

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

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August 26, 2019

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**WELCOME TO THE 2019-20 ACADEMIC YEAR!** We hope that you had a great summer and are ready to begin a enjoyable, growth-inspiring, academic year.

**GREETINGS FROM THE GSA PRESIDENT!** My name is Michael Facey, I am a second-year graduate student in the College Student Personnel Administration Program. It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to the new students of JMU and welcome back our returning students for another year! I am hoping you all take advantage of the opportunities and social events that the GSA has to offer. We take pride in strengthening our graduate student network as well as helping students develop as professionals, and as I have come to learn during my first year of graduate school (last year), the opportunities are endless here at JMU, to do both. Please consider me as a resource and a friend who can potentially make your experience here at JMU special. Feel free to email me at [gsa@jmu.edu](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu) or [faceymx@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:faceymx@dukes.jmu.edu) with any questions you may have or if you just want to say hello! Also, add yourself to the [JMU Graduate Student Association page on Facebook](#) to stay updated with all the upcoming events that we have planned as well as our monthly meetings. I am looking forward to a great year with you all. GO DUKES!

**PARTICIPATE IN THRIVE.** THRIVE is a new program that will provide support and growth opportunities for graduate students from diverse perspectives. THRIVE is run by graduate students to serve other graduate students. Please join us for a Meet and Greet on **Wednesday, August 28, from 4:00-6:00 pm** in the Graduate Lounge in Madison Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Please also consider joining us for these Affinity Group Meetings (same location):

- **Tuesday, September 3, 4:00 - 5:00** - Asian American Students
- **Tuesday, September 3, 5:00 - 6:00** - LGBTQ + Students
- **Wednesday, September 4, 4:00 - 5:00** - International Students
- **Wednesday, September 4, 5:00 - 6:00** - African American Students
- **Thursday, September 5, 4:00 - 5:00** - Hispanic American Students
- **Thursday, September 5, 5:00 - 6:00** - Bi-racial/ Multi-racial Students



[www.jmu.edu/grad/thrive](http://www.jmu.edu/grad/thrive)

[thrive@jmu.edu](mailto:thrive@jmu.edu)

**MISSED ORIENTATION?** A new graduate student checklist is available [here](#).

**NEED A GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP OR A JOB?** There are currently 3 Graduate Assistantships, 65 Student Positions and 12 wage positions posted on JMU Joblink. Note that all of these positions, including the Graduate Assistantships (Airport Taskforce, Professional & Continuing Education, and Office of Admissions) are open to full-time graduate students from all programs who have appropriate experiences and interest. Additional positions are likely to be posted next week. [More information](#)

**CALL TO PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TRAVELERS** The Center for Global Engagement is conducting their annual photo and video contest for 2019's International Week. This year's theme is "Building

Understanding, Breaking Down Barriers: 40 Years of Global Engagement at JMU". **Submit your photos and videos by Friday, Sept. 6.** [More information](#)

**APPLY FOR A TRAVEL GRANT!** Graduate students who are presenting their work at a professional conference are eligible to apply for a Graduate School travel grant. Travel grants are a great opportunity to lessen the cost of professional travel and because they are competitively awarded, you can include your selection for a grant on your vita. Grant applications are considered in three rounds with these deadlines: **Sept. 15, Jan. 15 and March 31.** [More information](#)

**IMPROVE YOUR PUBLIC SPEAKING & PRESENTATION SKILLS.** The Communication Center offers workshops and individual consulting for all students who need help with a variety of types of presentations and can help visual design, research paper design, oral delivery, etc. They can help you prepare for class and conference presentations, job interviews, etc. [More information](#)

**ALTERNATIVE BREAK PARTICIPANTS AND LEARNING PARTNERS NEEDED!** Graduate Students are encouraged to participate in JMU's Alternative Break Program (ABP). ABP offers service opportunities with communities in the United States and abroad. Trips take place on weekends and during academic breaks. There is an information session for anyone interested in leading a fall weekend break on **Wednesday, August 28, 12:15 pm** in the Community Service-Learning Office (2100 Student Success Center) and **applications are due Sunday, September 8.** Information sessions for anyone interested in being an Alternative Weekend Break Learning Partner; **on Tuesday, September 3, 11:00 am** in Festival Allegheny Room and **Wednesday, September 4, 11:15 am** in the Community Service-Learning Office (2100 Student Success Center). If you are interested in being a [Learning Partner](#), fill out a [profile](#) and select weekend breaks. For more information, contact [abp@jmu.edu](mailto:abp@jmu.edu) or visit [www.jmu.edu/abp](http://www.jmu.edu/abp).

**COLUMBUS STATE GRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE.** Graduate students are invited to present their research or participate in a 3-MT competition at Columbus State University, in Columbus, Georgia, November 6-7. Presentation proposals are due September 13. [More information](#)

**REGISTER A TEAM FOR THE 2019 HARRISONBURG WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S.** Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. The walk date is **Saturday, Nov. 2. Ceremony at 10:00 am, walk at 10:30.** Be sure to include "JMU" in your team name, so that new teams can be identified for the raffle drawing. [More information and registration](#)

**THE UPDATED STUDENT HANDBOOK** can be found at [www.jmu.edu/handbook](http://www.jmu.edu/handbook). Please review changes made to the [Accountability Process](#) and the [Sexual Misconduct Accountability Process](#).

**BROWSE JMU'S MANY DINING OPTIONS,** including the new D-Hall facility. [More information](#)

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## Upcoming Events

**GSA KICKOFF PARTY.** Join the GSA for a JMU Football Season Kickoff Tailgate and Watch Party at Brothers Craft Brewing, **August 31, starting at Noon.** [More information](#)

**THRIVE MEET AND GREET, Wednesday, August 28, from 4:00-6:00 pm** in the Graduate Lounge in Madison Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. [More Information](#)

**THRIVE AFFINITY GROUP MEETINGS** (Graduate Lounge, Madison Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor):

- Asian American Students--**Tuesday, September 3, 4:00 - 5:00**
- LGBTQ + Students--**Tuesday, September 3, 5:00 - 6:00**
- International Students--**Wednesday, September 4, 4:00 - 5:00**
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- Hispanic American Students--**Thursday, September 5, 4:00 - 5:00**
- Bi-racial/ Multi-racial Students--**Thursday, September 5, 5:00 - 6:00**

**FALL REGISTRATION** Please complete your official registration for fall semester classes by **Tuesday, Sept. 3.** [Register here](#)

**WINE ON THE TREE TERRACE** Dr. Joan Maloof, Founder of Old-Growth Forest Network will discuss the overall condition of planet earth's forests. She will discuss the critical role forests play in biodiversity, the water cycle, and the carbon cycle. Meet on the Ernst Tree Terrace. Registration includes 1 drink and 1 hors d'oeuvre. **Friday, Sept. 6, 5:00-7:00 pm.** [More information](#)

**DUKE GALLERY OF FINE ART** Presents EDGE WALKERS, an exhibition devoted to contemporary design. Opening reception **Monday, Sept. 9, 6:00-8:00 pm.** [More information](#)

**JOHN GRISHAM HOSTS** his 3<sup>rd</sup> Writers Hour with Jon Meacham in the next session of **Madison Vision Series.** **Thursday, Sept. 12, 6:00 pm** in Wilson Hall Auditorium. [More information](#)

**WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S** When you participate, your fundraising dollars fuel the mission and raise awareness within the community, for this important cause. **Saturday, Nov. 2, Ceremony at 10:00 am, walk at 10:30 am.** [More information](#)

**ATTEND THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL FAIR** Meet more than 125 Program Representatives from National and International Institutions and hear about the interesting possibilities. Hotel Madison, **Tuesday, Sept. 24, 3:00-6:00 pm.** [More information](#)

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## Downtown Calendar

**STEAL THE GLASS** with Founders Brewing Company at Capital Ale House, **Wednesday, Aug. 27, 5:00-8:00pm.** [More information](#)

**ENJOY ART, MUSIC, POETRY, FOOD, DRINK AND MORE** at **First Fridays Downtown.** **Sept. 6, 5:00-8:00 pm.** More than 30 venues take part, the first Friday of every month. [More information](#)

**WALKABOUT OUTFITTER HIKE SERIES: South River Falls.** Sign up for as many hikes as you'd like. Earn prizes the more you hike. Demo a pair of Salomon footwear on the hikes! **Monday, Sept. 21, 9:00.** **Mary's Rock** will be **Saturday, Oct.19, 9:00 am.** [More information](#)

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## Graduate School Dates & Deadlines

<b>Add or Drop a Class Deadline</b> (semester/first block)	<b>09/03/19</b>
<b>Add with Departmental Permission Deadline</b> (semester/first block)	<b>09/12/19</b>
<b>Withdraw from University Deadline for Refund</b> (Must Submit a Non-returning /LOA Notice to be eligible.)	<b>09/13/19</b>
<b>Travel Grant Applications Deadline</b> (\$200, \$500, \$700)	<b>09/15/19</b>
<b>Add or Drop a Class Deadline</b> (second block)	<b>10/21/19</b>
<b>Add with Departmental Permission Deadline</b> (second block)	<b>10/30/19</b>
<b>Global Opportunity Scholarship Application Deadline</b> (\$1000)	<b>11/01/19</b>
<b>Application for Graduate Degree for May 2019 Deadline</b>	<b>11/15/19</b>

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## Tips from TGS (The Graduate School)

**The Student Handbook.** It is the responsibility of every student to know and follow the policies outlined in the JMU Student Handbook along with federal, state, and local laws.

**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 projects 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	Kathryn Brown ( <a href="mailto:wendelkt@jmu.edu">wendelkt@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	Pamela Bell ( <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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