COMMUNITY WITH IDEAS

The bi-annual newsletter highlighting achievements, outreach, and new IDEAS for the Division of Student Affairs and University Planning.

FALL 2013

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Photography by Mike Miriello
20/20 Vision!

A note from our Senior VP, **Dr. Mark Warner**

Seeing is believing – believing is acting upon – acting upon is making a difference.

Wouldn't it be great to go to the organizational optometrist to get a vision assessment – to discover how to get that 2020 vision? That would make our lives a whole lot easier as we craft a strategic plan – complete with vision, mission, values, core qualities and goals.

Well, we don't have an organizational optometrist, but we have the next best thing – the University Strategic Plan that will take us to 2020. And no eye drops needed. The Madison Future Commission has completed its work. The University Planning Team has submitted their final report to the President and Vice Presidents, and they in turn will prepare a final University Strategic Plan for approval by the Board of Visitors in January.

I do want to offer a note of thanks to all of you who participated throughout this inclusive process. You helped make a very strong plan that will guide us for years to come. Also, I want to acknowledge Brian Charette's great work shepherding this process for the entire university. He herded cats, rounded up wild horses, and even dealt with some elephants in the room – while ending with an amazing sense of consensus. Kudos Brian!

We have some very exciting times ahead. The university strategic plan will help inform our divisional strategic plan, which is currently being drafted, due to the great work of our directors and AVPs at a retreat in October. Our plan will truly help us create the future we desire, rather than letting our future happen TO us.

Now we need your help more than ever! Once the University Strategic Plan is approved by the Board of Visitors, we will be creating objectives at the departmental level to support the plan. The new title for this newsletter is "A Community with IDEAS". How fitting. We want your ideas! The objectives will provide the richness that will make our strategic plan come alive, and enable us to truly transform the lives of our students and each other.

Eleanor Roosevelt said, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Let's dream, and make those dreams come true by making them tangible objectives. We do have the opportunity to shape the culture of our university, and now is the time to take action.

Create a great day!

Mark

Did you notice the new name on this newsletter?

The Office of Residence Life sponsored a contest with its Hall Directors to take the new Student Affairs values and find a catchy new name to replace CRREDIBL CHRONICLE. Congratulations to Mike Partin, Hall Director of White Hall, and Sydney Palese, Hall Director of Ashby Hall, for BOTH submitting the same, winning submission. Student Affairs truly is a Community with IDEAS!

C = Community
I = Integrity
D = Diversity
E = Excellence
A = Academic Quality
S = Student Focus
Two Plans Are Really One, **Brian Charette**

Why didn't they ever catch on?

The primary difference between Clark Kent and Superman was, essentially, a pair of eyeglasses and a suit. If you worked with someone every day, would you be fooled if one day they came to work in tights and a cape? Probably not. If Lee Ward came to work with an S on his chest would you not recognize him because he took his glasses off? If Eric Nickel put on a zoot suit and slicked back his hair, would he be a stranger to the UREC staff? Don't think so. Same person.

That's an important goal behind the new Student Affairs and University Planning divisional strategic plan and the new JMU strategic plan. We want our plan to look as much like the university's plan as we can. And in that way, do all that we can to invest time and resources in support of the university's goals.

"An important part of our work is to be a division that directly reflects all the best of what Madison is and can be," said SAUP Senior Vice President Dr. Mark Warner. "The closer we can reflect Madison ideals, culture and plans, the better."

Two are really one.

Evidence?

The SAUP Mission statement is precisely the same as JMU's: *We are a community preparing students to be educated and enlightened citizens who lead productive and meaningful lives.*

The new SAUP Vision reflects the university's new vision statement almost word for word: *We directly support the university's vision to be the national model of the engaged university: Engaged with ideas and the world.*

Our division's new core values are the university's new core values:

**Academic Quality:** We are dedicated to exemplary learning experiences because they are the essence of our mission.

**Community:** We thrive when we collaborate, respect and serve others, and appreciate our interconnectedness.

**Diversity:** We strive to be an inclusive community that values the richness of all individuals and perspectives.

**Excellence:** We seek to be innovative and to perform at the highest levels.

**Integrity:** We pursue ethical reasoning because it is essential to meaningful citizenship.

**Student Focus:** We provide experiences that challenge and support students.

To further strengthen the bond, divisional leaders have studied the university's draft plan – in the form of mission, vision, values, core qualities and goals – and created a divisional plan that lays out new divisional goals over the short-term, mid-term and long-term.

"We realize the university's strategic plan isn't up for final review and approval until the January Board of Visitors’ meeting," Mark added. "But we didn’t see that as a reason to wait to begin to develop ours. We feel we have a good idea of where JMU is headed, particularly with the fresh vision for engagement. So we rolled up our sleeves and got to work."

As a result, the division established six short-term goals in support of the university's strategic plan, three mid-term and three long-term, each with a champion or set of champions.
SAUP Divisional Strategic Plan – Short-Term Goals (To be completed by June, 2016)

Conduct a gap analysis in order to effectively prioritize and plan Tier 1 alcohol strategies for funding. (Champions: Amy Sirocky-Meck and Beau Dooley)
Create a Work-Life Balance Advisory Council to advise VPSAUP. (Champion: Marsha Mays-Bernard and David Onestak)
All SAUP departments will implement programs/learning opportunities that address the Madison Collaborative. (Champions: Dave Barnes, Josh Bacon, and Lori Pyle)
Conduct a feasibility study for a sophomore residence requirement. (Champions: Jim McConnel and Kevin Meaney)
Conduct a gap analysis to lead to a proposal for the allocation of resources for high impact learning practices within SAUP. (Champion: Lee Ward)
All SAUP departments will implement programs/learning opportunities that address university core quality #3, which addresses access, inclusion and diversity. (Champions: Marsha Mays-Bernard, Valarie Ghant and Valerie Schoolcraft)

SAUP Divisional Strategic Plan – Mid-Term Goals (To be completed by June, 2018)

Provide financial support for low-income at-risk students to engage in high impact learning practices. (Champion: Lee Ward)
Conceptualize, design and execute a campus-wide wellness consortium. (Champion: Eric Nickel)
Create a master plan for a sophomore residence requirement. (Champion: Jim McConnel and Kevin Meaney)

SAUP Divisional Strategic Plan – Long-Term Goals (To be completed by June, 2020)

Collaborate with University Advancement to educate SAUP staff on their role in the advancement of JMU. (Champion: Mark Warner)
Create and staff a Student Success engagement course for at-risk students. (Champion: Randy Mitchell)
Implement a formal evaluation, assessment and/or review process that results in the effective targeting of divisional resources and includes the potential elimination of programs and services to achieve efficiency. (Champion: Brian Charette)

As you read these goals, you'll see that some will fall closer to the work of your department than others. And it certainly does not mean that this is the only important work we will be doing over the next six years, of course. Hardly. The divisional strategic plan is simply a way to focus our efforts in helping to achieve the university's plan in specific targeted ways.

The idea is that your department will select one or more goals from the divisional strategic plan on which to focus, but also be reviewing the university's core qualities and goals about which to write fresh departmental objectives.

"We believe a lot of the 'dreaming big' and exciting new ideas will arise out of departments working on new objectives beginning about now," Mark said. "This is an open invitation for all SAUP departments to be hard at work dreaming about innovation and excellence that will support the university's new strategic plan over the next 1, 3, 6 years and beyond."

"It also doesn't mean our divisional strategic plan won't ever change. Plans should be flexible, adaptable, organic – sensitive to the learning process. In fact, 18 months from now, we'll add new short-term goals and update the plan throughout."

Engagement

The university has chosen a focus on student engagement as the primary vision in support of mission over these next six years. So departments will be challenged to consider their role in the pursuit of student engagement as well, which JMU President Jon Alger describes this way:

Engagement is what we are emphasizing as we pursue our mission. Engagement first means that we apply the knowledge, ideas, and discovery of the classroom to the world around us to solve real problems and help improve the human condition – whether that's on campus, locally, regionally, or around the world. This is a critical element of our role as a public university and is an important part of what it means to prepare citizens for meaningful lives, as our mission states. A community that combines a commitment to learning with a conviction that all humans are interconnected has the potential to solve any
issue. Finally, engagement is about the pursuit of high-impact learning to improve human life. This includes, but certainly isn’t limited to emphasizing such elements undergraduate research, community-service learning, studies abroad, civic engagement, leadership, ethics, citizenship and service.

This all means that, in the process of thinking of the future and enacting plans, SAUP directors are being asked to consider initiatives that:
Support the division’s strategic plan; and/or
Support the university’s strategic plan; and/or
Help achieve a vision for JMU to become the national model for student engagement – perhaps the biggest dream we’ve ever dreamed.
(and of course some objectives will serve all three)

"One of the things I love about this is that everyone in our division will have a role to play," Mark noted. "And we’ll work diligently to make sure we target resources in support of this process."

One such example includes the use of the division's innovation grant program, which will be focused on those new initiatives that specifically support the division's strategic plan. More information on the new model for innovation grants will be published in early spring.

So, ultimately, you’ll look at the division's strategic plan and be able to see clearly the university's plan. It may not have an S on its tights, but it's still super.

(See what I did there?)

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If you would like to download a pdf of the division's full new strategic plan, please visit:
http://www.jmu.edu/planning/

To read more about high impact learning practices, visit:
http://www.aacu.org/leap/hip.cfm
Cannie Campbell, Director of the University Health Center, has accepted a position as Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations in the Development Office here at JMU. Cannie has served at the University Health Center in a number of different capacities for fifteen years and has been the Director of the UHC for the last nine years. In her new role she will serve as the SAUP major gifts officer and will be working with the division to identify programs that could be sponsored by corporations or foundation grants. Her last day in SAUP will be December 6th.

Amy Sirocky-Meck joined the UHC Team August 1st as the Associate Director for Substance Abuse Prevention. Previously Amy worked as the Assistant Director for Student Services in Career and Academic Planning. Amy has worked at JMU since 1997.

Ken Diduch, MD, has joined our UHC Clinical team as a part-time general clinic provider with special interest in injuries and concussions.

Leslie Knight, RN has joined the UHC Urgent Care Team

Shelly Wyles Meadows, Emily Shifflett, and Lisa Mongold have joined the UHC Front Office Team.

Liz Howley, Assistant Director for UHC’s Student Wellness and Outreach presented at SCOPE 2013 Conference in Orlando, FL, October 2nd & 3rd. Liz was part of an Innovative Panel discussion that included 6 colleges from around the country. She presented information on Building Relationships on Campus for Survivor Advocacy.

This year’s Orientation Program included a new session for all incoming first-year students, Dukes Step Up!, facilitated by student volunteers recruited and trained by the University Health Center’s SWO area.

REACH Peer Educators is presenting their beWISEer alcohol education program at the BACCHUS peer education general assembly in November.

In September, Tia Mann and Paige Hawkins of the University Health Center’s Substance Abuse Prevention received certification as advanced practitioners in Motivational Interviewing (MI). The training, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico was facilitated by William R. Miller, Ph.D. Dr. Miller introduced the clinical method of Motivational Interviewing in 1983, and with Dr. Stephen Rollnick authored the seminal text, Motivational Interviewing (1991, 2002, 2012). Tia and Paige applied to participate in this opportunity and received an invitation due to their prior formal training, proficiency, and passion for Motivational Interviewing. As a team, Substance Abuse Prevention uses MI to facilitate effective early-intervention programs for students who are judicially, administratively, self or otherwise referred.

The University Health Center is gearing up for their move to the Student Success Center Spring Break 2014. They will be the first occupants of the building.
Judicial Affairs

Jill Wade has joined the team in the Office of Judicial Affairs as the new front desk Administrative Assistant. Previously serving in the Furious Flower Poetry Center, OJA is excited for the knowledge of JMU's processes that she already brings from her experience at JMU. She started in OJA on October 4th and has quickly adjusted to her new role; Judicial Affairs is very excited to have her as a part of the team.

Dr. Josh Bacon is now serving as both the Director of the Office of Judicial Affairs and Associate Dean of Students. In his new role Dr. Bacon helps cover cases within the Dean of Students Office, helping students in crisis, students considering withdrawal, and facilitating the flow of information within the BAT team. It’s a new role not only for Dr. Bacon but for JMU; much of this first semester has been spent figuring out how all the pieces fit together.

Taylor Logan and Chris Ehrhart from the Office of Judicial Affairs had their program proposal for “Student Development and Ethical Reasoning in Action” accepted for the upcoming VSSC conference. The program will outline how OJA facilitates ethical reasoning, decision making, and values clarification through sanctioned programs. It will also review how OJA has integrated the Madison Collaborative into existing programming.

RJ Ohgren from the Office of Judicial Affairs and Mandy Swanson from CARS had their program proposal for “Program Assessment – A Process from Start to Finish” accepted for the upcoming VSSC conference. The program will outline the recent re-evaluation and development of the newest iteration of By the Numbers and the role assessment played in that process.

Wendy Young, Associate Director in the Office of Judicial Affairs, has been accepted as a part-time student in the Strategic Leadership – Postsecondary Concentration doctoral program here at JMU.

Office of Disability Service

Brittany Dioszeghy, a JMU alum, joined the ODS team in June as the Office Assistant and Receptionist. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Psychology and French in December 2012 and is thrilled to be giving back to JMU as part of the ODS team.

Rory Lazowski, Learning Strategies Instruction Coordinator, has left ODS and is now working with our friends in the JMU Learning Centers. We wish Rory all the best as he embarks on his new adventure!

Judy Onestak, Notetaking & Technology Assistant, has left ODS and is now working in the College of Business here on campus. We wish Judy all the best as she begins her new position!

We started out the 2013-2014 academic year in full swing and have had over 150 new students register with our office since the end of Spring 2013. This is more than we have ever had before! We greatly appreciate all that our staff and partners have done in this demanding time, especially while our office has been short-staffed.

JMU Community Outreach:

Christina Wulf, our Accessible Media Specialist, has initiated several outreach events for the JMU community. She co-led a training session through Training & Development with James Carter from University Marketing called “A Double-Edged Sword: Educational Technology as Access & Impediment for Diverse Populations”. In addition, she provided accessibility training to CIT’s 2013 Fall Blended Learning Institute.

We are also hosting the “Best Practices” webinar series by Salome Heyward & Associates for the 2013-2014 academic year. This will occur on Tuesdays 11/5, 2/4, 3/4, and 4/8 from 1:30-3:30 and cover topics from accessible technology and reasonable accommodations to employment issues and updating policies and procedures.
**Orientation**

Mollie Zenz started working full-time as Orientation’s Marketing and Web Coordinator in July. She previously worked part-time in the department.

Welcome to Casey Ouren, Orientation’s newest staff member! Casey comes to us from Alabama, and now serves as the Orientation Operations Manager.

Sarah Sunde and Steven Krzanowski will be presenting at the NODA Conference in San Antonio, Texas on November 5. Their presentation titled Diversity Programming within Orientation: Expanding first-year students’ definition of diversity will discuss the We are JMU program which is held during 1787 August Orientation. They will provide an overview and history of the program, explain assessment measures and results, and provide insight on how this program impacts first-year students’ understanding of diversity.

**Office of Residence Life**

Robin Boos is excited about starting a new career at JMU. She relocated here with her family from western New York in April. She worked as an Administrative Assistant for 23 years at Lewiston-Porter CSD; 10 of those years at the High School level and the past 13 years in the District Office as the Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent of Schools. She loves sports, shopping and reading. She is enjoying the beautiful scenic area and look forward to visiting the many historical sites in the months and years to come.

Megan Martin is the new Coordinator of Social Media and Marketing for ORL. She was born and raised in Mechanicsville, Virginia but fell in love with The Valley while attending JMU. After graduating in 2011 with a degree in Writing, Rhetoric and Technical Communication, she worked for a Search Engine Marketing Firm in Richmond, Virginia. About a year ago, relocated back to the area with her fiancé, Jason, who is also a JMU alum. Prior to joining ORL, she worked for Lantz Construction Company as their Marketing Coordinator.

Kaleb Lewis joined ORL in July 2013. He is currently working as a full-time hall director in Potomac Hall. Kaleb joins us from the University of Florida, where he completed his Master’s Degree in Public Health and his Bachelor’s Degree in Health Science. Kaleb is originally from Naples, Florida.

Melissa DeGrandis joined ORL in July 2013. She is currently working as the full-time hall director in Eagle Hall in the Lake area of campus. Melissa is originally from Michigan and received her undergraduate degree from Oakland University. Melissa completed her Master’s in Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education from Ball State University in May 2013 and is very excited to join the JMU and ORL family!

Nicole Lenez is the newest Area Director for the Bluestone area, joining ORL in July of this year. She was born and raised in Bloomfield, NJ and made her way to Virginia for undergraduate studies at Roanoke College. After receiving her BA in History, Nicole went to Clemson University, graduating with a Masters of Education in Counselor Education: Student Affairs in 2008. She has worked with students professionally at Bridgewater College (2005-2006), George Mason University (2008-2009), Roanoke College (2009-2013), and most recently sailing as a Resident Director on the Spring 2013 voyage of Semester at Sea.

**Student Success**

N. Ritter Clevenger, formerly of the University Unions, has accepted the position of Assistant Director/Building Manager for the Student Success Center, opening in 2014. In his new role, Ritter is serving as the building coordinator for the 250,000 ft.²
University Unions

University Unions is busy planning for the physical changes in Warren and Taylor Halls that will happen in the Fall of 2014. A new/old ballroom will re-appear, the Clubhouse will expand, offices will move into new locations – it is an exciting time. Stay tuned for more details.

New this semester is the opening of UREC's TEAM Challenge Course - a custom group adventure teambuilding program. Programs are designed to encourage learning related to communication, leadership, trust, community-building and other custom outcomes. A Grand Opening event took place on October 24, 2013 from 4-5pm. Dr. Warner, Eric Nickel, and Guy DeBrun spoke. The TEAM Challenge Course is located at University Park. Interested in scheduling a program? JMU students, faculty and staff are encouraged to request a reservation now for their group at www.jmu.edu/recreation/adventure/TEAM.

Weekly Bike Rentals Now Available at UREC! If you want a way to get around campus or around Harrisonburg, we have wheels you need. The bicycles formally known as the Cycle Share program have been relocated to UREC's Adventure Program. Come into UREC and visit the Equipment Center to rent a Bicycle, Helmet, Bicycle Lock, and Bicycle Light! You can check out this equipment using your JAC card. You will be charged a $15 deposit (FLEX) and the weekly rate ($7). Deposits are refunded after equipment is returned. Premium bicycles are available for rental on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays throughout the semester for 1 week at a time. Check with the UREC Equipment Center at 540-568-8722 for more information.

UREC's new TRX system was installed for use this Summer. TRX Training uses tools and movements that challenge the entire body in every plane of motion. The body is an interconnected chain of muscles and every movement we perform...
Awards

Career and Academic Planning

Carroll Ward, freshman advisor for Nursing, was awarded the highest honor for academic advisors, the 2013 Outstanding Faculty Advisor from the National Academic Advising Association at their annual conference in Salt Lake City on October 6.

Dr. Lee Ward, director of Career and Academic Planning gave the keynote address – Do We Remember the Question We were Trying to Answer – at the annual North Carolina NASPA conference in Charlotte on October 4.

Heath Center

Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol (G.A.M.M.A.) received The Rose Award for Alcohol-Alternative Programming at last spring’s Dolley Awards. G.A.M.M.A. received this award for sponsoring Mark Sterner for a campus speaking engagement immediately prior to spring break. Mark’s powerful message about the importance of sober driving, not “let the least drunk drive” hit home for a packed house in Grafton-Stovall Theater.

Judicial Affairs

The Office of Judicial Affairs received the Together We Stand award from the Division of Student Affairs and University Planning for their Civic Learning Program and its partnership with volunteers across the university. Hundreds of students have completed both the Site and Mentor experiences, helping them find direction, purpose, and connection here at JMU. The Office of Judicial Affairs would like to thank everyone within the division and University for their support of these programs; they’d be impossible without it.

Tammy Knott, Assistant Director in the Office of Judicial Affairs was inducted into the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks on August 25th, a fraternal order dedicated to the principles of charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity. The Elks both serve and respond to the needs of the community.

UREC

Two UREC Pro Staff members were awarded JMU SAUP Division awards: Lorie Miller, Senior Assistant Director for Member Services, won the Creddibl award and Steve Bobbitt, Associate Director for Programming, accepted the Program of the Year award for chairing Madipalooza.

is a whole-body movement. TRX Open Hours and TRX Group Fitness classes are now available.
Community Outreach

Community Service-Learning

Rich Harris, Director of Community Service-Learning, chaired the second Harrisonburg Rockingham Bike Walk Summit on September 20, 2013, held at JMU east campus Montpelier Room. A diverse group of advocates and decision makers attended including President Alger who was a very supportive speaker. Bill Nesper, Vice President for Programs, League of American Bicyclist gave many ideas for the community to consider. The Summit produced a dozen action items for the next 12 months; many with people’s names attached who would lead the initiatives.

CSDC

David Onestak has been serving as the chairman of the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign this semester. With the help of many hands at the CSDC we stuffed almost 4,000 envelopes for this year’s campaign! Thanks to our wonderful giving JMU employees, we were successful at reaching our goal last year and hope to do the same again this year!

Judicial Affairs

In September, The Office of Judicial Affairs and Substance Abuse Prevention welcomed our colleagues from the University of Georgia’s Office of Substance Abusive Prevention and Office of Student Conduct for a day of collaboration and brainstorming. University of Georgia was interested in the BASICS practices at JMU, as well as OJA’s Civic Learning programs and the possible implementation of them on their campus.

Dr. Josh Bacon, Director of Judicial Affairs, has made trips to Antioch College in Ohio and George Washington University in Washington DC to help train them on restorative justice and restorative practices. Both schools are in the process of integrating restorative practices throughout their conduct, residence life, and honor processes, and used Dr. Bacon’s help to do that in the best way possible.

Taylor Logan and Chris Ehrhart from the Office of Judicial Affairs welcomed 15 eighth graders from county schools into the office for a job shadowing field trip. Taylor and Chris facilitated the Values in Action class for the students and discussed careers in judicial affairs and student affairs with them.

Office of Disability Services

In the spring semester of 2014, we will be having our 5th Annual Disability Awareness Week. This year we are proud to announce that President Alger will be our keynote speaker. The DAW 2014 events will begin the week of March 24th.

University Planning

Cindy Chiarello spent her Friday mornings in September at the World Foundation for Children Volunteer Farm in Woodstock. All food produced on the farm goes to Blue Ridge Area Food Banks. Cindy enjoys playing in the dirt so picking beans, potatoes, and pulling weeds was right up her alley! Ask Cindy about her volunteer experience and check out the farm’s volunteer opportunities online: worldfoundationforchildren.com or on Facebook: Volunteer Farms. The farm has outdoor and office volunteer opportunities (so you don’t have to get as dirty as Cindy does when you volunteer!)
University Unions

This Fall, the staff in Fraternity and Sorority Life played a large role in sponsoring an attempt to set the Guinness Book of World Record for most people attempting the Hokie Pokie using hula hoops. Almost 4000 dollars was raised for Roberta Webb Child Care Center and great fun was had by all who came. Kudos to Adam Lindberg for all his efforts

UREC

Get involved with this year’s Warm a Winter Wish at UREC! Come to UREC, remove a wish from the tree, purchase the gift and return it unwrapped to UREC with the wish tag on the present (this way we know what family and individual the gift goes to). The Warm a Winter Wish Tree will be stocked with wishes November 18, 2013 in the UREC Lobby. Please Return your gifts by noon, December 11.

Several UREC professional, graduate and student staff members facilitated the second annual “Family Fitness Night” on Oct. 17 at John C. Myers Elementary School in Broadway. Our staff’s goal with the fun event was to paint a positive picture of fitness for the children and parents. (See photo in UREC’s folder in the Credible section of common drive)

Sport Club Fall into Service: On Saturday, October 26th over 100 Sport Club students participated in the 2nd Annual Sport Club service event titled “Fall in Love with Harrisonburg.” The students received placements in one of the eleven different agencies throughout the community including: Mercy House, Children’s Museum, Our Community Place, RISE, the Gus Bus, Still Meadow’s Enrichment Center and Camp, Skyline Literacy, etc. This event exposes sport club participants to service opportunities in the community. Students also have the opportunity to meet fellow participants from different sports in the program! (See photo in UREC’s folder in the Credible section of common drive)

Without a Fight Screening: UREC partnered with the Office of International programs to bring this feature length documentary film to campus that explores how soccer can facilitate social change in Kibera, one of Africa’s largest slums. The film provides a glimpse—often a very positive one—into an Africa few have seen. It attempts to break stereotypes associated with people who live in extreme poverty while depicting sports as a tool that could be used to prevent violence among at-risk youth. Beth-Ann Kutchma, the producer of the film, helped to introduce the documentary and then answer student questions at the end of the screening. This event was open to both the campus and the public and there were a number of interesting questions posed by students. This effort contributes to a larger intention to raise awareness and change perceptions about life in urban slums. Please visit www.withoutafight.org for more information.
Wedding & Personal Updates

Career and Academic Planning

Adam Lindberg (UU) and Kristin Sowden (CAP) were engaged on October 31. Many thanks to the JMU Student Affairs Community for all their love and support.

CSDC

Melinda Morgan married Josh Fox, a construction salesman at Superior Buildings, on October 25th in Orkney Springs, VA.

Heath Center

Ashley Woolfolk Skelly, Physician Assistant at the University Health Center, and John Skelly were married on May 16, 2013 at Keswick Vineyards in Keswick, Virginia.

University Planning

We would like to welcome back Janice Garrison who is back in action! Janice was out of the office starting at the end of July for knee replacement surgery. She recovered quickly and is in her new office in Burruss 322. We missed you Janice!

Judicial Affairs

Tammy Knott’s son, Christopher “Chris” Knott married Luisana “Lucy” Gonzalez on November 2nd.

Office of Disability Services

Brittany Dioszeghy (formerly Brittany Jeretina) and Michael Dioszeghy (Office of Admissions) got married on May 25, 2013 in Linville, Virginia!

Our Executive Admin Assistant, Sandra Gulliver and her husband Keith Gulliver had the anniversary of his cancer diagnosis on the same day that he had his final surgery to finish treatment, October 31st, 2013. After a full year of battling cancer, they are on the recovery path of healing and prevention for the future.

UREC

Kelli Peterson, Coordinator of Intramural Sports and Special Events, was engaged May 31, 2013, to John Rockwell who works in JMU’s Accounting Technology department.
Future Dukes!

Career and Academic Planning

Shelly Laurenzo and her husband Eric welcomed Elijah on April 6th.
Sarah Barnes Orem and her husband Chris welcomed Landon on April 27th.

ODS

Sandra Gulliver, Office of Disability Services, is soon to be a grandmother for the first time!

Office of Residence Life

Kevin Meaney and his wife, Yvette, welcomed their fifth child, Ronan Michal Meaney on June 16. Ronan weighed in at 9lbs, 12oz and was 21.5 inches long.

Rosie McArthur, from Community Development in Residence Life, and her husband George are so overjoyed to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, Liam! It is an incredibly special moment for them, and they are so thrilled to welcome Shirlina and Ben’s baby boy into this world. Rosie is extremely proud and excited to be a grandmother for the first time! The newest addition to her family came on 10/22/2013 at 7:07 pm. William Benjamin Mann, VII (“Liam”) is a healthy baby boy, and weighed 8 pounds and 1.8 ounces and was 20 inches long. Meet Rosie’s precious little munchkin who has stolen her heart:

University Unions

Megan Driver, Events Coordinator and her husband Brent, are the proud parents of a new baby boy, Jase Malcolm Driver, born on September 8, 2013; 8 lbs, 1 oz, 20 in. long. Ryker Driver is Jase’s proud, 16-month old brother.
A Community with IDEAS is your bi-annual newsletter. We welcome any comments and suggestions you might have.

To submit an article, share photographs or announcements, please contact any of the Community with IDEAS committee members.

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We look forward to hearing from you!