

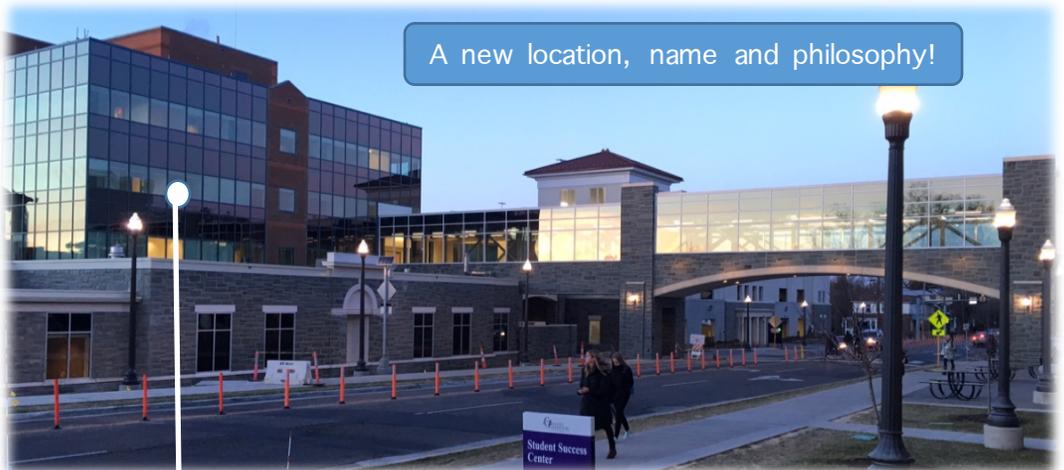


# CGE CENTER for GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

The Center for Global Engagement is your stop at JMU for your local or global journey.



A more convenient and central location



A new location, name and philosophy!

Second floor of Madison Hall- A completely renovated building

## What's new?

### We're moving!

Our office is moving to Madison hall at the end of this month, which will triple our space and allow us to multiply our offerings and services in a number of significant ways. With new spaces – more conference/meeting rooms, student and faculty social areas, proximity to a new hotel, large conference facilities, and the Student Success Center – the **Center for Global Engagement** is poised to support new programs and courses, deeper engagement with the community, cross-cultural education and training, and better assistance for visiting scholars, student/faculty research, and funding opportunities, among many other potentialities.

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## What's on your mind?

### What advice did you wish you had received before you graduated? What information should we convey to international students?

Looking back at her experience, **Pamela Sanchez** shared her assumption, at the time, that she had a lot of more connections back home than in the US. Once she had returned home, she soon realized that it was not the case. She has had to take more initiatives to meet people and take advantage of every opportunities possible to network.

**"[even] going to a birthday party is a great opportunity to network"**

While **Vanina Waingortin** echoes Pamela's view and even argues that going to a birthday party is a great opportunity to network, finding professional opportunities to do so can be challenging.

Learning about what your experiences such as Pamela's and Vavna's have been (whether positive or definitely not ideal), can help our office and JMU as a whole to work together in finding ways to make the process easier for you and your peers.



Represent!

### Intl DukeDog messaging with a jmu friend on Facebook:

[So have you ever considered giving back?]  
[I can barely make enough \$\$ for myself]  
[don't ask me about it]  
[No, I meant...]  
[giving back by getting the word out about JMU?]  
[oh! I wear my purple out t-shirt ;)]  
[How about talking to prospective JMU students?]  
[Jeyhun Veliyev]  
[he represented JMU in Azerbaijan at an education fair]  
[that's cool! Who's Jeyhun?]  
[He was an exchange student for 2 semesters F.07 S.08]  
[In 2015 he worked as a board member of a sport association to organize & host the first ever European Soccer Games in Baku]

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One of the ways that the International Student and Scholar Services along with JMU have particularly reached out to jmu's globally-minded students and alumni community with worldwide job searches and relocation's concerns and challenges was through JMU's recent partnership with **GoInGlobal**. Anyone in this situation can login to **GoInGlobal** with their jmu.edu e-mail account to access a worldwide search engine as well as many country profiles with specific sections such as: business etiquette, immigration procedures, different companies and organizations which provide networking opportunities.

Have you been running into similar situations?  
Thomas Lavenir – [lavenitp@jmu.edu](mailto:lavenitp@jmu.edu).



## What's your favorite memory of JMU?

**"We bleed purple wherever we are"**



What's new? Continued

In changing our name from the Office of International Programs to the Center for Global Engagement, we signal our determination to apply a more contemporary and meaningful focus on JMU's linkage of "local-to-global," including global in its broadest and most creative sense, to mean both encompassing and international.

This month several members of the Global Advisory Council are reviewing the Graybeal Scholarship applications. The Graybeal Scholarship was created to assist academically eligible international student who have encountered an unexpected financial need in finishing their degree at JMU. While CGE-ISSS can only award up to \$5,000 in scholarships per year. While this is only a small way to assist some unforeseen financial need, it is the one option that JMU can assist international students financially. In previous years, the ISSS staff who, at the time, was in charge of the selection process. The two main reasons that applicants listed as the source of their unexpected financial need were : their country's currency devaluation, and severe health issues incurred by family members.



JMU's campus now has a new building: the Student Success Center dedicated entirely to bringing together all of the resources and departments together to support students and their success. UREC has been extended, the College of Health and Behavioral Studies is now housed in a brand new building with amazing facilities, Gibbons Hall, where the famous D-Hall was located, has been demolished to soon become a new state of the art of building hosting delicious cuisines. Another significant change on campus that is slowly taking place is the College of Business' development of its Learning Complex which will in part consist of the renovation and extension of Showker Hall as the 2020 campaign - [www.jmu.edu/cob2020](http://www.jmu.edu/cob2020) - has started,



What other reasons do you need to come back on campus?

If you do come back on campus send us an e-mail, we'd love to catch-up with you like we did with *Ipeleng, Amanda* (and Christian) *Bosilong* and *Brian* and *Emily Gotosa* (picture #1) who joined us during our 2016 Alumni Tailgate Party. Moreover *Angelina Loverde* and *Alexandru Bardas* came separately for a special surprised visit. When will you come and visit us?



To catch-up, to obtain more information or simply to say hi, contact Thomas Lavenir - [lavenitp@jmu.edu](mailto:lavenitp@jmu.edu)

Let's stay connected!

If you are in the DC area, we hope that you can join us for this very unique opportunity to connect with current international students while volunteering at the Blossom Kite Festival (from 12-4pm). Moreover, by then, April 1st, trees should be in full bloom.



Other events and opportunities take place throughout the world or are about to.

- ☐ You will find links to existing chapters and their upcoming events and get-together on CGE's Alumni section of our webpage: [www.jmu.edu/global/iss/alumni](http://www.jmu.edu/global/iss/alumni)
- ☐ It is also our hope to create some alumni chapters outside the US, in different parts of the world. Are you interested in establishing one in your country?
- ☐ Join JMU's Virtual Global Community on LinkedIn: "JMU International Students and Alumni Connection" group page- [JMU International Students and Alumni Connection](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/JMU-International-Students-and-Alumni-Connection) to provide networking opportunities and a platform for career development discussions for both current JMU international students and JMU international alumni.



Represent Continued

[Back in Jan. he informed me that he was just selected as one of the Atlas Corps Fellowship participants of the Emerging Global Leaders Initiative]

[He's now involved in a 6 month funded leadership development program in the US]

[that's impressive]

[He's definitely an active leader]

[I'm glad that he had that connection]

[I just don't have connections with my embassy]

[The admissions office keeps a database of interested alumni around the world]

[whenever they know of an opportunity, they will get in touch with you...]

[Also your student/alumni experience could really help and guide current students]

[E-mail Thomas Lavenir - [lavenitp@jmu.edu](mailto:lavenitp@jmu.edu) - he'll help you out]

What? He's still around. lol

Don't undermine the value of your experiences and stories. Students and your classmates are eager to hear from you, along with tips and advice they can obtain from you.



What 's your next move?  
Where in the world are you?  
How are you doing since you left JMU?  
Have you found the job of your dream yet?