

Contents

FALL 2013 * VOL. 35 * NO. 3



8

M@dison News

JMU political science students participate on the C-SPAN bus, *Breeze* students visit the Pulitzer Prize-winning staff at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the JMU Alumni Association presents \$100,000 to the JMU Madison Forever Vision Fund, engineering students set a world record with an electric motorcycle, and the College of Business hires noted human resources management expert as the new dean

Dukes Turf

By Meaghan MacDonald ('13)

Seven of JMU's varsity student-athletes are excelling in the JMU Honors Program

Alumni News

JMU Alumni Association Madison Alumni Conference culminates in \$100,000 gift, 2013 Big Event goes global, Class of 1963 and 2013 join together in candle-lighting ceremony, Go MAD for Madison campaign and the Semester in Salamanca celebrates 25 years

Madison Milestones

Why choose Madison? By Jamie Jones Miller ('99)

Sigma Delta Rho/ Tau Kappa Epsilon turns 65

By Eldon Layman ('60)

JMU's oldest fraternity celebrates 65 years

Class Notes

News from alumni and former faculty members; scholarship thank-yous from students; and alumni highlights on jazz soloist Matt Stuver ('03), chef Jon Bignelli ('04) and medical resident Andy Oh ('03)

11

By the Numbers

Who raised \$12.9 million? 8,508 alumni helped! What's No. 2, 3, 20, 23 and 150?

16

Bright Lights

Richmond Times-Dispatch Editor Danny Finnegan ('84), teacher Jenn Bailey ('12, '13M) changes young lives in South Africa and at home, and Psychology professor Matthew Lee has a passion for social justice

Essay: Why I Teach the Way I Do

Psychology professor Matthew Lee tells how culture, diversity and psychology meet in his classroom

21



42

Professors You Love

Michael Syzmanski ('77) on history professor Lee Congdon

42

The Lee Congdon Academic Scholarship

By Pam Brock

Michael Syzmanski ('77) honors JMU history professor Lee Congdon with an endowed scholarship

Up Front:

Full Frame 2

Ten reasons to choose JMU by Martha Graham, Be the Change blogger

22807 4

Your letters and feedback

Directions 7

JMU President Jonathan R. Alger describes which skills society needs universities to teach today

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GET INSPIRED TO BE THE CHANGE

The Be the Change website has stories and videos about students, professors and alumni changing the world.

Sign up, connect, chime in:

www.jmu.edu/bethechange

Share your Be the Change story at madisonmag@jmu.edu

VISIT JMU:

Prospective students, alumni, community members, JMU friends: Find it all here.

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ON THE COVER:

Photograph by Mike Miriello ('09M)

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More than a major

22

At JMU, faculty members, students and alumni know that earning a college degree is about more than landing a good job. The college experience is about becoming an educated and enlightened citizen. It is a launching pad for a lifetime of learning. It is about improving oneself and about improving society. Beginning on Page 22, seven JMU students share their Madison Experiences and tell how JMU changed their present and their future.

FEATURED



38

Alumni kickstart students' careers

By Tyler McAvoy ('13) and Lee Ward

Engaged alumni are teaming up with numerous JMU programs – including Career and Academic Planning and Freshman Advising – to help students reach their career and life goals. Tyler McAvoy shares examples of alumni networking, advising and mentoring students via the JMU Honors Program, the School of Media Arts and Design, the College of Business and more. Also, Lee Ward, director of the JMU Office of Career and Academic Planning, explains why JMU combines the one-on-one student advising experience with career planning. He says, “JMU’s advising philosophy is incredibly more powerful than just deciding which classes to take. It’s also about the why. The college experience is really about one decision – preparing you for your future.”



14

My Madison: Studying in Germany

By Morgan Robinson ('13)

“A Study Abroad experience is so much more than actually studying; it’s living like you’ve never lived before,” says May 2013 graduate Morgan Robinson, who studied for a year in Germany through the JMU Junior Year in Munich Program. Her trip was funded through Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst, a merit-based scholarship in the German Academic Exchange Service. A Modern Foreign Languages major with concentrations in German and French, Robinson is interning with a chef in Italy and writes a culinary blog.

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FALL 2013 ★ VOL.36 ★ NO.3

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Your letters, stories and photos

JMU HELPS STUDENTS GROW PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY

On one of my daughter Abby's last visits home before she graduated from JMU this past May, we had a long conversation about what she has experienced at JMU, both personally and professionally. We talked about how JMU faculty members and administrators help facilitate student involvement and growth. Abby had some



Political science major and May 2013 graduate Abby Ware (center) celebrates with big sister, Taylor Ware ('10), and their mother, Pam Ware ('82).

unique experiences interacting with students and professors as a result of JMU's collaborative atmosphere. She thrived as a double major in political science and philosophy and religion. As a parent, I could not have wished for a better college experience for my daughter. Abby not only received a great education, but she also explored areas that she's passionate about outside the formal classroom. Sometimes that's where the greatest personal growth is found. JMU was the perfect school for Abby. My daughter, Taylor, graduated from the JMU College of Business in 2010 and was also well prepared for her career. My alma mater gave Abby and Taylor opportunities for growth and development, and also pre-

pared them well for their future. I am grateful for that and also grateful for my opportunity to give back through the JMU Foundation Board.

PAM WARE ('82), *Sterling, Va.*
member, JMU Foundation Board

NATIONAL ACADEMIC ADVISER OF THE YEAR

The National Academic Advising Association named JMU nursing professor and freshman adviser Carroll Ward its 2013 Outstanding Adviser. JMU annually nominates its recipient of the JMU Provost Award for Excellence in Freshman Advising for this national honor. The National Academic

Advising Association honors the top academic adviser in the nation in two categories – faculty adviser and professional adviser. Carroll is the third JMU academic adviser to receive this prestigious award, dating back to the award's inception in 1983. Both previous JMU winners — Michael Moghtader from the writing, rhetoric and technical communication program, and Kenn Barron from psychology — were also freshman advisers.

LEE WARD

Director of JMU Career and Academic Planning, assistant professor of integrated science and technology

➔ **EDITOR'S NOTE:** Read more about the JMU Career and Academic Planning office and Carroll Ward's prestigious honor on Page 40

Keep those letters and story ideas coming!

Madison welcomes letters in response to magazine content. The staff reserves the right to edit for clarity, length and style. Anonymous letters will not be published. Send to "22807" *Madison*, 235 Cantrell Ave., MSC 3610, JMU, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, or email madisonmag@jmu.edu.

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Rachel Dawson ('13), a spring semester intern in the JMU Marketing and Communications office, has written stories for *Madison* magazine and the university's Be the Change blog. In this issue she writes two student profiles appearing in the feature section beginning on Page 22. Dawson, of Glen Allen, Va., is a School of Media Arts and Design major with a concentration in journalism and minors in educational media and British communications and media. As a senior she served as executive editor for *22807*, a SMAD student-produced magazine, and as a small group leader of InterVarsity. She graduated in May after three years and a summer Study Abroad experience.

Madison magazine summer intern **Ginelle Gross ('13)** is a School of Media Arts and Design Major from Clemmons, N.C. Her concentration is journalism, and she has a double major in English. She served as a staff writer for *Curio*, the SMAD student-produced magazine, and her feature story was selected as the cover story for the spring 2013 edition. Gross assisted in the proofreading of this issue of *Madison* magazine, and she has written several alumni profiles for future issues and the JMU home page. Gross plans to pursue a career in writing or editing and hopes to work in the publishing industry.



Spring semester JMU Marketing and Communications office intern **Meaghan MacDonald ('13)** of Jackson, N.J., is a School of Media Arts and Design major with minors in sports communications and creative writing. In this issue she profiles JMU's Honors Program student-athletes on Page 10 and contributes to the student profiles on Page 22. During her junior and senior years, MacDonald served as sports editor of *The Breeze*, executive editor of the student-produced *22807* magazine, and interned with the Trenton Thunder, the AA affiliate of the New York Yankees. In August, she was hired as a sports reporter for the *Dickinson Press* in North Dakota.

Morgan Robinson ('13) of Richmond, Va., contributes the My Madison column on Page 14 detailing her Study Abroad experience in Germany. Robinson is a Modern Foreign Languages major with concentrations in both German and French. She says her Study Abroad experience "taught me to live like I've never lived before." Robinson studied Italian during spring semester and decided to travel again in Europe. During the summer she interned with a chef in San Vito Lo Capo, Sicily, and she currently lives in Florence, Italy. She shares her love of food, languages and cultures on her blog, twoburnersandaminifridge.com. "I started my blog while studying in Germany," she says. "All I had in my kitchen was two burners, a mini fridge and a toaster oven. I love traveling and sharing recipes and food philosophy."



Former student intern in the JMU Office of Communications, Marketing and Public Affairs **Sarah Jacobsen ('13)** is from Dayton, Va. After graduation in May, she was hired as a part-time designer and has worked on *Madison* magazine and numerous marketing projects. A Blue Ridge Community College graduate, Jacobsen earned a B.F.A. in graphic design from JMU and minored in studio art. "I can't turn off the creativity," says Jacobsen, who adds, "When I'm not busy saving the world from ugly, you may find me drinking coffee, baking cookies or riding my bicycle!"