

**James Madison University's  
Provost's Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship**

**2012 AWARD RECIPIENT**

**Professor of Physics and Astronomy**

**Dr. Kevin Giovanetti**



**Short Bio:**

Dr. Giovanetti is a Professor in the Physics and Astronomy Department at James Madison University, a position he has held since 2001. He is an active researcher striving to unravel the basic structure of matter through experimental nuclear physics. He has been a longtime collaborator at Jefferson Lab (JLab) working with the CLAS detector. The facilities at JLab help to explore the properties of the proton and neutron. The goal is to understand how the quarks and gluons (the binding force field) provide the framework to explain the properties of nucleons. In addition, Dr Giovanetti has just completed an experiment that has measured a fundamental parameter (Fermi coupling constant) that determines the strength of this force, similar to how the electric charge of the electron determines the strength of electrical forces.

Dr. Giovanetti is a dedicated teacher who strives to merge undergraduate research with classroom learning in order to provide optimal preparation for graduating physics majors. He has also tried to improve the science background of JMU undergraduates by teaching many introductory courses in the Physics Department.