

JMU Graduate Community News

From here, everything is possible!

September 15, 2014

Don't Miss the TGS Our Annual Dinner! Each year the Graduate School sponsors a dinner for all JMU graduate students and faculty. The dinner is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with colleagues from across the university. This year our dinner will be on **Friday, September 19, 4:30-7 pm**, at the Festival Ballroom. Graduate students and faculty are welcome to bring their partners and children (*immediate family members only please*). The dinner is free, and we ask you to register as seating is limited. The menu and more information is available [online](#). If you have questions contact the Graduate School (grad@jmu.edu; 568-6131). [Make your reservation here!](#)

Graduate Students are Encouraged to Participate in JMU's Alternative Break Programs (ABP)! ABP offers service trips to locations in the United States and abroad. Teams typically consist of 7-9 [student participants](#), 2 student [co-leaders](#) and a [Learning Partner](#). Trips take place during various weekends each semester, and during breaks such as Thanksgiving, January, Spring, and May. Graduate Students are always welcome to participate as a student, and you can be considered for leadership roles as well. Starting this year, graduate students can apply to serve as a Weekend Break [Learning Partners](#). (Learning Partners are now being recruited, considered and selected—it is not too late to apply!) Check out the [weekend breaks](#) for this [fall](#). For more information contact the Alternative Break Program Office at abp@jmu.edu. [More information](#)

Travel Grants Available! The Graduate School is pleased to be able to support graduate student travel to professional conferences. Travel grants consist of a maximum of \$500 per graduate student to reimburse travel expenses. Funding may be less, and occasionally may be more for international travel. Applications may be submitted at any time and will be considered on September 22, and if adequate funds remain to consider additional applications, on December 1 and February 16. [More information including application instructions](#)

Conference Presentations Workshop. This Communication Center workshop will help you improve your conference presentation. Faculty and tutors offer tips and strategies for giving the best conference presentations. This workshop is designed for both novice and veteran presenters. Monday, October 6, 6 – 7:30 PM in the Student Success Center Assembly room. [More information](#)

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Brother Outsider.** Documentary and facilitated discussion about the life of Bayard Rustin, a civil rights activist of the 1960's who has been largely erased from history because he openly identified as a gay man. September 15, 7-9 PM, Grafton Stovall Theater. [More information](#)
- **Justice William C. Mims** will be the Madison Vision Speaker on Wednesday, September 17, 3:30 PM. The title of his presentation is "Be it Ever So Humble: Justice as a Virtue." [More information](#)
- **Graduate Community Dinner.** September 19, 4:30-7 PM. [More information](#)
- **TGS Travel Grants.** First review deadline, September 22. [More information](#)
- **International Week.** The Office of International Programs will sponsor a series of events during the week of September 22-26. [More information](#)
- **Environmental Issues** will be the focus of the Visiting Scholars talk by Dr. Geoff Dabelko, September 22, 4 PM, Taylor 405. The title of Dr. Dabelko's presentation is "The Periphery Isn't Peripheral: Acting on the Integration Imperative for Sustainability." [More information](#)
- **Gays in the Military: Why the All-Volunteer Force Didn't "Break" with the Repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."** This is the title of the Visiting Scholars talk by Col. Gary Packard, September 22, 5:30 PM, Harrison Hall 2105. [More information](#)
- **Changing Agents: Inclusive Excellence as a Path to Innovation** will be the focus of the Dominion Lecture by Dr. Leah Hollis, September 22, 7-8 PM in Warren Hall, Transitions. [More information](#)

- **Graduate and Professional School Fair.** Recruiters from more than 151 graduate and professional schools will be available to answer questions about their graduate and professional programs. September 23, 4-7 PM, Festival Conference and Student Center. [More information](#)
- **Seeding the Future of African American Poetry.** Held once a decade, this much-anticipated event brings together poets and scholars. The event features readings by many of the best established and emerging African American Poets. September 24-27. All events are free and open to the public. [More information](#)
- **Study Abroad Fair.** Program directors and representatives sponsoring semester-long and short-term study-abroad opportunities will be available to share their experience and to answer questions. September 24, 11 AM – 3 PM, Festival Ballroom. [More information](#)
- **Martha Nussbaum,** Distinguished Professor of Law and Ethics, and prolific author, will be the first public speaker sponsored by the Cohen Center. Dr. Nussbaum's talk is entitled "Injustice and the Dubious Value of Anger." Although everyone is familiar with the damage anger can do in both personal and public life, people tend to think that it is necessary for the pursuit of justice. Dr. Nussbaum will argue that a close philosophical analysis of the emotion of anger can help us to see why it is fatally flawed from a normative viewpoint -- sometimes incoherent and sometimes based on bad values. In either case it is of dubious value in both life and the law. September 26, 4 – 5:30 PM. [More information](#)
- **Annual International Festival.** Attend to experience an extravaganza of performing, visual, and culinary arts. At the festival you will find beautiful people from around the world, offering a smorgasbord of mouth-watering delicacies, musical talent and dance, creative folk art, language and intercultural learning opportunities. September 27, 12-6 PM. [More information](#)
- **Career Fair.** Learn about jobs and internships available, talk with employers representing different organizations, and network. September 29 & 30, 11 AM – 3 PM, Festival Ballroom. [More information](#)
- **Alternative Thanksgiving and January Break Lottery.** If you have signed up for the Alternative Thanksgiving Break/ Alternative January Break Lottery online, it is time to attend the lottery and get a spot on a trip! October 1, 8-10 PM, Festival Highlands Room from. [More information](#)
- **Conference Presentations Workshop.** Monday, October 6, 6 – 7:30 PM in the Student Success Center Assembly room. [More information](#)
- **Graduate Student Association (GSA) Meeting.** Sunday, October 7, 6-7 PM in the Festival Conference Center, Room 7. All graduate students invited. For more information contact GSA President Eric Dirth (dirthem@dukes.jmu.edu).

For additional events of possible interest, regularly check <http://www.jmu.edu/events>.

The JMU Graduate School Anticipates a Vigorous Year. TGS celebrates its 60th year at JMU with the announcement of new programs, new leadership, and a promising future. [Read the Story](#)

Join the Graduate Student Association (GSA). The GSA is a student-led and student-run organization that provides professional and social opportunities to all JMU graduate students and alumni. [Like them on Facebook.](#) [Find them on Twitter.](#) (gsa@jmu.edu; 568-7088).

Need a Job? The JMU [Office of Student Employment](#) has links to positions now available on and off campus. For example, there are currently 13 positions available for students posted on JMU's [Joblink](#).

Tips from TGS (The Graduate School)

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](#).

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 (rymanle@jmu.edu)
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Debbie Juhasz (juhaszdj@jmu.edu)
Continuous Enrollment	Tracie Esmaili (esmailtb@jmu.edu)
General Questions	Bess Rowden (grad@jmu.edu)

We welcome suggestions for this newsletter, including events and opportunities. Please send your submission to grad@jmu.edu .

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