



Center for Global
Engagement

2023 - 2024 Annual Report





MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

Mission

The Center for Global Engagement's mission is to broaden worldviews and promote global understanding for the JMU community by cultivating, facilitating, and supporting global engagement at home and abroad.

Vision

The vision of CGE is to make global experiences – at home and abroad – attainable for all of the JMU community.

Values

- Global Learning – Increasing awareness, knowledge and understanding of diverse cultures, people, & global systems
- Innovation – Being creative and open to new ideas, processes and solutions
- Advocacy – Publicly supporting, recommending and persuading
- Collaboration – Working together with diverse groups and individuals at home and abroad to maximize our strengths, resources, and effectiveness
- Sustainability – Assuring the continued presence and active development of global education at JMU
- Open-mindedness – Being willing to consider differences and ideas

Director’s Message	4
Awards, Honors & Scholarship	5
International Week 2023	12
International Student & Scholar Services	20
Global Learning & Partnerships	26
Study Abroad	34
The CGE Team	40



2023 - 2024 Annual Report



Photos by Zachary Kulzer

A Year of Collaboration, Innovation, and Strategic Planning

The 2023-2024 academic year has been transformative for the Center for Global Engagement (CGE) at James Madison University (JMU). Collaboration, innovation, and strategic planning have been at the core of our efforts to enhance global engagement and develop students who are both globally minded and locally relevant.

Collaboration with faculty, staff, senior leaders, and global partners has expanded global programs, strengthened international student support, streamlined international faculty hiring, and advanced global learning initiatives. Faculty working groups on global virtual exchange, study abroad learning outcomes, and sustainability in study abroad programs, along with a staff research project on international students' retention, have furthered these goals. Partnerships, including our work with the International Network of Universities (INU), have reinforced JMU's commitment to comprehensive internationalization.

Innovation has been a driving force this year. Our nationally recognized study abroad programs highlight our dedication to impactful learning experiences. We also piloted a global virtual internship program that integrates work-based learning with international perspectives. Participation in the Institute of International Education (IIE) International Academic Partnership Program (IAPP) with Thailand led to visits to 29 Thai institutions, opening new doors for effective collaboration with a strategically important region.

Strategic planning is vital to implement our mission of fostering a globally engaged community. We view comprehensive internationalization at JMU as a dynamic system with shared and individual variables across various levels of interconnected and independent subsystems. Achieving success requires everyone's involvement, unified by shared values, common goals, and detailed strategies for measuring, predicting, and advancing internationalization. **Our strategic plan for 2024-2028** outlines four key goals: develop global engagement for all, elevate JMU's national and global reputation, improve the global capacity on campus, and assess the effectiveness of global programming, offering a clear road map for sustained progress.

We are excited about the future as we continue building a vibrant, globally connected community, ensuring that global engagement remains central to the JMU experience. Our mission is to prepare students to thrive in an interconnected world.

Thank you to our partners, colleagues, students, and CGE staff members for your ongoing support and collaboration. The journey ahead is a collective effort, and together, we are making a lasting impact.



JY Zhou, Executive Director, Center for Global Engagement



Awards, Honors and Scholarships

This academic year was an award-worthy year for CGE. Our participants and programs received broad recognition for their hard work and dedication to global learning. The Forum Award on Education Abroad (page 8) and the U.S. Department of State IDEAS grant (page 10) are especially noteworthy recognitions which display JMU's leadership at a national level. CGE also recognizes excellence within JMU, awarding the annual Provost Award for Excellence in Global Education (page 7), as well as the inaugural JMU Study Abroad Awards (page 9) to recognize the work required to lead rigorous and impactful Study Abroad programs.

In addition to excellent programming, several JMU students were recognized for their achievements while presenting internationally. The International Network of Universities (INU) seminars in Hiroshima, Japan, and Bandung, Indonesia (page 31) featured student-led projects that were recognized for outstanding quality.

Lastly, in 2023 CGE received an unprecedented gift to support study abroad students from Paul Holland and Linda Yates (page 6). Their generous funding will allow more students to participate in life-changing experiences who otherwise would not be able to afford the opportunity. CGE is grateful to Holland and Yates for making a significant commitment to support international education at JMU.



Photos courtesy of The Forum on Education Abroad (top), Olive Santos (middle), and The International Network of Universities (bottom)



Paul Holland and Linda Yates' Gift Increases Study Abroad Scholarship Funding

The dedication of Holland Yates Hall came with an added bonus for the Center for Global Engagement: an increase in scholarship funds to provide study abroad experiences for students. Both Paul Holland and Linda Yates have lived and worked in more than 74 countries, and now they are providing study abroad scholarships for JMU undergraduates, an opportunity they believe is critical for current and future generations. Yates believes Madison graduates will be better equipped to look at the “big hairy problems” of our world—climate change, sustainability, water, disease, racism, poverty—because of their travels. “We hope to give them the opportunity to reach out, to really address those big problems and make a difference,” she says. “I can’t wait to see the pictures that are going to line the walls in that building as these kids go abroad and show what their experiences are like.”

Photos by Olive Santos

“

I’m an optimist, I’m a globalist, and I’m an idealist; We are investing in entrepreneurship and global immersion opportunities as two key areas that have made a difference in our own lives.

—Paul Holland ('82)

”



Provost Award for Excellence in Global Education

This award of \$1,000 recognizes a JMU faculty or professional staff member who has made a significant contribution in the area of global education through research, study abroad, service-learning, curriculum design, work with international students, and/or other relevant activities.

2024 Winner - Justin Henriques (top), Associate Professor of Engineering

“Dr. Henriques has been a driving force in enhancing our university’s global education landscape. His commitment, creativity, and collaborative efforts have not only enriched our academic community but also significantly impacted students’ lives and global understanding.”

—Dr. Adebayo Ogunidipe, Department Head, Engineering

2023 Winner - Dr. Christine Argenbright (bottom), Associate Professor of Nursing

“Dr. Argenbright’s commitment to global education is evident in her international collaborations, dissemination of scholarly work and development of innovative virtual exchanges and study abroad course work. Her initiatives support the development of globally engaged and socially responsive citizens committed to addressing issues surrounding local, political, social, cultural and environmental challenges.”

—Dr. Andrea Knopp, Associate Director of Graduate Programs



The Forum on Education Abroad awards two JMU faculty for excellence in curriculum design

Dr. Debbie Sturm and Dr. Renee Staton were announced as the 2023 winners of the award, presented by The Forum on Education Abroad, a national study abroad organization. They were selected based on their innovative study abroad program called “Nature, Creativity & Well-Being Across the Lifespan in Scotland” that ran during summer 2023. Drs. Sturm and Staton were chosen winners over finalists from Colorado State University, Purdue University, and University of California, Irvine. The program was awarded for providing an academically rigorous program of study, fostering student development, enriching the classroom experience through the use of the location, and setting a precedent for its exceptional approach to student learning.

Both Dr. Sturm and Dr. Staton are pioneers in their field, and found incredible ways to create ties between psychological theories, well-being, nature, education and cross-cultural learning. The study abroad course also incorporated themes based on the relationship between the natural world and mental health, creativity, and resilience. Students not only learned from local experts, but they had the opportunity to plant trees with retirees and learn about community-inspired nature preservation programs; forage with a local naturalist and discuss the impact of tourism on nature and community wellness; and work with children at a nature-based kindergarten. Students on the program received advanced training and were challenged to consider how they would use their experience abroad to positively influence JMU and the surrounding community.



Photos by Debbie Sturm and Renee Staton

The CGE Study Abroad Awards

CGE is honored to recognize four faculty members as recipients of three inaugural study abroad awards. These individuals served as program directors on study abroad programs in summer 2023, and were nominated for the awards by their colleagues and students. These awards serve as an acknowledgment of the year-long process that it takes for faculty to design and implement a high-impact study abroad program.

The Anaza Benjamin Distinguished Director of the Year



Dr. Augustus Hallmon, assistant professor at the Heart School.

Dr. Hallmon truly embodies what it means for a faculty member to put their heart and soul into students' growth and development. Along with Dr. Ja'La Wourman, Dr. Hallmon agreed to take leadership over Dr.

Benjamin's program to Ireland after she passed away just a few days prior to departure. Dr. Hallmon also co-directed a program with Dr. Anaza, who passed away a few days after the program concluded in the summer of 2023. Dr. Hallmon isn't just a colleague to these two individuals, but a dear friend. Dr. Hallmon is a model study abroad leader and mentor, and is passionate about student development and understands the value of study abroad experiences in transforming students.

The ECHO Award: Enhancing Community through Holistic Opportunities



Dr. Debbie Sturm, professor of graduate psychology.

For several years, Dr. Sturm has leveraged her expertise in climate change and mental health to create hands-on study abroad experiences for students. They regularly engage with international leaders on nature pedagogy

and climate change. On her most recent program, "Nature, Creativity & Well-Being Across the Lifespan in Scotland," students learned from local experts, and planted trees with retirees to learn about community-inspired nature preservation programs. Debbie also arranged for the students to receive advanced training and invited them to consider how they would use their experience abroad to positively influence JMU and the surrounding community.

Catalyst for Transformation Award: Celebrating High-Impact Study Abroad Programs



Dr. Seán McCarthy (top) professor and director of the Cohen Center for the Humanities, and Dr. Rob Alexander (bottom) associate professor of political science.

Rob and Seán's program, "X-Labs International: Innovative Responses to Sustainability in the Netherlands and Germany," attracted students from 10 different majors for a truly interdisciplinary study abroad experience. Rob and Sean participated in training workshops on design thinking and Responsible Futuring at world renown institutions in Europe. The program embedded students in circular economy consulting firms in Amsterdam and Rotterdam and challenged them to engage in design sprints to create innovative solutions to similar challenges at JMU. The team used Curating Learning Record portfolios as an innovative assessment, putting the emphasis on student-driven storytelling.



John Scherpereel selected for 2023 Erasmus+ Teaching Mobility program

At the end of the 2023 fall semester, political science professor John Scherpereel traveled to Romania as part of the Erasmus+ Teaching Mobility program. Erasmus+ is the European Union's program to support education training in Europe, and their mobility program gives educators to opportunity to travel and teach at an EU partner university.

Scherpereel was hosted by the Romanian-American University (RAU) in Bucharest, Romania. RAU and JMU have close ties, and through this teaching mobility program, seek to increase collaboration by doing more virtual exchanges, teaching partnerships, and development of short-term study abroad programs.

CGE completes U.S. State Department IDEAS Grant

The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' (ECA) IDEAS Program assists U.S. colleges and universities in creating, broadening, and/or expanding their study abroad programming in support of U.S. foreign policy goals.

JMU's grant used a two-pronged initiative to expand study abroad access for those who are underrepresented in study abroad, including low-income and first-generation students. We developed and implemented a program in the Caribbean focused on environmental studies and geotourism, tailored to the identified student groups, and led an exploratory faculty trip to the Dominican Republic. We then used this program to examine student perspectives and experiences.





Two JMU faculty awarded Fulbright Scholarships

Two College of Arts and Letters faculty members received 2023-24 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Awards. Dr. Daniel Beers (left), associate professor of justice studies, studied humanitarian support for refugees in Romania, while Dr. Ken Rutherford (right), professor of political science, researched disability rights in Vietnam. The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program offers over 400 awards in more than 135 countries for U.S. citizens to teach, conduct research, and carry out professional projects around the world. It is the U.S. government's flagship program of international education and cultural exchange.

Beers spent the 2023-24 academic year at Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, where he researched Romania's humanitarian movement. More than a million refugees have crossed into Romania since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, and despite the size and speed of the crisis, Romanians have responded with an outpouring of humanitarian support.

In spring 2024, Rutherford spent five months at Hue University in Vietnam. Rutherford conducted research on Vietnam's regional and international leadership on disability rights, and humanitarian issues, while teaching a course on American politics and culture.

International Week 2023 Highlights

International Bazaar: An I-Week staple that featured globally-inspired vendors, food, music, displays, and entertainment in the heart of campus. 10+ different vendors and student groups sold merchandise from around the world.

Study Abroad Fair: This event promotes JMU's portfolio of 70+ programs spanning 50+ countries. This year almost 1,000 students came to speak directly to program directors and have their questions answered.

Global Games: This year's event took the form of a skills tournament. Students stopped by Hillside Field to test their abilities in four of the world's most popular sports: golf, badminton, soccer and cricket.

Global Cuisine: This partnership with UREC explored international cuisines and provided tips on how to incorporate global recipes into healthy meals.



2023 I-WEEK LINEUP

JMU Center for Global Engagement



Scan to see more details on the I-Week website!

MONDAY 9/18

INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR
WARNER COMMONS, (D-HALL)
11 AM-2 PM

TUESDAY 9/19

ART AND DESIGN SHOWCASE
WILSON HALL MAIN LOBBY
11 AM-2 PM

WEDNESDAY 9/20

STUDY ABROAD FAIR
FESTIVAL GRAND BALLROOM
11 AM - 1 PM; 2 PM - 4 PM

**THE FRASURE-KRUZEL-DREW
MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP
PANEL**

HIGHLANDS ROOM, FESTIVAL
5 PM - 7 PM

THURSDAY 9/21

GANDHI CENTER OPEN HOUSE
DARCUS JOHNSON HALL, 11
FLOOR
10 AM - 12 PM

**GLOBAL CRAFTERNOON WITH
UNION PATIO**
1:30-3 PM

FRIDAY 9/22

GLOBAL GAMES
HILLSIDE FIELD
11 AM-1 PM

SATURDAY 9/23

ISSS HIKE
UREC
1 PM - 5 PM



I-Week Reception

The I-Week reception brought together faculty, staff, and a few special guests to allow CGE to say thank you to our supporters across campus. Attendees heard filmed remarks from Provost Coltman, Vice Provost Sparkman-Key, as well as an address from CGE Executive Director JY Zhou.

In addition to the special remarks, CGE also recognized the four winners of the 2023 I-Week Photo Contest, all of whom were in attendance. Once they were presented with their framed prints, the grand prize winner was announced: Madison Kozlowski for her captivating photo of Antelope Canyon. She told everyone the story of how the photo was captured, and a little background on her process. As the grand prize winner, Madison won \$99 for her flex card and bragging rights for the rest of the year.

The remainder of the reception allowed CGE's partners an opportunity to connect with each other and socialize. JMU is a large campus, and there are only a few opportunities each year to meet informally and share ideas. CGE was glad to facilitate this reception and will look for more collaboration opportunities in the future.



I-Week Student Photo Contest Winners



I-Week Photo Contest Finalists: *Architecture*



Casa Milà
Ryan Reiffer
Category Winner
Top Left



Colors of Bruges
Abby Cooke
Semester in Antwerp
Finalist
Top Right

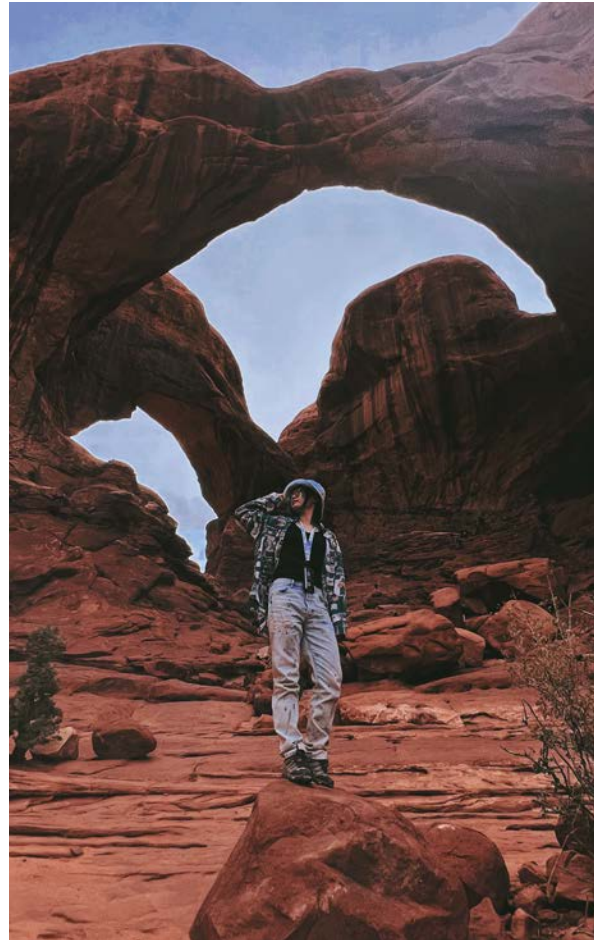


*A Modern Center of Art in A City
Filled With Centuries of History*
Joshua Schaffner
JMU Internship in Valencia, Spain
Finalist
Right

I-Week Photo Contest Finalists: *People*



Exchange Students Wearing Traditional Korean Hanboks
Shukrana Shukrullah
JMU Exchange with Yonsei University
Category Winner



Lookout
Winnie Huang
Finalist



One of the Owners of Sugar Cafe Giovanni Garbugli, Preparing an Aperitivo for his Customers
Jacob Conda
Multimedia Storytelling in Urbino, Italy
Finalist

I-Week Photo Contest Finalists: *Nature*



Antelope Canyon
Madison Kozlowski
Category Winner & Grand Prize Winner



Purple Heavens
Kyle Doherty
Summer Semester in
Beunos Aires
Finalist



*Views of the Mediterranean
off Sainte-Marguerite*
Andy Luong
Art and Food on the French
Riviera
Finalist

I-Week Photo Contest Finalists: *Miscellaneous*



Contrast and Perspectives
Katharine Little
Health Care in Spain
Category Winner



Beach Essentials
Rosemary Nelson
Global Healthcare in Europe
Category Finalist

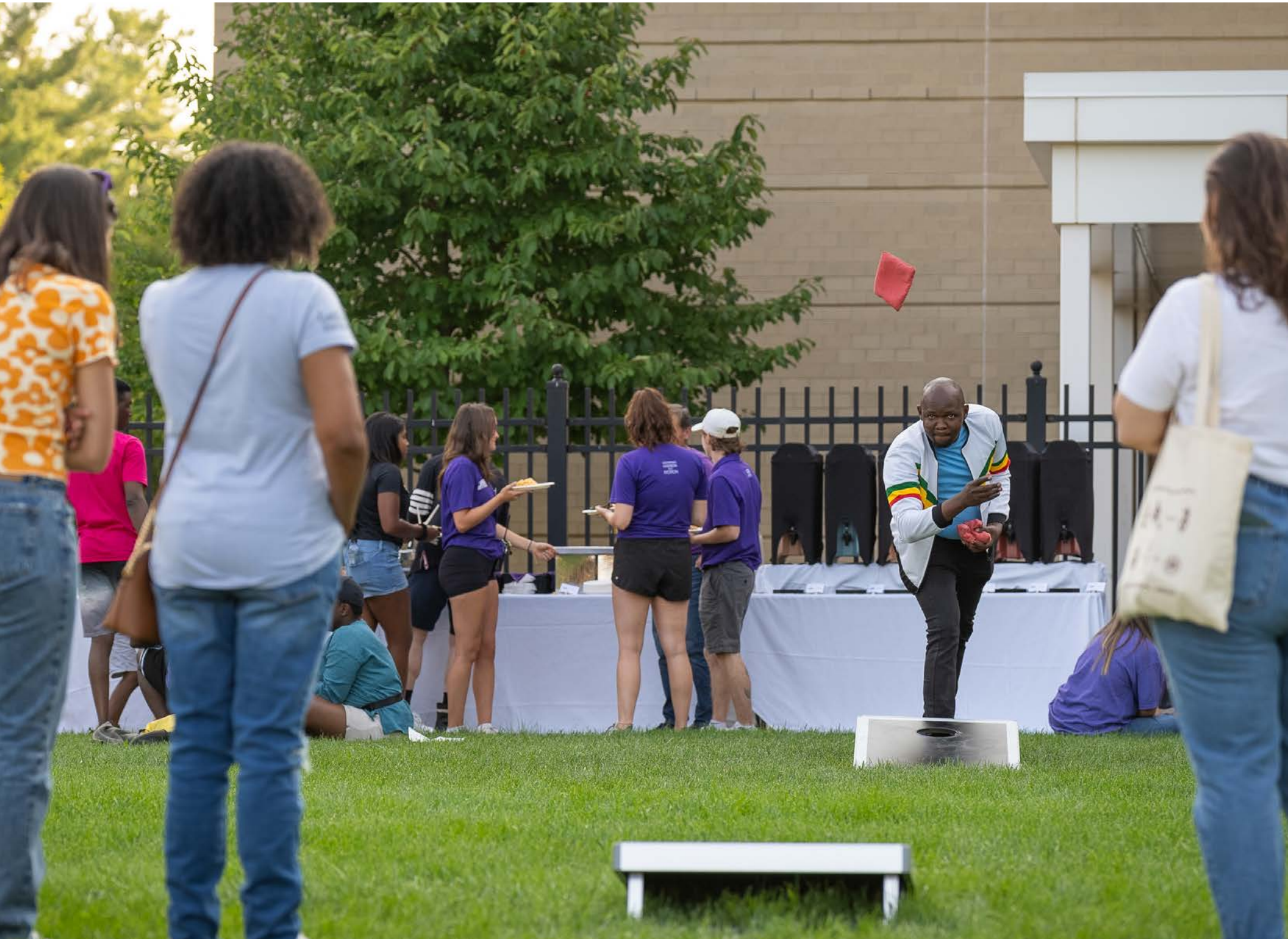


Synesthesia!
Christian Jones
Category Finalist

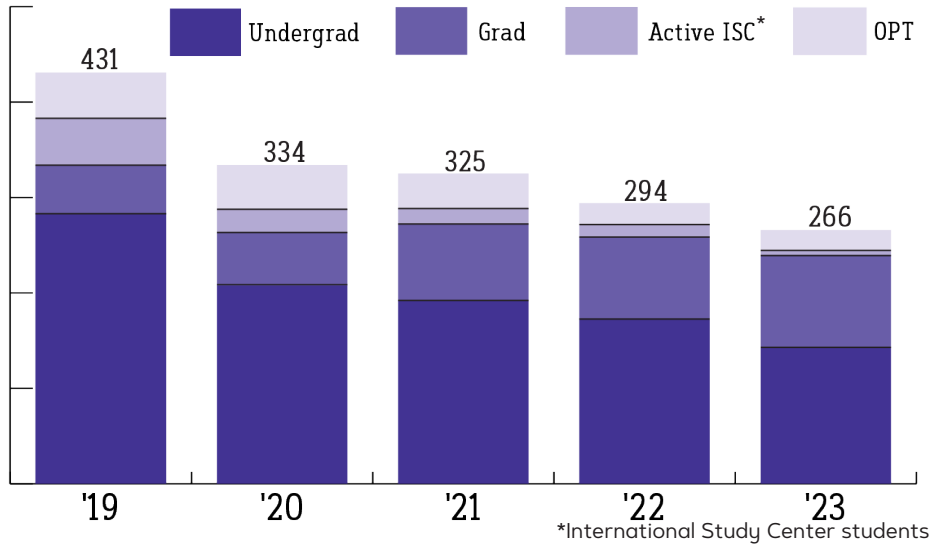
International Student & Scholar Services

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) strives to create a safe and supportive environment where international students and scholars feel welcomed. We provide a range of educational and social programming while maintaining compliance with immigration regulations. For our international students, exchange students and scholars, we issue immigration documents to apply for their visas to enter the United States, provide an orientation program, offer social and educational programming throughout the year, support career development, provide support as they navigate life at JMU, and provide immigration advising. For departments, we work collaboratively on hosting international visitors and scholars, providing immigration support for employment-based petitions.





International Student Demographics



Top 5 Undergraduate Majors

1. Accounting
2. Computer Information Systems
3. Economics
4. Finance
5. International Business

Top 5 Graduate Majors

1. Master of Business Administration
2. Communications & Advocacy (MA)
3. Musical Arts (DMA)
4. Master of Public Administration
5. Strategic Leadership (PhD)

Top 5 Student Home Countries



China



Vietnam



India



Nigeria



Kosovo

50%

Increase in graduate student enrollment over five years

49

New international faculty joining JMU

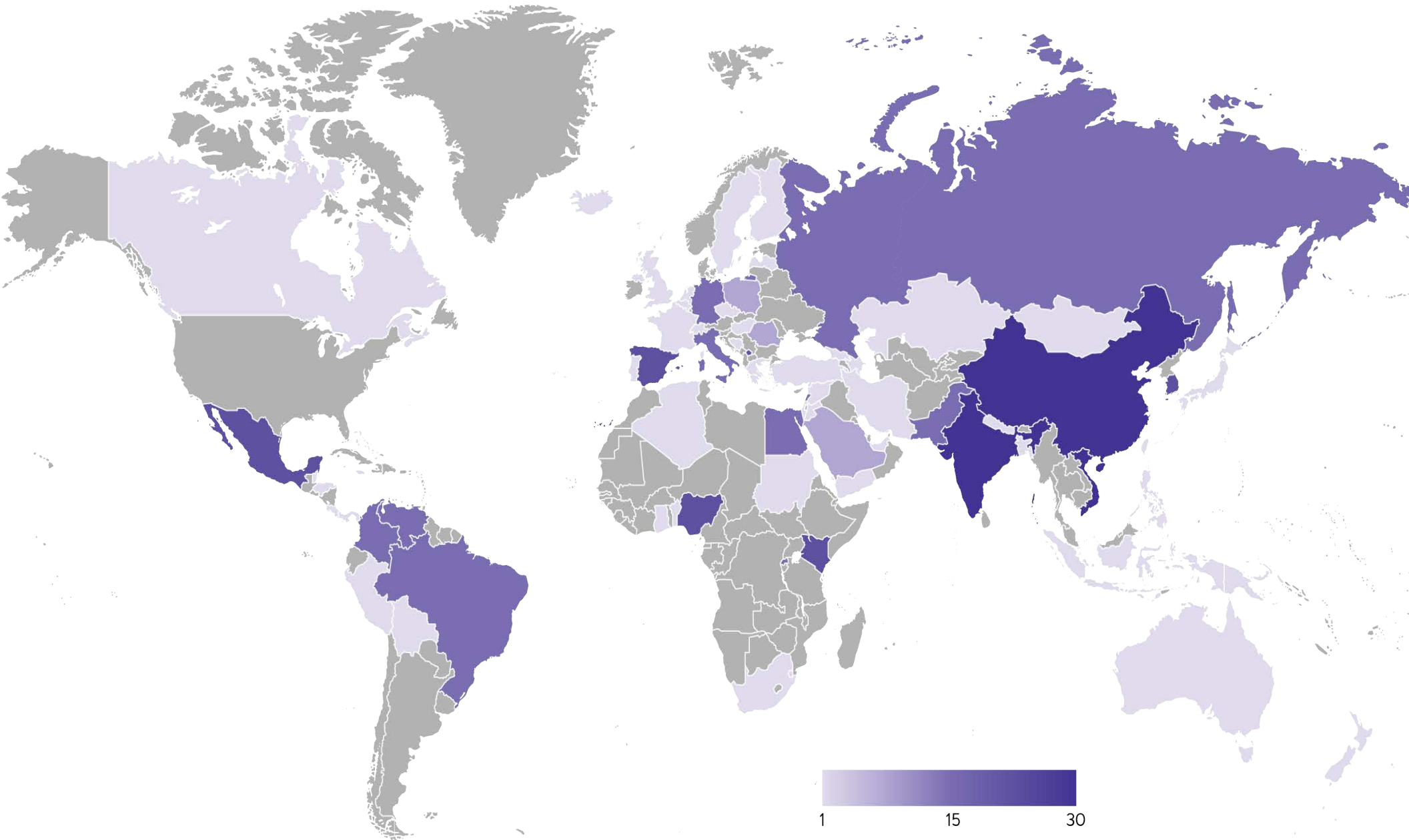
1.1%

International student representation in the JMU student body

97

Countries represented by JMU international students

International Student Places of Origin





An International Thanksgiving

In a celebration of gratitude and cultural exchange, JMU's International Student and Scholar Services office hosted its annual Thanksgiving Celebration. This tradition dates back more than 10 years and aims to introduce students from diverse corners of the globe to this classic American holiday. Thanksgiving is a time for people to come together, express gratitude, and share the aspects of their life they are thankful for. Even in a very busy semester, JMU's international student community, along with their friends and family, gathered to do precisely that.

JMU's international students come from a wide mix of backgrounds and cultures, most of which don't celebrate Thanksgiving. Therefore, to showcase the university's commitment to fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment, ISSS has made the Thanksgiving meal a long-standing tradition.

Photos by Abby Saunders (left) and Zachary Kulzer (right)

“

Thanksgiving represents this opportunity of supporting, giving and friendship. These are great values that we can share, as often times those values are reflected in other cultures.

—Jon Kratz, Director of ISSS

”



2024 Cherry Blossom Festival

At the end of March, a group of more than 30 JMU international students and faculty hopped on a bus and traveled to Washington, D.C., to experience the annual Cherry Blossom Festival. In Washington, D.C., the cherry trees are synonymous with the arrival of spring and serve as a reminder of a unique global relationship. For the JMU international community, this spectacle wasn't just a sight to behold; it was cultural immersion, a celebration of diversity, and an opportunity to make unforgettable memories.

Group activities, like this trip to see the cherry blossoms, are organized by JMU's International and Student Scholar Services team. They also organize an annual Thanksgiving meal, a trip to a local farm, hikes, lunches, trips to the grocery store, cookie parties and more. The goal of these events is to engage with the JMU international community by providing opportunities to meet one another, learn more about American culture and have a little fun in the process.

The international students and faculty who went to the Cherry Blossom Festival got a rare chance to strengthen their connection to the community and participate in a unique cultural event. The Cherry Blossom Festival is a particularly fitting event to attend, since it is historically about celebrating multiculturalism and international friendship. What the international students and staff experienced on this trip will be a foundational touch point of their time at JMU, and they will fondly remember the things they saw, the conversations they had and the community that made it all possible.

Photo by Elim Hernandez

Global Learning & Partnerships

The Global Learning and Partnerships (GLP) unit focuses on promoting “internationalization at home.” By facilitating faculty and staff to intentionally integrate international and intercultural dimensions into both the formal and informal curriculum and experiences. We believe that every JMU student (not just those who are mobile) can – and should – have the opportunity to develop global perspectives throughout their academic journey.

To achieve this, we work with international institutions and organizations to provide a variety of resources and programs that go beyond interactions with international students or study abroad experiences. These initiatives include intercultural training, virtual classroom exchanges, and opportunities to participate in international conferences, all of which help students develop essential global skills and experiences.

GLP’s commitment extends beyond students. We collaborate extensively with faculty and staff to support curriculum internationalization and to develop globally-focused teaching, learning, and research initiatives. By partnering with international institutions and organizations, we also explore and create innovative opportunities that benefit the entire JMU community.





Global Initiative Grants

Global Initiative Grants (GIGs) are awarded by CGE to support the work of JMU happening abroad. They are given for projects that include education abroad initiatives, engagement with international students and scholars, or to support global learning. Through these grants, CGE aims to facilitate and support projects that advance JMU's global reputation and create transformative international experiences.

\$44,250

Total funds awarded

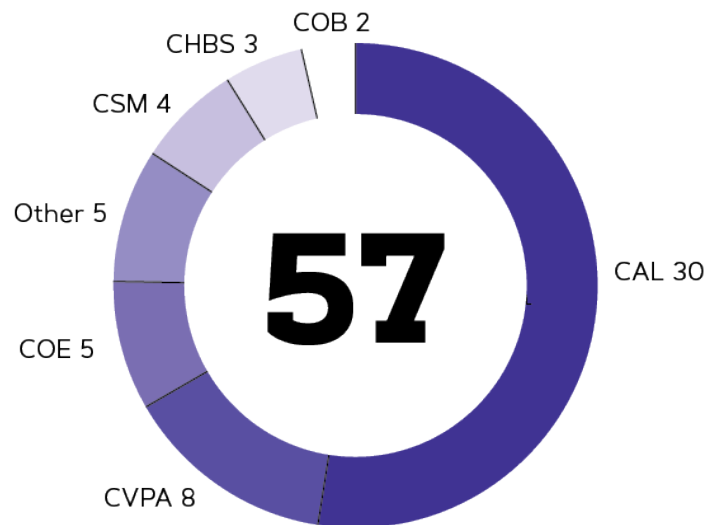
67

Total applications
received

55

Unique faculty receiving
funding

Number of GIGs Awarded by College



GIG Project Highlight: Global Virtual Exchange

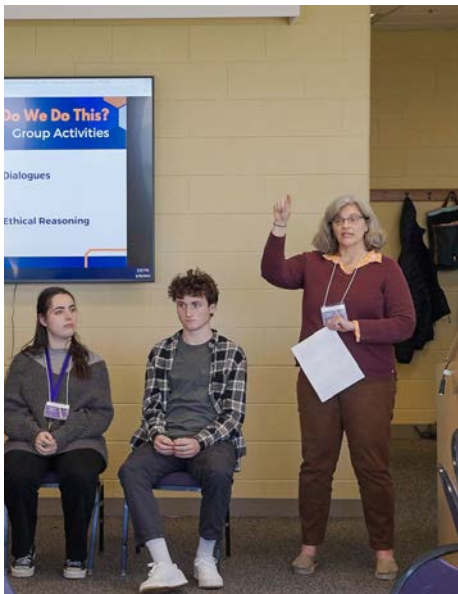
In 2023, Shin Ji Kang, professor in education, received GIG funding to create a Global Virtual Exchange (GVE) experience. The project brought together 18 US pre-service elementary teachers and 5 South Korean in-service elementary teachers. The participants engaged in activities designed to learn about each other's cultural autobiographies, and then held focused discussions on sexism. The exchange produced some unexpected outcomes which Shin Ji discussed as part of a presentation on the GVE. Research methods and pedagogical approaches on global learning were also covered in her presentation. Shin Ji hopes this project will lead to future collaborations or publications on the value of virtual exchange.



Awareness into Action: The Lived Experiences of Madison International Students at JMU

In March, 2024 Dr Vesna Hart and Jen Nelson-Faulconer presented about Madison International (MI) during the JMU Diversity Conference. Every academic year MI brings up to 20 highly diverse (nationality, language, race and ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status) first-year students to live and learn together. Throughout the year they build relationships, participate in dialogues, and cultivate the values of informed and enlightened global citizens. Because of the intentional design and sustained nature of MI, its alumni find their experience in the program helps them far beyond the first year.

The session at the JMU Diversity Conference featured a short presentation, followed by a panel of MI alumni, and concluded with a short Q&A. Presenters provided an introduction to what MI is through a conversation about theoretical frameworks and students exposures to expanded learning experiences, while the panelists focused on relating what they learned in MI to their chosen path after leaving the program. Several themes emerged from this presentation: increased wellbeing, improved ability to engage across differences through dialogue, influence on the choice of major and career, seeking more extracurricular opportunities, enhancing their knowledge, and growth in their sense of belonging.



Photos by Zachary Kulzer (left, right) and University Marketing (middle)



INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES

International Network of Universities

The International Network of Universities (INU) started in 1999, with JMU as a founding member. This consortium of colleges and universities from around the world was founded to advance the goals of international education, global citizenship, and peace. As a partner institution, we actively seek international partnerships and experiences, create innovative programming and embrace the internationalization movement. In 2023, each INU member university traveled to Hiroshima to sign the updated INU Charter, which shows JMU's dedication to building global partnerships and advancing our international reputation.



Photos by Zachary Kulzer (left) and Vesna Hart (middle, right)



2023-2024 INU Programs

- **Student Seminar for Global Citizenship and Peace:** A unique immersion program which is hosted by Hiroshima University in Japan. Since 2006, the seminar welcomes students from around the world from INU member universities and is structured around the August 6 commemoration of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. The 2023 seminar was attended by a delegation of JMU faculty, students, and staff, as well as JMU president Jon Alger.
- **International Student Conference on Global Citizenship:** Organized by Parahyangan Catholic University (UNPAR) in Indonesia, the ISC is an annual event that brings together students from across the globe to engage in diverse learning approaches that address pertinent current issues under the umbrella theme of Global Citizenship. In early 2024, JMU sent several students and faculty to Indonesia to participate in the conference.
- **Staff Knowledge Exchange:** This program pairs professional and administrative staff at two different INU member institutions for the purpose of discussing, learning, and benchmarking systems and best practices with peers. This year JMU hosted Grayson Lamore (middle photo), a Senior Finance Officer from Stellenbosch University in South Africa, who came to JMU to learn more about the tools and systems used to structure financial operations in US higher education.

International Education Week Featuring a Keynote Address by Dr. Dawn Whitehead

Each year the U.S. State Department, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education, organizes a week of events that celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. The goal of this joint initiative is to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences. This year's theme, "The Future Is..." explored the many ways that international education is driving us into the future.

At CGE, we marked International Education Week by hosting a keynote address by Dr. Dawn Whitehead. Dr. Whitehead is the Vice President of the Office of Global Citizenship for Campus, Community, and Careers at the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). Her address focused on how the field of higher education has been challenged to become more equitable, aware, and responsive to the intersections of global and local realities over the past few years. She also touched on the elevated importance of global learning while rethinking long-standing practices and approaches to addressing global challenges.





Peace Corps



Peace Corps Prep Certificate Program continues to grow

The Peace Corps Prep program prepares students for international development fieldwork and potential Peace Corps service. This year, a record 32 JMU students were enrolled in the Peace Corps Prep program. 8 students completed the certificate, and 9 students are joining for AY24-25. Of the 8 students who completed the program, 6 of them applied to the Peace Corps for AY23-24.

Study Abroad

The Study Abroad team has the privilege of supporting faculty and students achieve their educational goals on a global level. By working together with more than 150 talented faculty from all academic colleges, the Study Abroad team aims to create transformational international learning experiences for students. From studying engineering in Malta to healthcare in Ghana, from learning about marketing in Turkey to happiness in Costa Rica, JMU offers more than 80 programs spanning 50 countries across the world and provides students the opportunity to choose from over 200 courses taught abroad.

Students who study abroad not only dive into their coursework in a culturally immersive setting, but they also have the ability to gain work-based learning experiences by completing an international internship in places like Germany, Australia, Guatemala, and a handful of other countries. These opportunities allow students to position themselves as competitive applicants in a globalized workforce since international experience is proven to help students gain skills in relationship-building, leadership, problem-solving, and intercultural communication – all coveted skills in the modern workplace.





Semester in Spain!

The Semester in Spain program is one of JMU's five flagship semester abroad programs, and is directed by Dr. Tomás Regalado-López, a professor of Spanish in the Department of World Languages. Offered in fall, spring, and summer, this program provides a rich academic and cultural experience, meshing familiar JMU faculty with well-qualified, dedicated faculty from the University of Salamanca. Salamanca, located in northwestern Spain and situated roughly halfway between Madrid and the Portuguese border, is the home-base of the program making it the perfect site from which to explore the rest of the Iberian Peninsula and Europe as a whole. It has the feeling of a modern cosmopolitan city while also maintaining its historic and medieval character.

The summer and fall semesters offer students a full Spanish-immersion program, with all courses taught and excursions guided in Spanish. Students who have a Spanish major or minor benefit from the variety of course offerings including Business Spanish, Latin American Drama and Short Stories, Culture and Medicine in Spain, Spanish Art, and more. Beginning in 2025, the spring semester will be open to non-Spanish speakers and centers around JMU's General Education (Gen Ed) program. Students can receive 12 Gen Ed credits by taking courses from four different Gen Ed areas: American and Global Perspectives, Arts and Humanities, The Natural World, and Sociocultural and Wellness.

In addition to academic coursework, students in all semesters engage in program excursions, cultural opportunities, and Spanish site-seeing. All students also have the chance to complete an internship experience.



Photos by Olive Santos (left, right) and Zachary Kulzer (middle)



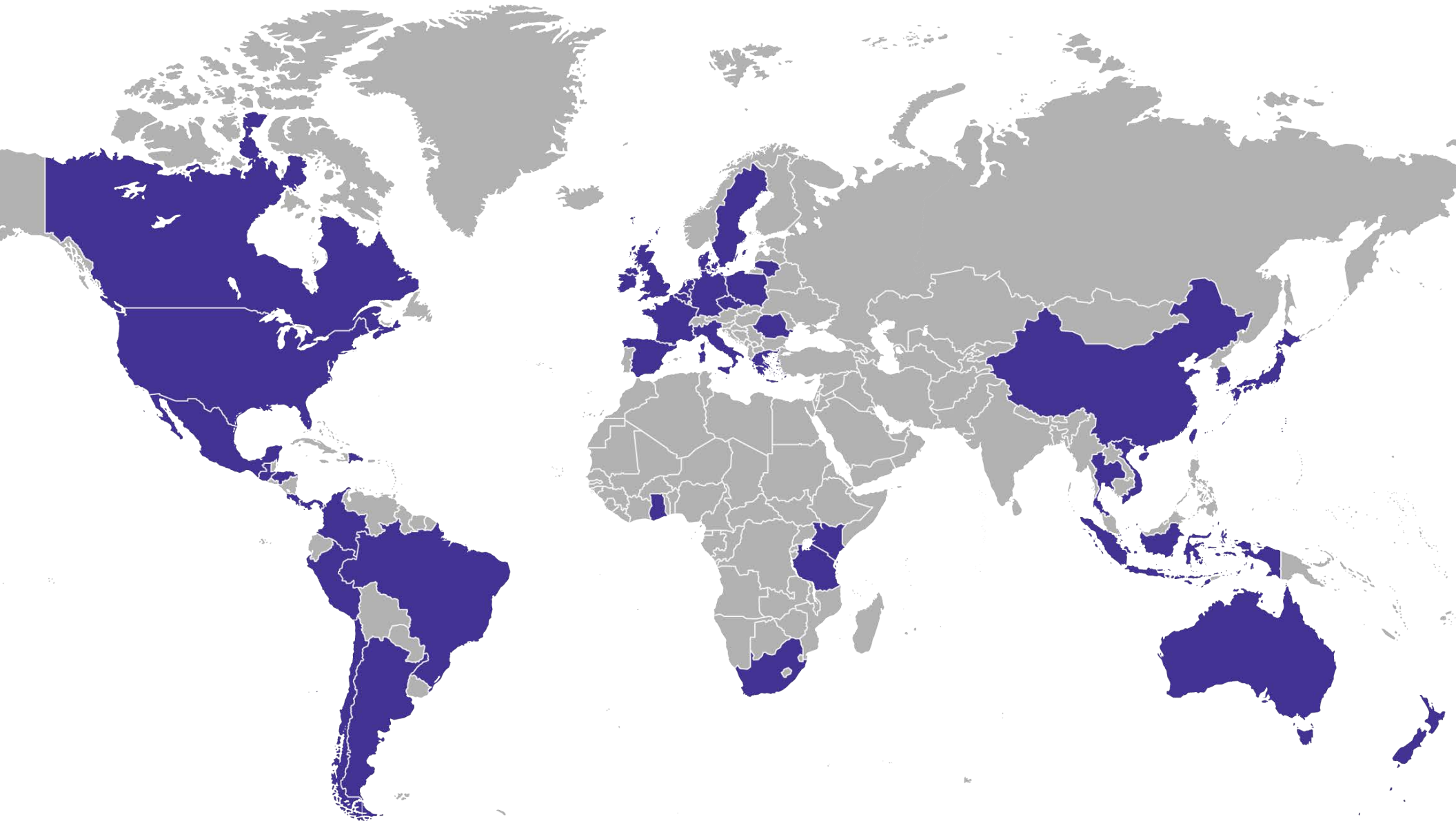
Adult Degree Program in Germany

For the last three years, JMU has championed an innovative study abroad program created for students enrolled in JMU's Adult Degree Program (ADP). The ADP is an online undergraduate degree completion program that allows students to create a personalized interdisciplinary concentration to meet their educational and career goals. Students who are part of the ADP can apply to participate on this unique study abroad program, and if selected, their participation in the program is fully covered by scholarships provided by the Online Virginia Network (OVN). OVN provides generous funding for online students across Virginia to participate in high-impact in-person programming, and selected JMU's study abroad programs for this partnership.

The study abroad program, Exploration of Migration and Culture and Germany, provides students the opportunity to take their learning abroad to explore first-hand the issues and opportunities related to migration in eastern Germany and Poland. In partnership with Europa-Universität Viadrina, students spend 11 days taking an in-depth exploration of the history, culture and support of refugees in the region through guest lectures, site visits and excursions, and interactions with local and international students.

While the future of funding from OVN isn't guaranteed, JMU Study Abroad is excited to continue partnering with the ADP to make this program possible for future cohorts.

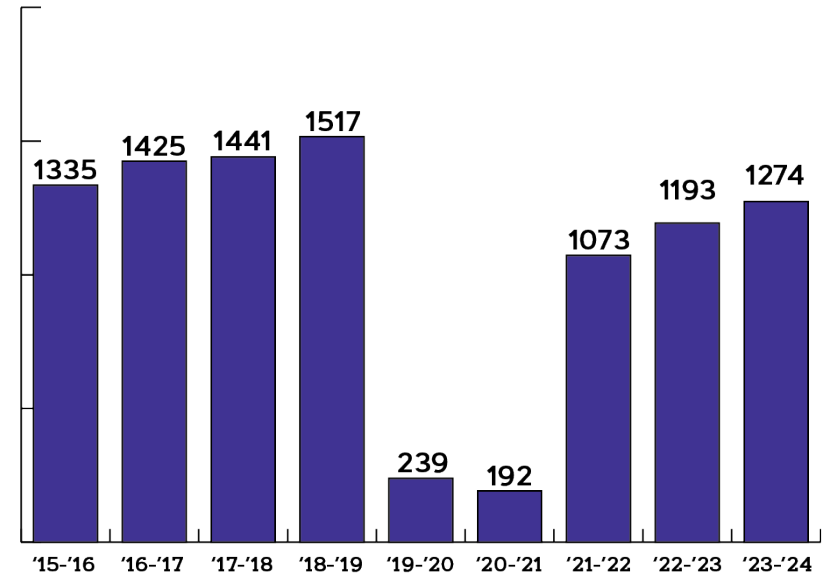
Study Abroad Destinations 2023 - 2024



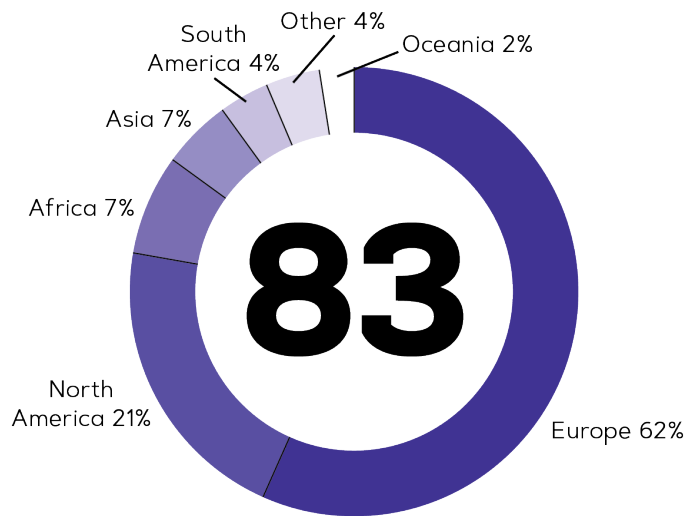
10 Most Popular Majors

1. Media, Arts, & Design	110
2. Health Sciences	77
3. General Psychology	72
4. Marketing	58
5. Communication Studies	52
6. Finance	50
7. Political Science	45
8. International Affairs	43
9. Education	43
10. Nursing	42

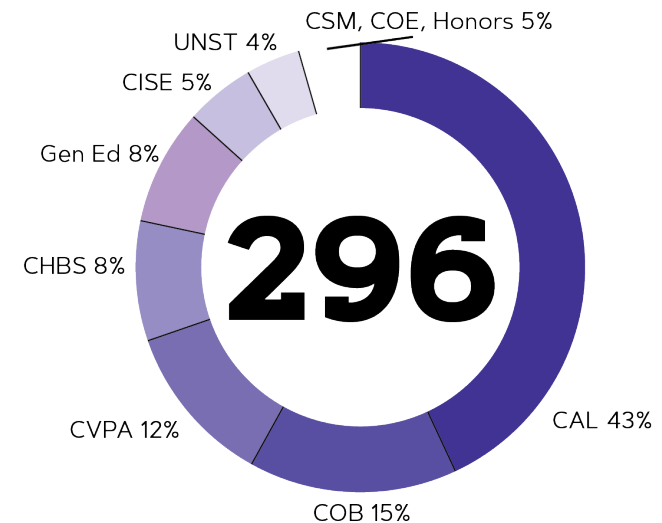
Total Participation



Number of Programs



Courses Offered by College





JY Zhou, Executive Director



Andrea Nutter, Assistant to
the Executive Director



Donna Sharpes, Study
Abroad Advisor



Erin Smith, Outreach &
Partnerships Coordinator



Zachary Kulzer,
Communications Specialist



Angeline McMullin,
Associate Director of Study
Abroad



Mallory Coffman, Office
Manager



Viviana Sasia, Study Abroad
Office Specialist



Amanda Sherman, Finance
& Budget Analyst



Katie Sensabaugh, Director
of Study Abroad



Agnes Choi, Study Abroad
Enrollment Manager



Jonathan Kratz, Director of
JISS

The CGE Team



Marlena Meikrantz Sharp,
Associate Director of ISSS



Tim Wiggins, ISSS
Coordinator



Brendan Harris, Assistant
Director of GLP



Karissa Eckels, GLP
Coordinator



Thomas Lavenir, Assistant
Director of ISSS



Sherry Lu, Faculty
Immigration Specialist



Cheryl Helmuth Logan,
International Student
Advisor



Special Thanks to Our Partners

Our work would not be possible without the support of our partners. Thank you to everyone at JMU and beyond for guiding us on our mission to broaden worldviews and promote global understanding, especially our on-campus partners, international partners, faculty, colleagues, students and staff members. Your contributions make a huge difference in our work and we continue to rely on your support and collaboration. The journey toward comprehensive internationalization is a collective effort, and together, we are making a lasting impact.







JMU Center for Global
Engagement

Holland Yates Hall
100 East Grace Street
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807
cge@jmu.edu
540-568-5209