
From: Office of the Provost
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 4:12 PM
To: Academic Affairs Faculty and Staff
Subject: Notes from the Provost

Hello colleagues,

With temperatures in the mid- to upper 90s, it certainly doesn't feel like we're almost two full weeks into the fall semester, but surely enough, here we are. As you find a way to stay cool during this last surge of summer heat, enjoy reading about some of your colleagues' recent achievements.

- The culmination of "Dreams Unfolding," a summer art workshop overseen by School of Media Arts and Design Assistant Professor Elisabeth Kvernen, was exhibited at Eastern Mennonite University this past Sunday. The camp provided students from refugee populations with exposure to higher education and career exploration through different forms of art and storytelling.
- School of Art, Design and Art History Associate Professor Carissa Henriques was featured last month on *With Good Reason*. Her segment, "Community Design," unpacked the political and artistic underpinnings that go into each design decision. Check out her discussion of the design of everyday things!
- Department of Physics and Astronomy Professor Kevin Giovanetti contributed to the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory's discovery that muons – elementary particles – [behave in a way not predicted by the Standard Model of particle physics](#). As Fermi has gathered more precise data to confirm these findings, the lab has used a power management system designed and produced by Giovanetti and his students. The creation of that system is a remarkable example of how JMU faculty mentor our undergraduates through robust research opportunities.
- Assistant Professor of Finance and Business Law [Weiwei Zhang's](#) paper, "[CEO Performance Impact on Medical Leave Outcomes](#)" has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Banking and Finance*. In collaboration with her co-author, Zhang examines the impact that the use of medical leave has on CEOs along with factors shaping shareholders' assessment of CEO medical leave usage.
- Professor Michael Stoloff, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, recently served on the [American Psychological Association Board of Educational Affairs Task Force](#), which released [Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major, Version 3.0, Empowering People to Make a Difference in their Lives and Communities](#). These guidelines were approved by APA's Council of Representatives in August 2023 and are expected to impact curriculum development for the psychology major nationwide.

Please keep submitting your accomplishments, comments and inquiries! You can email provost@jmu.edu or submit a question anonymously through the [Ask the Provost](#) option online.

Sincerely,
Heather

PHeather J. Coltman, D.M.A.
Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
James Madison University
(540) 568-3429
She/Her/Hers

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