding their frame of reference is a big step. Where we’ve seen this expansion and developmental shift occur for students most visibly, is through the restorative practices our office has facilitated.

Our office has worked tirelessly to imbue our process with restorative elements as it is these elements that help students realize their interconnectedness with others and the community. Often, students enter these processes asking what the community can do for them; our task is to push them to see their connection to the community. Instead of framing our conversations in terms of what rule or policy they broke, we try to help students understand the relationships they’ve harmed and what obligations to the community they have as a result of their actions.

Our office doesn’t exist simply to “deal with the problems.” We are here to uphold the standards our community has set. We are here to mend relationships when they are harmed by actions. We are here to create better community members and a better community.

# Counseling Center

**C=Community**  
**CC=Counseling Center**

At the heart of the Counseling Center is COMMUNITY. Most people think of us as meeting people one on one, and yet we are just as concerned and committed to a vibrant community within agency walls as we are in addressing the needs of the broader JMU community. We take seriously the first four words of the JMU Mission statement; "we are a COMMUNITY"!

The Center has focused on extending assistance beyond the doors of the Counseling Center by providing consultation to students, faculty, and staff who are concerned about the unusual, problematic, or potentially harmful behavior of a student, or our outreach programs to faculty, staff and students in the various sectors of the University. We strive to be a warm supportive, problem solving resource for these concerns. Additionally, it has been our goal to specifically address the needs of students who may not reflect the appearance or identity of the "typical" JMU student.

As part of our Outreach component, students receive training in our agency in presenting programs on mental health issues pertinent to JMU students while earning class credit. Three hundred and twenty seven outreach programs occurred with 14484 participants

attending in this past academic year which enabled senior staff members to focus more attention on targeted programs for underrepresented students. Our peer mentor program remains strong and we have added programs and resources for international students, GLBTQIQ students and veterans.

We are perhaps most proud of two new treatment programs we have successfully piloted this year, "#tacklinganxiety" and "You've Got This". The anxiety program had sixteen 5 week groups and registered 118 participants. "You've Got This" focused on resilience development, had nine 5 week groups and 47 participants.

Consultations with faculty have increased dramatically as a result of direct marketing to them. The delivery of workshops to faculty and staff on dealing with Distressed, Disturbed, and Disruptive students and "Here to Help" are two examples. Our Case Manager is also developing excellent connections with the Harrisonburg community resources to better serve our students.

We have worked to be more aware of the diversity within the JMU Community and the diverse needs. If we have missed you, please let us know!



# Departmental updates

## Center for Career and Academic Planning

There is a lot of change happening in CAP! First, Renee Herrell retired on March 28 after 16 years of working for JMU and she is most definitely missed. With Renee retired and Lee Ward now the Director in the UHC, we have made some adjustments accordingly. Mary Morsch is our interim director and has also assumed Renee's work as the associate director in charge of freshman advising. Tracy Hakala is now in Mary's former role, serving as the associate director of decision-making. Chandra Lane is now in Tracy's former role as the assistant director of staff training and development.

Now for some new additions! After an extensive search, we are happy to announce that Marcus Anderson and Kristin Sowden will be staying with our staff as advisors. Unfortunately Sarah Brearly will be leaving our office at the end of July; however we are excited that Jennifer Litwiller will be joining us, she currently serves at the director of career services at Eastern Mennonite University. CAP has also added a communications coordinator position and Emily Blake will be serving in that new role. She will be starting in July and comes to us from the school of strategic leadership studies office.

Don't worry if you didn't follow all of that, sometimes it's helpful to get out the old drawing pad to figure this out!

## Counseling Center

The Counseling Center has moved from Varner House to the 3rd Floor in the Student Success Center. Please stop by and see us during our Open House on Thursday, September 4th.

## University Health Center

University Health Center Open House: Join us Wednesday, September 10th, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm at the Student Success Center, 1st floor Atrium Health Center entrance. Food and beverages will be served. Open to Students, faculty and staff.

Tia Mann participated in the 2014 CARS Summer Fellows Program.

University Health Center graduate student Kim Johnson, a first-year in psychological sciences from Springfield, Va., and Raychel Whyte, a senior health sciences major from Manassas, Va., were invited to the White House on three separate occasions this semester to advise President Obama's White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault. Recommendations from this task force to prevent sexual assault on college campuses included key contributions from Kim and Raychel.

The two were also present for the formal release of the task

force's report on April 29. (read more: <https://www.jmu.edu/news/2014/05/09-students-at-white-house.shtml>)



## Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices

Upon moving to the Student Success Center this summer, the Office of Judicial Affairs will become The Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices. After much conversation with campus partners, students, and staff the office feels this name more accurately captures our approach with students and highlights the resources we can provide them. The student conduct field nationally has been changing their language to set itself further from the legal process; we're excited to take a big step in that direction.

Taylor Logan, Coordinator of Civic Learning in the Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices, has left the office to pursue a new opportunity in her hometown of Greensboro, North Carolina. At the beginning of May she started her new position in the Client Services Department for the Center for Creative Leadership, an international non-profit leadership programming, resourcing, and coaching center. She's excited for the new opportunity and to be closer to home, but is sad to that it requires leaving her colleagues at JMU.

## Office of Disability Services

Catherine Branner joined the ODS team in December 2013 as the Notetaking & Accommodations assistant. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Asian Studies and Business Administration with a focus in Entrepreneurship and a minor in Leadership at Mary Baldwin College in 2007. She participated in the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership during her time there and she is excited to be part of the ODS office team here at JMU!

Diane Secord officially joined the ODS team as Learning Strategies Instruction Coordinator in April 2014. She is excited to be a full-time member of the JMU community. After graduating from JMU in 1993 and from the education master's program in 2000, she has had the opportunity to teach in public schools in Harrisonburg City and for the JMU Education Department. Diane likes to spend time cheering at her son and daughter's ball games or watching her husband coach the JMU Men's Tennis team. She also loves reading Non-fiction, especially author Malcom Gladwell and Christian author Beth Moore.

## Residence Life

Kevin Meaney was appointed as Director for the Office of Residence Life after serving in the interim role for over a year. Everyone in ORL "welcomes" him and wishes him the best of luck in his new role. Congratulations Kevin!

Tyra Berger joined the Office of Residence Life staff in March as the fiscal technician in Business Operations. Tyra came to us from the JMU Foundation, and prior to that she had worked several years in the University Business Office. In addition to Tyra's fiscal responsibilities within ORL, she is also responsible for much of the card access for the residence halls. We are excited to have Tyra on our team!

Kaitlyn Armentrout has recently been hired as a full-time Administrative Assistant in ORL. Kaitlyn has worked nearly two years as our part-time Administrative Assistant, and we are thrilled to welcome her to her new full-time role in our office.

## University Planning

### What's Happening In Planning?

#### The New Planning System

As you know, JMU's new Strategic Plan is formatted a bit differently than our previous plan. Because of the changes, the way we plan throughout the university is evolving. This year is the last year that unit objectives will be associated with the Defining Characteristics of our old plan. Now unit objectives will be linked to the Core Qualities of the new Strategic Plan. This is also the final year we will be using the existing planning database. A task force has researched

options and is making recommendations for a new web-based planning application to replace the current planning database. Piloting and training in the new system will begin this fall.

## President's Annual University Accomplishments Report

The process of setting objectives, evaluating results, and applying those results to future initiatives isn't just an important part of the accreditation process, it is essential in telling the story of JMU's success. In addition, annual reports are important as a way to highlight the progress of departments over the past year: they help to produce the Annual Accomplishments Report for the university and Mr. Alger – they inform institutional messaging within letters, articles, speeches, reports, and other JMU communications.

At JMU, there is a great story to be told. Each unit on campus contributes to the story. Last year's annual University Accomplishments Report is available on JMU Reports for review. <http://www.jmu.edu/jmureports/accomplishments.shtml>

### Mission

We are a community committed to preparing students to be educated and enlightened citizens who lead productive and meaningful lives.

### Vision

To be the national model for the engaged university: engaged with ideas and the world.

### Values

Academic Quality, Community, Diversity, Excellence, Integrity and Student Focus

## Planning Database Timeline Through 2014

**June 16** - Suggested target date for departments to enter annual reports in Planning Database. (Please check with your Dean or AVP for specific dates since they may be somewhat earlier than any dates referenced here. As of this writing, some units have already set and communicated deadlines.)

**June 30** - Suggested target date for Deans/AVPs to enter annual reports in Planning Database. (Please check with your Dean or AVP for specific dates since they may be somewhat earlier than any dates referenced here. As of this writing, some units have already set and communicated deadlines.)

**July 14** - Deadline: Annual Reports from the division heads due in the Planning Database by 3:00 p.m.

**Summer 2014** - Piloting the new Planning System begins

**Fall 2014** - Training of the new Planning System begins

## UREC

### UREC Expansion and Renovation Information

James Madison University Recreation is delighted to announce that construction has begun on the renovation and expansion of the UREC facility. The expansion will total approximately 140,000 square feet of new space (currently UREC is a 140,700 square foot facility) and 17,500 square feet of renovated space. The facility will be completed in two phases, one for the addition, and one for the renovated areas which will take an additional six months to complete once those spaces are vacated.

### Student Demand

"It's like the hunger games trying to find an open machine in UREC right now," "Ugh I hate how crowded UREC is," and "PSA: half of JMU is in UREC right now so stay as far away as possible." These are just a few of the frustrated tweets you will find if you search for "UREC" on Twitter. In fact, all of these were tweets from JMU students on one day: January 13, 2014. Step into UREC during the fall or spring semester between the hours of 3pm until 9pm on a weekday and you will see that these students are not exaggerating. In 1996, UREC was constructed to meet the demands of a student body of 12,500. With a student body now close to 20,000, the need for an expansion has been pressing for 5-10 years. A busy day in the late nineties consisted of about 2,200 students, faculty and staff frequenting the building, and today, a busy day can top 4,500 participants. The UREC staff has been collaborating with architects since early 2012 to survey all JMU students, hold focus groups, review comment cards, and review participation information and trends to determine what facilities are most desired by JMU students. It will offer more space for overcrowded fitness and court programs, as well as new program and service areas identified by surveys and student requests.

### Green Construction

Sustainable construction efforts are of prime importance and the plans include green practices that are intended to certify the new portion of the building as LEED Silver. Some of the major sustainable efforts include recycling the lower turf, re-using field lighting at other locations, re-using soils and natural resources, and planning for the use of natural light in the new facility.

### New Spaces in Expansion

The expansion space will be located on the site directly behind UREC (on the former site of the lower turf) which is now fenced in and closed to through-traffic. This phase of construction is expected to be completed in December of 2015, at which point the new facilities are expected to be open for use starting in January of 2016. The following facilities will be included in the new space:

- Weight, Fitness & Cardio Spaces (These spaces will be ap-

proximately 2.5 times the size of the current space for these activities. The current fitness spaces will be renovated for other use.)

- Five Group Fitness Studios (Two mind-body spaces, one group cycling space, and two general use spaces. The current studios will be renovated for other uses.)
- Two Super Multi-Activity Center Gym and Court spaces, with two regulation basketball and volleyball courts in each, with integrated goals for indoor soccer (The current single court MAC Gym will be renovated for other uses.)
- Special Events Gym (This court space will include two basketball and volleyball courts, and include batting cages and floor hockey goals.)
- Indoor Track (The new 1/6 mile track will be intended for running and jogging. The current 1/9 mile indoor track will remain and will be intended for walking and slower jogging.)
- Fitness and Instructional Pool (The new pool will be slightly warmer in temperature, and will feature a jetted fitness channel, in-water volleyball court and basketball hoops.)

### Renovated Spaces in Renovation

The renovation phase of construction is expected to take place between January 2016 and Summer 2016. The completed expansion and renovation is planned to be fully operational by fall semester 2016. The following facilities will be included in the renovated space:

- Adventure Center with freestanding Climbing Wall, Bouldering Wall, Bicycle Repair Center, and Outdoor Equipment Check-Out (Planned for the current MAC Gym.)
- Demonstration Kitchen and Wellness Instruction (Planned for the current Fitness Level 1.)
- Wellness Suite with Studios for: Massage, Personal Training, Assessment, small group fitness instruction and Athletic Training (Planned for the current Fitness 2 and Group Multipurpose Studio.)
- Club Room (Instructional/meeting space for groups of up to 200 people. Planned for the second floor of the current MAC Gym.)
- Universal Changing/Restrooms (3) – (Restroom/changing spaces for use by families with small children, people with disabilities or a caregiver, and trans\* individuals, planned for the current Fitness 1.)
- Faculty and Staff Locker Rooms (Planned for the current Fitness 1.)
- Wet/Dry Classroom (Planned for the current Fitness 1.)
- Expanded D-Lot Parking (planned at old tennis court location by Duke Dog Alley)

## Over the Next Two Years

UREC is sensitive to the experience of current students while construction is underway. We have been working with construction managers to plan to minimize inconveniences and interruptions to facility availability. Participants can expect most spaces to remain open until the expansion opens with the exception of the Courtyard, Hydrotherapy Spa and Sauna, Wet Classroom, four lower outdoor Tennis Courts and Lower Turf. Participants seeking turf space and tennis courts for informal recreation are encouraged to visit University Park. Some other facilities will experience minor disruptions from time to time (including dust and noise, and some short periods of closure) but we will make every attempt to have service interruptions during times of low activity (breaks, weekends, and early mornings).

- The Lower Turf is closed.
- The Courtyard is now temporarily closed.
- The Wet Classroom will close Monday, April 28, 2014.
- The Wet Classroom will close Monday, April 28, 2014.
- The Spa and Sauna will close Monday, May 5, 2014.



# Awards

## Career and Academic Planning

Renee Herrell was the recipient of two awards this past semester. She received the Woman of Distinction award as well as the Lifetime Membership Award for VACE (Virginia Association of Colleges and Employers) on Wednesday April 23 for her services and contributions to VACE, including serving as their president from 1997-1998.

Chandra Lane was presented the Leadership Award at the Virginia Association of Colleges & Employers (VACE) annual conference in April. This award recognizes dedication, service, and leadership to the organization. Chandra is also concluding her term on the state-wide board for VACE as Director of Operations.

## Counseling Center

The Counseling Center would like to wish a congratulations to all the award recipients...

Dr. Ilene Magee was presented with the University Health Center's Student Wellness and Outreach "2014 Woman of Distinction Award," presented to honor students, staff, or faculty members who inspire others through innovation and dedication, and show exemplary character, talent, and a deep sincerity for their work. The award recognizes Dr. Magee for her leadership and courage to take risks, her ability to serve as a role model and inspiration to others, and her commitment to support and empower other women, particularly through supervising and mentoring trainees in psychology and early career psychologists.

Rebecca Heselmeyer was presented with the Office of the President's Diversity Enhancement Award, presented to recognize members of the Madison community who have demonstrated a significant commitment to enhance diversity at James Madison University, above and beyond the scope of their role or job at the university.

Two of the Counseling Center's Ed.S. Externs also received awards before graduating. Anne Metz received the Graduate Student Award for Outstanding Service and the Most Distinguished Graduate Student Award. Meredith Reed received the Carl Swanson Award for Service to the Counseling Profession.

## University Health Center

All Together One Award-Paige Hawkins

Dolly Awards:

Bluestone Outstanding Advising Award-Liz Howley

Outstanding Student Organization-C.A.R.E

Taylor Award-Outstanding Individual Contribution to a Student Organization-Charity O'Connor-C.A.R.E.

Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices Distinguished Community Partner Award-Liz Howley

## Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices

At their End of Year banquet, the Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices recognized several campus partners that went above and beyond in their partnership with the office, as well as everyone else on campus that has helped us this year. To our mentors, site supervisors, council members, council chairs, and support persons for students, thank you for what you've done for us this year!

## Residence Life

ORL Director, Kevin Meaney, received an "All Together One" award for the spring 2014. The All Together One awards are hosted and organized by JMU's chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, a National Leadership Honor Society. Please see his nomination at <http://www.alltogetherone.org/KevinMeaney.html>

Melissa DeGrandis received an ORL departmental "Whatever It Takes" award for her successes and contributions to Eagle Hall as the full time hall director of that building.

Jesse Harrod, a faculty member in the Art Design and Art History department, and also a faculty-in-residence for Chesapeake Hall, was nominated for and received a regional "Of The Month" award through the National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH). Here nomination and dedication to the Office of Residence Life and the students in Chesapeake Hall can be read here [http://otms.nrh.org/otm\\_general.php3?otmid=215189&vid=vzvjb0ruh6athtmc](http://otms.nrh.org/otm_general.php3?otmid=215189&vid=vzvjb0ruh6athtmc)

## UREC

The JMU Student Work Experience Center has named Erica Estes, UREC Operation Supervisor, the 2013-14 Student Employee of the Year! Erica was nominated by Eric Nickel, Director of University Recreation; Hilary Bride, Assistant Director for Operations; and Keala Mason, Coordinator of Sport Clubs, Informal Recreation and Youth Programs.

Erica was nominated because she is a mature, dedicated, and thoughtful young woman who truly has a passion for James Madison University and University Recreation. In the past two years of working at UREC, Erica has served in various roles within the department and achieved the highest position for a student employee at JMU, as an Operation Supervisor. As part of her job description, Erica is responsible for the operations of two major facilities.

Erica shines in her professionalism and always asks how she can improve the staff around her. She is customer-service oriented and has a high quality of work ethic. Specifically, she asks for opportunities to be involved on committees and asks for special projects that will enhance the community at JMU and in UREC. An example is her voluntary service this past summer on a core committee for UREC that redefined our policies and procedures. Another example is that she has also taken on the role as Engagement Coordinator for NIRSA, our National Campus Recreation Organization, and works closely with the campus liaison to involve our students with NIRSA. She is actively engaged in her academics, UREC, the campus recreation profession and the NIRSA organization.

Erica is extremely reliable. Not only does Erica do this on a day-to-day basis, but she consistently exceeds the expectations of the professional staff members at UREC. She is always willing to help, no matter what the request. For instance, throughout Summer Camp she worked as an Operations Supervisor and it was not necessarily a requirement of her position to help at camp, but she did on a daily basis. One of the days was particularly hectic, so Erica took care of the set up and the supplies for our snack activity which was very helpful. She did so with a smile and a positive attitude.

Erica's contribution to her academics is reflected in her almost perfect GPA in the JMU Kinesiology department studying Exercise Science. In addition to being a leader in her program, she has also achieved the second level of leadership, Gold Level Feather, in our UREC Student Leadership series. She is one of only 4 students who hold this level of leadership. She demonstrates additional high caliber qualities as a facilitator for the Madison Collaborative, the campus wide initiative on Ethical Decision Making. In addition, she is involved with East Rockingham High School as an Assistant Varsity Softball Coach, which clearly demonstrates that she is passionate for recreation and wellness, no matter what the venue to help may be.

## UREC Continued

She is also certified in CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer, First Aid, and Blood Borne Pathogens. She has her DiSC Leadership Style Certification and actively uses that training to approach conflict management, customer service, and behavioral management issues amongst other student employees.

Erica demonstrates leadership each shift and each day through her attention to detail, being proactive on her duties and holding the team around her accountable. She demonstrates our Service Ethic daily and truly does embody the JMU Student Employee of the Year. She truly inspires the student and professional staff and embodies our motto of Motivating Madison into Motion.

This year 2 UREC GA's, Jason Darby and Megan Flordorf received the William N. Wasson Student Leadership and Academic award, The William N. Wasson Student Leadership and Academic Awards recognize top students in collegiate recreation who participate in or are employed by the Department of Recreational Sports. Honor the outstanding efforts of a student by nominating them for a William N. Wasson Student Leadership and Academic Award; show them that their efforts and commitment to your department are appreciated.

# Community Outreach

## Career and Academic Planning

Tracy Hakala served as a learning partner on the New Orleans alternative May break trip.

## Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices

On April 12, the staff of the Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices traveled to Franklin, West Virginia for a day of service with Habitat for Humanity. The team worked to clean, repaint, and repair one of the organization's residences for a new family to live in. It was a great experience and the staff was glad they could help in such a tangible way.

## Office of Disability Services

As our keynote speaker President Alger discussed how all members of the JMU community have a role to play in creating accessible, inclusive environments that value diversity and that diversity and excellence go hand in hand. We are fortunate to have his expertise and leadership.

One of our students also organized a panel discussion during which students with disabilities volunteered to share their stories and answer questions. The room was packed with engaged students who had many questions and comments about the topic of disability.

## Residence Life

Rosie McArthur (Residence Life) accompanied students for the first Alternative Winter Break (AWB) to Guayaquil, Ecuador. She has accompanied students for Alternative Spring Break (ASB) for the past seven years; this year's ASB trip was to the Dominican Republic. At AWB in Ecuador, the team helped to serve the people of Semillita by cleaning, taking supplies to the children, helping them with their art projects, playing games with them, and preparing with them for Jornadas Culturales. Jornadas Culturales is a school event where students are tasked with creating visual aids and giving short presentations on specific topics proportionate to grade level on an ongoing basis to people who come around to their "stands." They also enjoyed group presentations such as plays and dances for the event. On Friday their group contributed by chanting the JMU fight song for the entire school! They also joined the teachers' dance, folkloric style, complete with period dress. It was such a fun event and they were overjoyed to have participated. The trip really touched Rosie's heart in a special way because they served the people of the school she attended as a child.

Please enjoy this beautifully written piece by Paula Harahan Polglase that perfectly describes the AWB experience they had in Guayaquil, Ecuador with an amazing group of JMU students! <http://www.jmu.edu/news/2014/01/27-alternative-winter-break.shtml>.



For ASB this year, she and a group of eleven students had a fantastic week with Village Mountain Mission. Their task for the week was to contribute to the building of a house for a family in a remote impoverished region. This service trip not only helped the family they built a house for and answered their prayer, but it also served a purpose to them as well, as they gained a whole new gratitude towards life and its simplistic pleasures.

Each participant took on tasks: hammering, holding wood, cutting wood, measuring wood, cementing and passing cinder blocks. They were exhausted at the end of the day. Their group took this house from halfway up on the blocks when they got there, and finished it. Jungle transportation relied on a huge truck in which they had to duck to avoid low hanging branches! At the beginning it rained, making the road to the work site too muddy to drive the truck on, so they did a lot of walking. They learned valuable lessons of patience and perseverance while contributing charitably to those in need.



Amy Serino (Office of Residence Life) was recognized by the USMC for 15 years of outstanding service for her work with the Toys for Tots program in CT. In her tenure as a volunteer she helped coordinate the collection, selection and distribution of toys to families in need of holiday assistance.

## UREC

Donnie Mix—2014 Alternative May Break Service Trip May 10-17, 2014

Matt Lovesky & Sasha Griffith—2014 Alternative Spring Break trip to Nassau, Bahamas

Guy deBrun is currently serving as the President Elect of the Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education

Jason Ritter and Guy deBrun both took Part in Operation In as Much with Eastside Church. It was a full day service project involving 200 people from four churches and JMU students.

# Wedding Announcements

## Career and Academic Planning

Zachary Shane Daniel, son of BJ Daniel, wed Mary Lamoine Phin , Saturday May 3rd in Fredericksburg, VA.

## University Health Center

Diane Smith's son Joel and fiancé Jenna Spangler are getting married in Colorado Springs, CO on August 3, 2014.

## Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices

Wendy Young (Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices) and her partner Edwin became engaged to be married this past winter break. They are busy planning their wedding and will be married in October. They cannot wait!

## Office of Disability Services

Jaqueline Metzgar and Keri Vandeberg are student staff in ODS and they both got engaged this semester!

# Personal Updates

## University Health Center

Lesley Eicher will be co published in the international journal Sex Education, as part of their special issue honoring Doug Kirby (long-time sexuality education researcher who died suddenly last year). The title of the article is, "Sexuality education: findings and recommendations from an analysis of ten United States programmes."

Michele McNeal received her Masters in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner from James Madison University May 2015.

Beau Dooley participated in the Conquer the Cove trail marathon in Roanoke on June 1.

Kristina Blyer's son Caden Blyer won 3rd place for 6 year olds in the Mahatma Gandhi 2014 Drawing Peace contest. The contest, themed Peace and Diversity, received submissions from multiple countries including China, Hungary, Russia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and Stateside.



## Multicultural Awareness & Student Health

Miller's Music:

Dawn Miller, Administrative Assistant in the office of AVP-MASH, was highlighted on Martha Woodroof's, The Spark. Aired on WMRA - Friday, May 2, 2014

Dawn Miller grew up listening to her parents play music. So, naturally, she started making music as soon as she was old enough to carry a tune.

She keeps making it at festivals and in back porch jams as often as she can find people who'll make music with her.

Click to listen to broadcast <http://wmra.org/post/millers-music>



# Future Dukes

## Career and Academic Planning

Sarah Brearly and her husband Tim Brearly welcomed their son, Luke, on March 2nd.

## Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices

Kimberly Ohgren (JMU '09), wife of RJ Ohgren (Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices), gave birth to their first child Henry Robert Ohgren just after the end of the Fall Semester on December 19th, 2013. They're looking forward to the Office of Orientation's Summer Springboard and 1787 Programs for JMU's Class of 2035.



Chris Knott, OJA Assistant Director Tammy Knott's Son, and Lucy Gonzalez welcomed their son Gatlin David Knott on May 13, 2014. Tammy is very excited for Chris, his wife, and her new grandson.



## Office of Disability Services

Sandra Gulliver is a new grandmother!! Levi Thomas Gulliver was born on April 23rd in Italy. She is very excited to be going to Italy in May to see her new grandson for the first time!

## Residence Life

Holmes Browne and his wife, Jessica, welcomed their second baby girl on April 30. Bailey Grace Browne weighed 7lbs 6oz!



## UREC

Henry Joseph Mersiofsky was born March 12, 2014 to Scott (class of '07) and Melody Mersiofsky (class of '07; Masters '08). His two-year-old brother Luke also welcomed him.



# OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

## Counseling Center

JMU Counseling Center launched two new specialized treatment programs in Spring 2014. Over 150 students were referred to You've Got This and #tacklinganxiety. These programs were designed specifically to assist JMU students in increasing resiliency skills and reducing anxiety symptoms. Over 25 sections of the treatment programs were offered and they received exceptionally positive responses from participants. These programs offer students access to effective and efficient clinical services with virtually no wait time. Both programs will be offered throughout the Fall 2014 semester. Online, self-guided modules have also been developed for both programs to increase ease of access to material. The online modules will be available this fall.

## University Health Center

The Mom's Group will be meeting in SSC 1311 every Tuesday, 11:30 am – 1 pm this summer. A new location will be chosen for the fall semester. Questions regarding this group can be emailed to Liz Howley, howleyeg@jmu.edu.



## Departmental Open Houses

Mark your calendar for the following dates! Stop by and visit the Student Success Center offices during this time and get acquainted with their new space.

Department Name	Name of Event	Date & Time
IT Computing Support	Open House	Same as CIT/CFI event
Office of Disability Services	Office of Disability Services Open House	Sept 24; 10 AM-2 PM
University Health Center	University Health Center Open House	Sept 10; 11:30 AM-1:30 PM
Counseling Center	Reach Events	Sept 9; 11 AM-3 PM
		Sept 15-16; 9 AM-5 PM
		Sept 24; 11AM-3PM
Counseling Center	National Suicide Prevention Day	Sept 10; 9 AM- 4 PM
Counseling Center, CAP, Technology, & AVP Suite	3rd Floor Open House	Sept. 4; 1 PM-4 PM
Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices	Grand Opening	Sept. 10; 1 PM-5 PM
Registrar, UBO, Financial Aid and Scholarships	5th Floor Open House	Sept. 18; 3 PM-5 PM
Centennial Scholars Program	Centennial Scholars Ice Cream Social	Sept. 24; 4:30 PM-5:30 PM
CIT & CFI	EPIC Center Showcase	Week of Sept. 22 (TBD)
Learning Centers	Open House	Sept 4; 11am-1pm



## About *Community* with *IDEAS*

A community with IDEAS is your bi-annual newsletter. We welcome any comments and suggestions you might have.

To submit an article, share photographs or announcements, please contact any of the Community with IDEAS committee members.

Community with IDEAS Committee Members 2013-14:  
Marsha Mays-Bernard (AVP Liason) [maysbeme@jmu.edu](mailto:maysbeme@jmu.edu)  
Susan Linn (Co-Chair) [linnsa@jmu.edu](mailto:linnsa@jmu.edu)  
Cover Heishman [heishmwc@jmu.edu](mailto:heishmwc@jmu.edu)  
Dawn Miller (Co-Chair) [mille2da@jmu.edu](mailto:mille2da@jmu.edu)  
Ann Simmons (Designer) [simmonae@jmu.edu](mailto:simmonae@jmu.edu)

We look forward to hearing from you!