

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

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October 28, 2016

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**JMU Homecoming 2016!** Below, you will find a list of the exciting events and activities that will be taking place during Homecoming weekend. The big event is Football—JMU Dukes vs. Rhode Island, Saturday at 3:30. Many other events are going on all day Friday and Saturday. [Homecoming Details](#)

**Global Opportunity Scholarships.** Global Opportunity Scholarships provide support for students who participate in graduate-level study abroad experiences, including, but not limited to, short-term and residential graduate programs at JMU, internship and field placements outside the United States, and research conducted outside the United States. Award winners receive \$1000. The application deadline is **November 1**. [More information](#)

**Graduate Assistant Position Available.** Dr. David Slykhuis, Professor of Science Education at JMU, is seeking a graduate student to assist with the EdTech Efficacy Research Academic Symposium. The assistant will be paid \$15 per hour for 20 weeks, beginning in Fall 2016. Please send a cover letter and vita to Dr. Slykhuis ([slykhuda@jmu.edu](mailto:slykhuda@jmu.edu)) by **November 7**. [More Information](#)

**Call for Abstracts!** The College of William & Mary invites graduate students to submit abstracts for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Research Symposium on March 24 & 25, 2017. The research committee is seeking submissions from students studying biology, computer science, psychology, and public policy, among others. Abstract submission deadline is **November 25**. [More Information](#)

**Fellowship Opportunities for Women.** The American Association of University Women are awarding Selected Professions Fellowships for women pursuing degrees in which women are often underrepresented. Women studying architecture, computer science, engineering, business administration, and mathematics are encouraged to apply. To learn more about AAUW or this opportunity, please [follow this link](#).

**Apply For a Travel Grant!** Are you traveling to present your scholarship or creative work at a conference? Any graduate student who is making a presentation at a conference is eligible to apply for a travel grant through The Graduate School. If you receive a travel grant, not only can you reduce the cost of professional travel, but you can also include this competitive award as an accomplishment on your resume. Note that the application form and submission process was revised this year. **Please use the application form currently available on the TGS website, and be sure to follow the instructions for submitting both electronically and in hard copy form.** The next deadline is January 15. [More information](#)

**Need Time Management Tips?** Finding time for class, studying for tests, assistantships, writing your thesis, socializing, and exercise can be incredibly difficult. LSI is here to help! Learning Strategy Instruction is a great resource for any students who need help balancing their schedules. [More Information](#)

**Need a Job?** Currently, there are 5 graduate assistantships, 24 student positions, and 10 wage positions, for which graduate students might qualify, posted on JMU's [Joblink](#).

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## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Veteran Parents: Enhancing Parent-Child Relationships.** This free 8-session weekly course provides information for Active Duty Military, National Guard, and Reserve and Veteran families can overcome the special challenges their service brings to family life. Starts Saturday, October 29, 10 AM – 12:30 PM in Blue Ridge Hall. For more information and to register contact Kelly Atwood [atwoodkc@jmu.edu](mailto:atwoodkc@jmu.edu).

- **JMU Homecoming Weekend:** *October 28-30.* [More information](#)
- **Relax With Some Jazz.** After the homecoming football game, grab your friends and head to the Forbes Center for an evening of music provided by the JMU Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Band. *October 29, 8 pm.* [Ticket Pricing & Information](#)
- **GSA Scholarly Lockdown.** *October 30, 2-5 pm. Cohen Center, Wilson 107.* For information contact GSA President Catie Mathers ([matherce@jmu.edu](mailto:matherce@jmu.edu))
- **GSA Meeting.** *October 30, 5-6 pm. Cohen Center, Wilson 107.* For information contact GSA President Catie Mathers ([matherce@jmu.edu](mailto:matherce@jmu.edu))
- **GSA HALLOWEEN PARTY!** Head to the Cohen Center on Halloween for the GSA Halloween party! Costumes are highly encouraged, prizes will be awarded, and food will be provided. *October 30, 6-7:30 pm, Cohen Center, Wilson 107.* For information contact GSA President Catie Mathers ([matherce@jmu.edu](mailto:matherce@jmu.edu))
- **“Dante’s Universe.”** Visiting Scholar and Professor of Astronomy & Astrophysics at the University of Milan, Marco Bersanelli, will provide a lecture entitled “Dante’s Universe” on *October 31 at 5 pm. CS/ISAT 159.* For more information, contact Laura Wisman ([wismanlb@jmu.edu](mailto:wismanlb@jmu.edu)).
- **Celebrating the Electoral Process through Civil Discourse.** Head to the Memorial Hall auditorium on *November 2 at 3:30 pm* for a debate between Josh Zive and Daveed Gartenstein-Ross. The debate will focus on issues relevant to the upcoming election and show individuals how they can have meaningful dissent while remaining civil. A Madison Vision Series event. [More Information](#)
- **“Fire at Sea: Shakespeare’s Migrant Crisis.”** On November 4, internationally recognized Shakespeare scholar, Dr. Richard Wilson, will visit JMU to present his lecture *Fire at Sea: Shakespeare’s Migrant Crisis*, which examines *The Tempest* in light of the current migrant crisis, Derrida’s philosophy, and the thresholds of Europe. *November 4, 4:30 pm, Forbes Center.* For more information, contact Laura Wisman ([wismanlb@jmu.edu](mailto:wismanlb@jmu.edu)).
- **“Messages and Mathematics.”** Jeffrey Achter, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Colorado State University will present a lecture on the mathematics behind cryptosystems, the entities that protect information transmitted via technology, such as credit card numbers or classified information. *November 7, 6 pm, Harrison 2105.* For more information, contact Laura Wisman ([wismanlb@jmu.edu](mailto:wismanlb@jmu.edu)).
- **Election Day,** November 8. Remember to vote!
- **Cohen Center Speaker Series: “The End of Night? The Challenge of Light Pollution.”** Dr. Paul Bogard is an assistant professor of English at JMU, as well as an author whose works have been published around the world. His writing on light pollution and the value of natural darkness have appeared in *Los Angeles Times*, *National Geographic*, and *Reader’s Digest*, among others. *November 9, 5 pm, Festival Highlands Room.* [More Information](#)
- **They Would All Be Queens:** Film screening. Witness the stories of several Soviet women living in Cuba after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in this 55 minute documentary. Viewers will witness what life in Cuba was like during “The Special Period,” where food and other resources were cut off. A discussion will follow the screening. *November 10, 7 pm, Harrison 1261.* Free admission! [More Information](#)
- **Deadline to apply for graduation in Spring 2017.** November 11
- **Thesis/Dissertation Deadline for December 2016 Commencement.** November 18.
- **Thanksgiving Break.** Monday, November 21 – Friday, November 25. All university offices closed.
- **All coursework must be completed for December graduation.** December 16.
- **December Graduate Commencement.** December 16, 7 pm; Wilson Hall [More information](#)
- **University Closed for Holiday.** December 21, 2016 – January 2, 2017.

**What’s happening in downtown Harrisonburg?** Check out the [Downtown Calendar](#)

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

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### 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:juhasz dj@jmu.edu">juhasz dj@jmu.edu</a> )
Continuous Enrollment (Current Students)	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Initial Enrollment (Unable to Begin Program)	Sheree Will ( <a href="mailto:willsa@jmu.edu">willsa@jmu.edu</a> )
General Questions	Justin Whetzel ( <a href="mailto:grad@jmu.edu">grad@jmu.edu</a> )

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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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