

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

April 20, 2015

*You are invited!*

## GRADUATE COMMUNITY PICNIC

Thursday, April 30, 2015

4:30 PM

Grace Street House Lawn

All graduate students, graduate faculty, family and friends are invited to celebrate another wonderful year at JMU. Enjoy the free food, gifts and good music. During the event we will announce the recipients of the Impact Awards and GSA Scholarships. The 2015-16 GSA Executive Council will also be announced. Please don't miss this event!

[More Information about the Graduate Community Picnic](#)

**We are so proud of JMU's Graduate Students!** A tremendous number of graduate students have presented their scholarship and creative activity during state, regional and national conferences this year. Some examples have been posted on the [TGS website](#). Please allow us to celebrate your accomplishments as well by sending a brief description to [grad@jmu.edu](mailto:grad@jmu.edu). You are welcome to attach a photo for publication as well!

**Fall Course Available.** The Department of Graduate Psychology welcomes all students to consider the following course that may be relevant to graduate students in many disciplines:

**PSYC 850: Introduction to R.** This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the statistical program R for individuals without formal training in programming in behavioral and social sciences. The course is divided into four sections: basic tasks, writing functions, visualizing data, and basic simulations. Content includes the grammar of R syntax, basic data management, for loops, conditional statements, 2- and 3-D plotting, and other topics. Basic statistical knowledge is assumed (i.e., null hypothesis testing, t-tests, and correlation). For more information, please contact Monica Erbacher ([erbachmk@jmu.edu](mailto:erbachmk@jmu.edu)).

**Grant Writing Institute.** Participate in a three-day grant proposal institute that will help you effectively tell the story that leads to getting a grant funded. The institute, to be held May 13-15, is open to graduate students and faculty from all disciplines. There is no fee but an application, due May 6 (or when course is full), is required. [More information and application.](#)

**GA Positions Available.** Seventeen graduate assistantships are currently posted on Joblink for the 2015-16 academic year. New positions were recently posted for International Student and Scholar Services, LGBT & Ally Education, Office of Research Compliance, Blue Ridge Community College Recreation Center, Shenandoah Valley United Soccer, and Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Many other positions are still accepting applicants. Additional positions are likely to be posted soon. See "Graduate Assistant Positions" on JMU Joblink. [More information](#)

**Student Assistant Positions Available for 2015-16.** Apply now for student assistant positions available during the 2015-16 academic year. Currently 36 positions are posted on JMU Joblink and additional positions are likely to be recruited before the end of the Spring semester. "See Student Positions" on JMU Joblink. [More information](#)

**The Explore More Children's Museum** in Harrisonburg has volunteer and internship positions available for Summer and Fall. [More information](#)

**Upcoming Events & Deadlines**

- **Thesis and Dissertation Projects** are due in the Graduate School office on April 22 for students graduating in May. Formatting and submission workshops have been scheduled on the following dates and times in the Graduate School Office Conference Room (Grace Street House):
  - Tuesday, April 21, 1:30-3:00
  - Wednesday, April 22, 9:00-10:30
 These workshops may not take the full time allotted, however, 1-1/2 hour blocks are scheduled to allow Laura Ryman to work individually with you. These sessions are not required, but are intended to help those who need assistance. Advance review of a draft document is not required, but it is encouraged. Laura Ryman ([rymanle@jmu.edu](mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu)) would be happy to review your document for format concerns. Remember that your final document must conform to university guidelines before it can be approved. [More information](#)
- **Practicing Interdisciplinarity: Humanities, Bioethics, Health Care** will be the final Cohen Center presentation for the year on Tuesday, April 21, 4 PM in Taylor 306. This lecture will be presented by James F. Childress, Ph.D., and Marcia Day Childress, Ph.D. of the University of Virginia. [More information](#)
- Honors Program Symposium will be held on Friday, April 24, 2:30-4:30 in the Madison Union Ballroom. This event will showcase the academic research and creative scholarship by more than 60 JMU Honors students. The symposium is open to all members of the JMU community and beyond. [More information](#)
- **May Graduate Commencement** will be held on Thursday, May 7, at 7 PM in the Convocation Center. [More information](#)
- **The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Lavender Graduation Ceremony** hosted by the LGBT & Ally Education Program will be held on Friday, May 8, 10 am- 1 pm in the Festival Highlands Room. All are invited. [Register to be recognized during this event.](#)

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

**Did You Know?** For the first time, graduate students serving on the Graduate Student Association will be recognized at the spring commencement ceremony. All graduating GSA members will be donning a “white” cord to recognize their efforts in supporting the graduate school community at JMU.

**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](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu); 568-7088) [More information](#)

**Need a Job?** The JMU [Office of Student Employment](#) has links to positions now available on and off campus.

### 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 ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Debbie Juhasz ( <a href="mailto:juhaszdj@jmu.edu">juhaszdj@jmu.edu</a> )
Continuous Enrollment	Tracie Esmaili ( <a href="mailto:esmailtb@jmu.edu">esmailtb@jmu.edu</a> )
General Questions	Sara Harper ( <a href="mailto:grad@jmu.edu">grad@jmu.edu</a> )

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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