

JMU Graduate Community News

From here, everything is possible!

November 1, 2015

A graphic for a Twitter campaign. On the left, a computer monitor displays the Twitter handles #JMUgradresearch and #JMUgradwork. To the right, a blue box contains the text 'Hashtag Your Research' and a list of instructions: 'Tweet about your research', 'Send us your Twitter Handle', and 'The GSA and The Graduate School will re-tweet your research!'.

Hashtag Your Research

- Tweet about your research
- Send us your Twitter Handle
- The GSA and The Graduate School will re-tweet your research!

Generate a buzz about your research and creative activities on Twitter! Tweet interesting findings, conference presentations, publications, performances and exhibitions using either #JMUgradresearch or #JMUgradwork. The GSA and The Graduate School will retweet your stories!

Save the date! The 2nd Annual Showcase of Graduate Scholarship and Creative Activity will be held Thursday, April 14, 2015. The call for proposals will be posted on The Graduate School homepage before the end of the Fall semester.

Personal Statement Workshops. The University Writing Center is hosting a Personal Statement Workshops November 6, 2:30-4 p.m. Bring your personal statement, and get some tips from writing experts. Improve your draft. Space is limited! To reserve your spot, contact UWC Outreach Coordinator Lucy Malenke (malenklb@jmu.edu). If you can't attend you can also [book an appointment with a tutor](#) or [view online resources](#).

Innovative Diversity Efforts Award (IDEA) Program. The goal of this award program is to provide funds to students, faculty, and staff members who want to test innovative ideas and/or develop sustainable activities and projects that would enrich the diversity of the university. Applications from graduate students are welcome! Individuals, departments, units or groups are invited to submit proposals. Awards of up to \$4,000 each will be made during the Spring 2016 semester for the 2016 – 2017 academic year. [More information](#)

Is English difficult for you? Would you like help? [English Language Learner Services](#) provides one-to-one consultations, customized to your language proficiency and culture. You can work individually or in a group with a professional English language specialist or a peer educator. For assistance contact [Kristen Shrewsbury](mailto:shrewskm@jmu.edu) (568-2881; shrewskm@jmu.edu) or visit ELLS in the Student Success Center within the Learning Centers suite. Open for consultations Monday – Friday. [More information](#)

A Veterans Center has opened in Wilson Hall. Students who are veterans can get access by joining the Student Veterans Association ([join through BeInvolved](#), search for “veterans”). [More information about JMU Veterans](#)

Need a Job? There are now 19 student positions and 7 wage positions posted on JMU's [Joblink](#).

Keep up with Graduate Student Association (GSA) Events. 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) [More information](#)

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **2015 Fall Food Drive.** Help a family in need this holiday season. Join your fellow Dukes in the fight against hunger by participating in our 8th annual food drive in support of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. October 26- November 20. The most needed items are: cereal, peanut butter, canned meats, canned soups and stews, canned fruits and vegetables, boxed macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce, pasta and rice. [Collection information](#). [Donate Online](#)
- **“BFFs, Girlfriends and Besties.” “With Good Reason” Public Radio Program.** November 1, 3:30-4:30 p.m. WMRA-FM 90.7. Dr. Mary Thompson, associate professor of English at JMU, presents “BFFs, Girlfriends and Besties.” Thompson says that two kinds of books, mommy memoirs and mother-daughter memoirs, are tackling the tough topic of abortion in new ways. [More information](#)

- **Black Women in the Academy: Supporting the Advancement of Black Women in Higher Education.** November 2-3, 2015, Festival Conference Center. Sponsored by JMU Sisters in Session. Dr. Juanita C. Sharpe, keynote speaker, presenting “These Shoes Are Too Tight: Navigating the Perceptions of African American Women in Higher Education.” [Register](#) [More information](#)
- **Hunger Banquet.** Come to the Hunger Banquet on November 3, 6:00-9:00 pm in the Festival Ballroom! This experience will demonstrate the drastic differences between the social classes in the United States. This event is hosted by Community Service-Learning. [More information](#)
- **Rocco Forums on the Future with Dr. Lowell Catlett.** Mon, Nov 9, 2015, 4:00- 6:00 PM. Lecture at 4 p.m. followed by 5 p.m. reception. Memorial Hall Auditorium. Dr. Lowell Catlett presents “**Imagining the World of 2020.**” Catlett is a futurist whose extensive knowledge of technologies and their implications on the way we live and work is addressed in his upbeat presentations. Dr. Catlett is a consultant to the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Interior, Defense and Labor and the World Bank. [RSVP](#) or contact Whitney Sajko (sajkowl@jmu.edu; 568-7274) for more information.
- **Visiting Scholar Lecture:** Dr. Henry Petroski. November 13, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Grafton-Stovall Theatre. Dr. Petroski is the Aleksandar S. Vesic Professor of Civil Engineering and a professor of history at Duke University. He has written 18 books on the topics of design, success and failure, and the history of engineering and technology. Sponsored by the Cohen Center for Technological Humanism. [More information](#) [Optional Registration Here](#)
- **Mixed Drinks, Mixed Emotions: Alcohol Abuse and Mental Health.** November 16. 7:00-8:00 p.m. Wilson Hall Auditorium. Guest speaker Ross Szabo is a mental health advocate, professional speaker, and consultant. In addition he is a writer, trainer and returned Peace Corps Volunteer. Ross will give one of his keynote presentations on alcohol and mental health with a brutally honest, humorous, and relatable approach to mental health. Sponsored by the University Health Center. [More information](#)
- **Last day to submit an application for Masters, Ed.S. or Doctoral degree** if graduation requirements are to be met in May 2016, or for summer graduates walking in May. Monday, November 16.
- **Madison Vision Series: Dr. Danielle S. Allen.** November 19, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM. Forbes Center Concert Hall. Dr. Allen is a political philosopher widely known for her work on justice and citizenship. A former right-wing Republican, Allen became interested in the gap between America's rich and poor and turned her views toward fighting inequality. [More information.](#)
- **Comprehensive Results and Thesis/Dissertation/Ed.S. research projects due to TGS:** November 20.
- **Thanksgiving break:** November 23-27.
- **Fall Classes Resume:** November 30.
- **Last Day for students to submit coursework to faculty to remove an incomplete grade:** November 30.
- **Final Examinations:** December 14-18.
- **Deadline for completing all graduate coursework for Fall 2015:** December 18.
- **December commencement:** December 19.

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

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](#)

Approval of a Thesis or Dissertation Committee. Students who are completing these sorts of project 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 (rymanle@jmu.edu)
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Debbie Juhasz (juhaszdj@jmu.edu)
Continuous Enrollment	Debbie Juhasz (juhaszdj@jmu.edu)
General Questions	Linda Wandless (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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