

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

August 27, 2018

**WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING DUKES!** We hope you had a relaxing summer! As we start the academic year, The Graduate School would like to wish the very best as we continue the journey together. Earning the experience. Owning the knowledge. Challenging the norms. Fueling your dreams. Being the change.

## Welcome From the Graduate Student Association

Graduate Dukes!

The start of the academic year marks the beginning of our continued studies and future careers. As graduate students, our concentrations are increasingly pertinent to our passions and provide us with specific skills and knowledge we can then apply to our chosen professions. However, the quote “All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy” echoes in my head and serves as my Graduate School Association (GSA) mantra.

The GSA is a student run organization with a mission to provide graduate students the opportunity to meet other graduate students from different programs in both social and professional settings. Socially, the GSA plans on hosting cookouts, tailgates, happy hours, and a number of other ~special~ events throughout the semester.

Professionally, we will be hosting workshops focusing on preparing each student for life after school. These workshops range from resume and interview assistance to showcases and funding opportunities for various projects. The location of the vast majority of these workshops will be in the Cohen Center, which is on the fourth floor of Madison Hall in room 4000.

We are all extremely excited for the upcoming year and look forward to being a part of the conversation on how to improve the life of a graduate student here at JMU. In order for you to be a part of the conversation, pay attention to our Facebook page, Twitter, and email from [gsa@jmu.edu](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu) for important dates and announcements. The executive team exists as a resource for all graduate students and if anyone ever wants to grab lunch, coffee, or ice cream, feel free to reach out! For the time being, here are the main events on the horizon:

- Wednesday, Sept. 5 (6:00PM-7:00PM) – First GSA meeting in the Cohen Center, Madison Hall 4000
- Friday, Sept. 7 (2:00PM-4:00PM) – Sand volleyball/cookout at UPark, 1090 Devon Lane
- Friday, Sept. 29 (3:00PM-6:00PM) – JMU vs. Richmond Viewing Party (location TBD)

Please email us ([gsa@jmu.edu](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu)) with any questions and see everyone soon!

Your executive team,

Jack Nichting (President), Jackson Chamber (Vice President), Will Arney (Treasurer), and Amanda Bomfim (Secretary)

**MISSED ORIENTATION?** A new graduate student checklist is available [here](#).

**APPLY FOR A TRAVEL GRANT!** Any graduate student whose work is being presented at a conference is eligible to apply for a Graduate School travel grant. Travel grants are a great opportunity to lessen the cost of professional travel. Grants are competitively awarded, so you can also put the receipt of a grant on your vita. Deadlines for Travel Grants are; **Sept. 15, Jan. 15 & April 3**. [More information](#)

**THE JMU YOUNG CHILDREN'S PROGRAM** is currently accepting applications for three- and four-year-old children in our full day classes. The YCP offers a half-day program for three- and four-year-olds as well as full day (8:00-3:30) with optional extended day (3:30-5:30) programming. [More information](#) or contact Loretta Lombardi at [lombarlj@jmu.edu](mailto:lombarlj@jmu.edu).

**JMU ALTERNATIVE BREAK PARTICIPANTS AND LEARNING PARTNERS NEEDED!** Graduate Students are encouraged to participate in JMU's Alternative Break Program (ABP). ABP offers service opportunities with communities in the United States and abroad. Trips take place on weekends and during academic breaks. If you are interested in being a Learning Partner, fill out a profile and select weekend breaks. There is an information session for anyone interested in leading a fall weekend break on **Thursday, Aug. 30 at 12:30 pm in Madison Union 306**. [More information](#) or contact [abp@jmu.edu](mailto:abp@jmu.edu).

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS.** Under the broad theme *"Making Connections"*, The Columbus State University School invites **graduate students** and **faculty** from all disciplines to submit proposals for the 2018 Graduate Research Conference and Faculty Research Conference. Theoretical and practical work submitted for consideration by graduate students may include: Oral Presentation, Poster Presentation and 3 Minute Thesis Competition. Deadline for Graduate Students is Sept. 14. Deadline for Faculty is Sept. 1. Date of conference is Nov. 7-8. [More information](#)

**"HANDSHAKE" HAS REPLACED "RECRUIT-A-DUKE."** Handshake is a user friendly platform that gives you access to thousands of jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers. It allows you to schedule appointments with Career and Academic Planning staff, learn about our career-related events, and sign up for on-campus interviews. Visit our [Handshake](#) page to learn more!

**BROWSE JMU'S MANY DINING OPTIONS,** including the new D-Hall facility. [More information](#)

**NEED A JOB?** There are currently 3 Graduate Assistantships, 37 Student Positions and 12 wage positions posted on JMU Joblink. Graduate students are eligible to apply for these positions. [More information](#)

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## Upcoming Events

**FALL REGISTRATION** Please complete your official registration for fall semester classes by **Tuesday, Sept. 4**.

**JOB FAIR!** Come see us at the Student Employment Annual Part-time Job Fair, **Sept. 4, 1:30 – 4:00pm** in SSC Room 1075. Come meet on and off campus employers that are looking **for YOU!** Dress is business casual and bring your resume! [More information](#)

**DASH ENSEMBLE HEADLINING THE NEW DANCE FESTIVAL** Combining elements of modern, hip-hop and physical theatre, The DASH Ensemble is a New York-based contemporary dance group of six artists who use an "inventive mix" of movement to express ideas about growth, love, loss, war and determination. **Friday, Sept. 7, 8:00 pm**. Forbes Center [More information](#)

**KEVIN STEES, TUBA** at the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Jamison Walker has performed nationally and internationally in professional, military and academic settings. **Sunday, Sept. 9, 2:00pm**. [More information](#)

**JAMISON WALKER, TENOR** at the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Jamison Walker has performed nationally and internationally in professional, military and academic settings. **Sunday, Sept. 9, 7:00pm**. [More information](#)

**RACE, FAITH, AND CLIMATE CHANGE: HOW GLOBAL WARMING IS A CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE** will be presented by Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley on **Monday, Sept. 17, 7-8:30** in Festival Ballroom. [More information](#)

**ENGAGEMENT FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD** invites graduate students to collaborate with faculty, administrators, engagement professionals, and community members as we explore strategies, research, and best practices relating to civic learning. **Nov. 7-9** at Hotel Madison. [More information](#)

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## Downtown Calendar

**SUNDAY SESSIONS (OPEN JAM SESSIONS)** Come jam out at **The Friendly Fermenter** with some fellow strummers, pickers, pluckers, etc, or just come to listen! Either way, the music will be spontaneous and the beer fresh! **Sunday, Sept. 2, 3:00-5:00pm.** [More information](#)

**MONDAY NIGHT TRIVIA** at **Brother's Craft Brewing**. Greg Williams is back with the week's trivia! The taproom opens at 4 pm. Our trivia special (select discounted draft until 9 pm) and trivia sign ups start at 7:30. You are invited to play alone or with a team. It is free to play and you can join or drop out at any time! **Monday, Sept. 3, 4:00-10:00pm.** [More information](#)

**GEEKS WHO DRINK TRIVIA NIGHT** at **Pale Fire Brewing** Come out for our weekly trivia night, hosted by Geeks Who Drink Pub Quizzes. **Wednesday, Sept. 5, 8:00-10:00pm.** [More information](#)

**FIRST FRIDAYS** is an exciting monthly event every first Friday in Downtown Harrisonburg beginning on **Friday, Sept. 7, 5:00pm.** Our downtown is positively buzzing on these evenings, when arts-loving visitors and locals stroll the streets and musicians, visual, literary, and culinary artists entertain and enlighten. Involves 15 retail shops, restaurants, galleries and museums, and involves over 30 participating venues throughout downtown Harrisonburg. Check out the Arts Council of the Valley web site for [more information.](#)

**TEACHERS 1/10<sup>TH</sup> MARATHON** A great family and group activity! Our unique event is exactly 2.62 miles long, which is 1/10th the distance of a full marathon. Run or walk on your own or gather ten of your friends/neighbors/co-workers/classmates and run a marathon together! **Saturday, Sept. 8, 9:00am - 12:00pm.** [More information](#)

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## Tips from TGS (The Graduate School)

**[The Student Handbook.](#)** It is the responsibility of every student to know and follow the policies outlined in the JMU Student Handbook along with federal, state, and local laws.

**Graduate Policies.** You are responsible to read and follow the graduate policies set forth in the [Graduate Catalog](#). Important information regarding degree progress, including rules for successful progression and continuous enrollment are also on the [Graduate School website.](#)

**Approval of a Thesis or Dissertation Committee.** Students who are completing these sorts of projects must submit a signed approval form to The Graduate School by the second week of the semester in which the student first registers for thesis or dissertation credits. [Approval form](#)

**Monitor your Dukes E-Mail account!** Official information is sent to each student's official [Dukes e-mail account](#). Check your @dukes.jmu.edu e-mail account on a regular basis.

**Monitor [MyMadison](#)!** The *Student Center* in [MyMadison](#) is where you will find advising information, register for classes, and where you can view "To Do Items" that will keep you on track towards graduation. Use the Student Center to update your mailing address and cell phone number. It is **your**

**responsibility** to maintain accurate contact information. Check your account regularly. Don't miss important information!

**Essential Links:**

- [Graduate School Website](#)
- [Graduate Policies](#)
- [JMU Student Handbook](#)
- [Forms for Graduate Students](#)
- [Thesis Guidelines](#)
- [Financial Aid Policies](#)

**Have Questions?** Please contact the following person if you have questions regarding:

Assistantships/Scholarships/Thesis/Dissertations	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Kathryn Brown ( <a href="mailto:wendelkt@jmu.edu">wendelkt@jmu.edu</a> )
Continuous Enrollment (Current Students)	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Initial Enrollment (Unable to Begin Program)	Sheree Will ( <a href="mailto:willsa@jmu.edu">willsa@jmu.edu</a> )
General Questions	Pamela Bell ( <a href="mailto:grad@jmu.edu">grad@jmu.edu</a> )

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We welcome suggestions for this newsletter, including events and opportunities. Please send your submission to [grad@jmu.edu](mailto:grad@jmu.edu).

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The Graduate School (TGS)  
[100 East Grace Street](#)  
MSC 6702  
James Madison University  
Harrisonburg, VA 22807  
(540) 568-7860  
<http://www.jmu.edu/grad>  
[grad@jmu.edu](mailto:grad@jmu.edu)  
[Like us on Facebook.](#)  
[Follow us on Twitter.](#)