

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

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November 2, 2020

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**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!** If you have registered to vote, don't forget to do your civic duty and cast your ballot by **7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 3**. [More information](#)

**ELECTION DAY DETOX.** Students can find a space to discuss and process the outcome of the election, how that outcome can and will affect them, and engage in a facilitated dialogue. All students are invited. **Wednesday, November 4 at 11:00 am, and Thursday, November 5 at 1:00 pm.** [Register here by Nov. 3!](#) Sponsored by THRIVE, the Honors College, and the Center for Multicultural Student Success (CMSS) in collaboration with The ARROW Project, a non-profit mental health organization based in Staunton. [More Information](#)

**NEW AIM GRANT – CREATED BY THRIVE.** The Advancing Intelligent Minds (AIM) development grant will provide funding to assist graduate students gain practical experience or conduct scholarly research that is relevant to their field of study. Recipients of this grant must develop a tangible product, such as a performance, publication, presentation or scholarly document. Projects must be completed within one academic year. **Deadline: Friday, November 20, 2020 at 11:59 pm.** [More information](#)

**THRIVE EVENTS.** Stay up to date on **THRIVE** meetings and events on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) or email us at [thrive@jmu.edu](mailto:thrive@jmu.edu).

## **PARTICIPATE IN THE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION:**

- **PLAY MINI-GOLF FOR A GOOD CAUSE** at [Mulligans Gold Center](#), **Saturday, November 7, 2-4:00 pm.** A suggested donation of \$5 will go to the GSA. Pizza and drink will be provided. Please bring non-perishable items for our food drive to be used to stock the grad lounge in support of graduate students who may be facing food insecurity. Email questions to [gsa@jmu.edu](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu).
- **MONTHLY MEETINGS** Join the GSA for meetings each second **Wednesday** of the month from **7:15-8:00 pm.** For questions email [gsa@jmu.edu](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu).
- **CONNECT TO GSA** You may find information for events and participation on our social media pages: [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), or [Facebook](#).

**RECLAIMING, RENAMING, REPAIRING** Join the Campus History Committee to find out why commemorative renaming of campus buildings is so important, particularly in supporting the broader work toward diversity, equity and inclusion at JMU. We'll also share more about the Campus History

Committee's charges and projects and the truth-telling/reparative approach the committee is using, as well as solicit feedback. **Monday, November 9, 12-1:00 pm.** Live-streaming to [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

**PRESTIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP.** The **Frasure-Kruzel-Drew Memorial Fellow** at the U.S. Department of State (DOS) in Washington, D.C. is a full-time, two-year, paid position with benefits, sponsored by the DOS office administering conventional weapons destruction and humanitarian landmine removal programs in over 100 countries around the world. The fellowship is facilitated by JMU's Center for International Stabilization and Recovery (CISR). **Application deadline: November 12, 2020 at 5:00 pm.** [More information](#)

**CALL FOR AAD CONFERENCE PROPOSALS.** The African, African American, and Diaspora Studies program at JMU invites proposals for its annual interdisciplinary conference, to be held as a virtual webinar **Wednesday, February 17 - Saturday, February 20, 2021.** This year's theme is "**Movement, Collectives, and Collectivity.**" Ranging across topics from archival practices to Black Lives Matter, the conference will bring together a group of scholars and archivists from a wide variety of fields. The conference will feature a keynote presentation by poet and scholar-activist [Claudia Rankine](#) (*Citizen, Don't Let Me Be Lonely*, co-founder of [The Racial Imaginary Institute](#)). **Proposal Deadline: November 16, 2020.** [More information](#)

**CALL FOR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE PROPOSALS.** JMU is hosting a **Leading Change Virtual Conference, February 18-19, 2021.** Proposals with a leadership emphasis from students, alumni and faculty in any discipline are welcome as long as they have a leadership emphasis. Proposals (1000 words max) will be accepted through the conference website until **November 30.** [More information](#)

**NOMINATE A GRADUATE FACULTY ADVISER** for The Provost Award in recognition of significant contributions and superlative achievement in the delivery of quality academic advising. **Deadline: December 4, 2020.** Questions - contact Marquis McGee at [mcgee2mx@jmu.edu](mailto:mcgee2mx@jmu.edu). [More information](#)

**TAKE PART IN A SLEEP STUDY.** Consider assisting a fellow graduate student with his thesis, while learning more about your sleep patterns. Participation entails wearing an actigraph watch for two consecutive weeks to measure sleep behaviors. A 30-45 minute intake session at the beginning of the study, a 10 minute mid-study check-in, and a 30-45 minute debrief session at the end of the study, will be required. This involves coming in to the Sleep and Actigraphy Lab located in Miller Hall. Participants will be entered into a raffle at the end of the study for a chance to win one of three prepaid VISA gift cards worth either \$75, \$50, or \$25. [More information](#)

**VIRGINIA SEA GRANT GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS** are open to full-time graduate students in any discipline who are addressing issues relevant to Virginia communities related to coastal and marine resources. Graduate students studying natural or social sciences, engineering and design, policy and legal analysis, architecture, business, education, or arts and humanities are encouraged to apply. Fellowship provides up to \$40,000 per year for two years and professional development opportunities. **Application deadline: December 16, 2020 at 5:00 pm.** [More information](#)

**PARICIPATE IN THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL THREE MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION.** Graduate students share their research in high impact 3-minute presentations and compete for cash prizes and a chance to participate in the regional competition. 1<sup>st</sup> place winner - \$750, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$500, 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$250. The audience will also select a winner for the People's Choice Award, sponsored by the Graduate Student Association. The first place winner will be funded by the Graduate School, to participate in the regional competition at the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (online). There will be virtual preliminary rounds culminating in in-person final presentations on **Friday, January 22 at 6:00 pm in Madison Hall.** [More information](#)

**UREC AND UNIVERSITY PARK** continues to operate this semester to provide the opportunities for you to maintain your personal fitness/wellness and manage stress during these challenging times! [More Information](#)

**THE UPDATED STUDENT HANDBOOK** can be found at [www.jmu.edu/handbook](http://www.jmu.edu/handbook). The Handbook includes updates of JMU’s Title IX policies and procedures to conform to new guidance for the US Department of Education.

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## Upcoming Events

**HOMECOMING CHAT & CHEW University Updates with the leaders for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.** Join members of the student body, Office of Access and Inclusion, Campus History committee and the Task Force on Racial Equity for a university update. **Monday, November 2, 12:00-1:30 pm.** [Registration required](#)

**DUKE DOG DASH.** Join Dukes from around the world in a Virtual Fun Run. Proceeds from the event will support the **Madison for Keeps Fund.**, Run for a good cause. All participants will receive a t-shirt and race bib. **Friday, November 6, 6:00 am.** [Registration required](#)

**ONLINE BOARDGAMES** Join the Global Community of Science, **Tuesday, November 10, 5:30-7:00 pm** to play: [Skribbl](#), [Uno with Friends](#), [One Night Ultimate Werewolf](#). If you register for this event but can’t attend, please email [jmuxlabs@jmu.edu](mailto:jmuxlabs@jmu.edu) or cancel your Eventbrite ticket ASAP, at least 24 hours in advance, because there is limited capacity and a long waitlist. Please be courteous and let others take your place if you can no longer go. [Register Here](#)

[More on-campus events](#)

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## Downtown & Area Calendar

When venturing off-campus, JMU students, faculty and staff must take care to continue mask-wearing, social distancing and other safety procedures to STOP the Spread. Virginia has implemented [“Phase 3” reopening guidelines](#) which permits retail establishments, restaurants and other businesses to open with social distancing and other restrictions. Gatherings of more than 50 people are prohibited in the City of Harrisonburg. [More Harrisonburg Stop the Spread information](#)

**THE HARRISONBURG FARMERS MARKET** is open for walk through and online ordering and pickup, **Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8 am – 1 pm.** [More information](#)

**COUSIN JIMMY’S FALL CELEBRATION** at Brother’s Brewing, Local Valley Music from the Shenandoah Valley and foothills of Virginia. **Saturday, November 7, 6-9:00 pm.** [More information](#)

**BACK HOME ON THE FARM** We’re celebrating 15+ years of fall family fun. Ride a tractor to the 7 acre pumpkin patch, see the farm animals, enjoy some delicious treats or reserve your spot for a campfire. **Tues. – Fri. noon – 6:00 pm, Sat. 10-7:00 pm, Sun. noon – 5:00 pm.** [More Information](#)

**FREE ENTRY TO SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK DAY** and all National Parks on **Wednesday, November 11.** For a complete list of Shenandoah National Park activities, visit our Calendar of Events: [More information](#)

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## Graduate School Dates & Deadlines

<b>Deadline to Add with Departmental Permission -</b> The student must register for the course on MyMadison. A permission only saves a seat.		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Block</b> <b>11/03/2020</b>
<b>Withdraw with “W” Grade or Change a Course Credit Option</b> Student will receive a “W” if they withdraw between last day to add/drop and this date. After this date they will receive an “F” unless other arrangements made with professor.	<b>Semester</b> <b>11/4/20</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Block</b> <b>11/17/20</b>

Registration for Spring 2021 Semester Begins		11/9/20
Comprehensive Assessment Results & Scholarly Document Submissions Due for Dec. 2020 Graduation Candidates		11/20/20
Thanksgiving Break (No Classes Meet)		11/23/20 - 11/27/20
Classes End	Semester/2 <sup>nd</sup> Block 12/9/20	1 <sup>st</sup> Block 10/13/20
Final Exams	Semester/2 <sup>nd</sup> Block 12/14/20 - 12/18/20	1 <sup>st</sup> Block Last class mtg.

[More Dates and Deadlines](#)

## 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. [Student Handbook](#)

**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](#). Some temporary policies are currently in force due to COVID-19. [Temporary Policies](#)

**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 Catalog with Graduate Policies](#)
- [JMU Student Handbook](#)
- [Forms for Graduate Students](#)
- [Thesis Guidelines](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)

**Have Questions?** Please contact the following person if you have questions regarding:

Thesis/Dissertations	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Assistantships/Scholarships	Boris Escalona ( <a href="mailto:escalobd@jmu.edu">escalobd@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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The Graduate School (TGS)

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