



**JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

# SCENE

WINTER 2019



# FROM **THE DEAN**

This past year has been a difficult one for Spartans, with the revelations that we have harbored a sexual predator in our midst for so long, quickly followed by the forced resignation of a long-serving president, and the subsequent effort by our interim president to fashion a settlement with the survivors. We are now in the middle of a search for a new president, one shaped by these events but also looking toward the future and toward a leader who can heal a riven campus environment.

These events have forced a wider assessment of the campus culture and frequently eclipsed the normal course of business. I have thus spent much of my time in this last year in conversation with students, alumni, staff and faculty on crisis issues, as well as working with colleagues across the university to understand, atone for, and respond to our failings as an institution and to fashion responses for the future that are deep-seated and enduring.

Our failings need to be ever before us and a part of our legacy, even as our progress and accomplishments are. I have been proud of the way the Madison Community has taken up the challenge of critical examination of our community, setting new expectations, and being active in the various efforts of support for the survivors and reform of the campus. We have been especially active in formulating our views on what we would like to see from a new president and from our own college going forward.

Yet even in the midst of this crisis, we have not neglected the central mission and the day-to-day work that supports it. In many ways, the

crisis made this work more precious. I thought it appropriate to give you some sense of this work and what we continue to be proud of as a college:

First and foremost, we are a leader in efforts to attract, retain, and graduate students. There are currently almost 1200 students in the College, more than 10% are out of state and 20% are students of color. We retain our students in Madison at a rate of more than 90%. We graduate them at four and five-year rates that are the highest on campus.

Our freshman mentoring programs for first generation and underrepresented students continues to be successful, featuring special retreats, links to faculty, and an option for a course to examine pathways to college success. We have expanded our capacity to identify as early as possible students with problems and to intervene in ways that help them get back on track. We have also expanded our emergency aid for students in special circumstances. Madison continues to encourage international and study away programs. We had the highest rate of participation on campus in 2017-18 for education and internships abroad. We expanded our scholarship and financial support for students in these programs, offering more than \$80,000 in aid last year from the College alone. We have sustained college summer options in Belgium, Italy, and Sri Lanka, with new options scheduled in India and Brazil in the next year or so. My aim is to maintain our traditional program anchors in Europe but to encourage more students to explore other regions of the world, especially in the global south. We maintain semester-long exchanges

in Azerbaijan, France, and Hungary, and we support our students accessing the wide range of programs other units in MSU offer.

We have an outstanding field experience program, one that has existed for as long as Madison College has. It continues to create pipelines to a variety of alumni-hosted and interest-driven internships. We work intensely and closely with students to ensure they develop the skills necessary to pursue their professional (and academic) goals through these experiences.

We are also successful in preparing our students for law and graduate school and careers. We now have in place programs that link students to professional development opportunities and career planning starting at orientation. We have an obligatory program for freshmen designed to acquaint incoming students with our career services and to get them thinking about using them well before their senior year. We offer popular Career Exposure Trips, visiting Ann Arbor, Detroit, and Grand Rapids this past year, with an upcoming trip to DC scheduled for spring break. Students with financial need have scholarships to participate in these career exposure trips. We are also keeping up our long-standing tradition of connecting with nearly all of our recent graduates to learn about their post-graduate pursuits. Our overall career outcome rate continues to be one of the most competitive at MSU (routinely between 95 and 99% placement in law or graduate school and good first jobs).

We have established a Practitioners-in-Residence Program, bringing into the classroom the experience and knowledge of exceptional alumni and friends of the College to our current students. These courses have been tailored to the practitioner's schedule, ranging from six weeks to a few days. In the past year, we hosted five short courses on topics that included the role of money in politics, the World Bank project cycle, African conservation, social and issue advocacy, and LGBTQ issues in the law. Our goal is to make this program a permanent feature in the College, creating a reliable support structure for finding and approving new practitioners, ensuring their diversity in all senses, and harmonizing these courses with the wider curriculum. We look

to our own alumni as a key source of future practitioners in residence.

The College is also launching a new initiative, a leadership program that aims to develop diverse leaders who can contribute effectively in various fields of public service. We have selected the first group of participants – exceptional student-leaders who will enroll in a course in leadership, pursue a complementary internship with a local organization, and attend an on-campus symposium on diversity and leadership (which we hope to make annual). In addition, to ensure we are developing leaders who are cross-culturally aware, they will participate in a global engagement experience in New Delhi, India. The College, drawing upon your generosity, is subsidizing the entire program for students (except for the cost of credits).

You as alumni, friends, and donors have been central to all these efforts. Every time I mentioned new programs or supports above, they are the result of your gifts. You have continued to be generous with your financial support and involvement. The College raised over \$6.4 million during the capital campaign, far exceeding its \$5 million-dollar-goal. The college's endowment funds have reached \$4.5 million and provides annual reoccurring funds for scholarships, programming, research and activities that support both students and faculty. There are also planned gifts in place that will someday almost double this endowment. Your generosity makes programs like the practitioners-in-residence or the new leadership program possible. It provides needed emergency funds for students, scholarships that underwrite their participation in internships and international programs, and other support that has made a difference. You remain a key support for Madison's continued excellence.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherman W. Garnett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning of the first name.

Dr. Sherman Garnett, Dean  
James Madison College

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*We apologize for the omission of second names from the address labels of college thank you cards mailed to donors and partners in late November of 2018.*

# On the Cover

In his first letter to the James Madison College community following January 2018's survivor statements, Dean Sherman Garnett wrote, "There must and will be changes for the university as we move forward. The sentencing of an evil man and a president's resignation do not set things right, but only begin a process that has to align our everyday practices to healing, institutional reforms, and further changes of personnel and practice." As they have throughout the past 50 years of the college, JMC students, alumni, faculty, and staff have been vocal in their beliefs of how to bring positive change to the Michigan State University community and the world at large. From organizing groups, staging protests, holding discussions, and writing to the administration, members of the JMC community have not shied away from addressing the crisis.

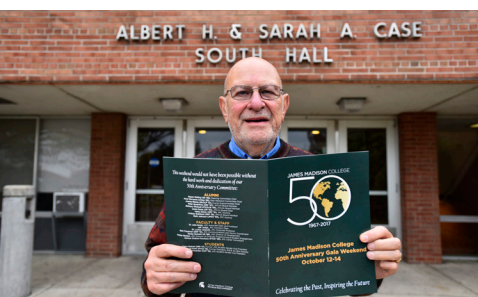
On February 27, 2018, James Madison College co-hosted "Teach-In/Learn-In: Building a Just MSU" alongside Lyman Briggs College and the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities. The Teach-In/Learn-In allowed students, faculty, staff, and alumni to share stories, ask and answer questions, and take the first steps toward building a better MSU. Sessions included discussions on the voice of students at MSU, power structures at the University, the importance of building community, and option for participants to create sessions to address any other concerns.

Students, faculty, and staff have organized on campus through existing structures and creating new ones. The James Madison College Student Senate, in collaboration with the student bodies of fellow residential colleges LBC and RCAH, developed a letter to the Board of Trustees strongly voicing their opinion. Additionally, the Student Senate partnered with JMC faculty to create a Statement of Values for the College (below). Students, faculty, and staff of JMC and other colleges came together to create Reclaim MSU, a vocal alliance named by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* as a 2018 Chronicle Influencer. And no public forums regarding the search for the new University President, along with public Board of Trustee meetings, were without numerous members of the JMC community.

The cover photo comes from the James Madison College Charity Ball on April 14, 2018. The James Madison College Student Senate honored longtime staff member Donna Hofmeister and the event benefited her selected charity, MSU Safe Place. The teal ribbon represents sexual assault awareness and support for survivors. Students, faculty, staff, and friends raised over \$4,000 through ticket sales, fundraising, and donations.

## **Statement of Values - Passed by JMC Faculty and Students April 25, 2018:**

As Madisonians, we affirm the necessity of compassion, conscientiousness, and curiosity in our community. We acknowledge our academic and moral responsibility to always seek to learn from one another, approaching our scholarly endeavors with respect and humility. We understand that this process can be uncomfortable, and that it often requires challenging closely held beliefs. Nevertheless, we strive to always participate in discussions in good faith, and to build a community conducive to the intellectual growth of all.



# **Celebrating the Past, Inspiring the Future**

## **The 50th Anniversary of James Madison College**

On October 12-14, 2017, James Madison College celebrated its semicentennial anniversary. Over 500 members of the JMC community including students, alumni, faculty, and staff from the past 50 years gathered in East Lansing to celebrate. A significant portion of the weekend involved learning, whether through the faculty and alumni panels ranging from national security and war to diversity and social justice, to freshmen hearing from alumni of the founding class, or listening to Dr. Robert Banks recount when the College was almost closed in the 1980s.

The weekend concluded with a gala celebration on Saturday night. The evening began with a reception recognizing Black student and alumni contributions to the College with a presentation by alumni, faculty, and staff. At the dinner, attendees heard from current students and their faculty and staff mentors on their educational experiences and the current state of the College. The keynote address featured founding class alumna Teresa A. Sullivan speaking on her path from James Madison College to becoming University of Virginia President, remembering her fellow classmates and the impact of Madisonians around the world.

The celebrations did not end that weekend in East Lansing. James Madison College faculty, staff, students, and alumni gathered around the country to recognize the anniversary in Chicago, Denver, New York City, and Washington, D.C. The anniversary activities will conclude this March in East Lansing with a discussion on James Madison himself, and the College will continue to look towards the next 50 years.

The following pages include experiences directly from those who attended the 50th Anniversary Gala Weekend. Dr. Gary Frost, one of the founding faculty members, spoke at Saturday morning's breakfast on the beginnings of the College and the principles on which it was built. His full remarks begin on the next page. Following this are letters to the editor from various alumni spanning from the classes of 1972 to 2018. We hope you enjoy hearing from these individuals and learning from them as much as we did.



# The Founding of James Madison College

## Gary Frost's 50th Anniversary Remarks on October 14, 2017

*Dr. Gary Frost received his Ph.D. from the Michigan State University College of Education. After leaving Madison College he was the Founding Dean of Earl Warren College at the University of California, San Diego. For the past decade, Gary has served as Executive Vice President and Health & Healing Officer for Canyon Ranch. Dr. Frost currently resides in California.*

Thank you very much, good morning and welcome. Last night I had dinner in the State Room with one of our alums, Mr. Cory Carlson, our earliest Internship Director. The server was talking about the State Room and Kellogg Center, and I shared with him that the first time I ate in the State Room was the summer of 1965, and without blinking he said: "My mother wasn't born then." That's my way of saying I have been part of Madison College and Michigan State University for decades, and in many ways is still one of my most cherished life experiences.

The first two speakers this morning, Dr. Banks and I, represent 160 years of life and over 100 years of working full time. The reunion committee decided it was best if they got us on early in the weekend so they wouldn't need to worry about us nodding off during the evening program.

It is a daunting task in 15 minutes to speak about the founding of Madison College. My focus for the few minutes I have with you has to do with why we were successful while other schools and experimentations in higher education around the country failed.



The fact that we're here 50 years later is to me the major indicator of our success. The foundation upon which we were built has served as guiding principles in my life's work since 1967.

In the years leading up to 1967, I happened to have been at the right place at the right time when the University decided to move in the direction of residential college programs. I was Head Resident Advisor of Case Hall, and I was asked to help Herb Garfinkel find a suitable home for the college. A decade earlier John Hannah had created the concept of Living-Learning dorms, a precursor to a residential college. Case Hall was the perfect location.

As ideal as Case Hall was, there was a substantive need that had to be articulated to attract top students and faculty. "Build it

*"If you're going to be a Madison College student, you had best be sharp enough and willing to work in order to understand the arguments for and against the issues put out on the table."*

and they'll come" was not a sufficient next step in the development of the College. The small group of founding faculty members spent the winter, spring, and summer of 1967 building an integrative, multidisciplinary, policy problems-focused curriculum. Besides the relevance of the issues to be covered, there was an academic rigor to all Madison courses and fields.

These highly demanding Fields of Concentration set us apart from what was being offered at some MSU colleges and very different from colleges across the country. The education and development we were offering was more than a feel-good

experience; it was more than a Kumbaya, it was more than having a residential experience. The message of the curriculum was if you're going to be a Madison College student, you had best be sharp enough and willing to work in order to understand the arguments for and against the issues put out on the table. Many of you remember that we spent a great deal of time on Grand River Avenue in the late 60's and early 70's and it wasn't because we were shopping. The young core of faculty and seasoned tenured professors in Madison would tell students as they readied themselves for protesting and occupation "if you're going to bleed over an issue, if you're going to get arrested, make sure its an issue that you understand both sides of the argument so you can make a good decision for what you are about to do." I believe that was one aspect of the brilliance of our curriculum; it challenged people.

When I listened yesterday afternoon to what some of our students have accomplished in life, clearly Madison College has become the crown jewel of undergraduate education at Michigan State University. And I don't even have to tone down my enthusiasm because it is absolutely clear to me and others. The next Madison building block was our students. We built an appealing college for students who were intellectually gifted and were looking for something different when they came out of high school. Recruiting those first few entering Madison classes was a bit of smoke, mirrors, and prayer. We had course titles, fields, and a very attractive Field Internship Program. However, as a brand-new school, we had no track record and no graduates, only promises. We did have unbridled enthusiasm, and we were able to "sell" it to an absolutely amazing group of 222 students.

The third building block of Madison College was the setting and the times. We were born at a perfect time in the history of this country and the history of higher education.

We had, in Michigan State University, a safety net. So even if you came to Madison College and we were a total failure, you were a Michigan State University student, the first Land Grant College. I used that reasoning with parents and students for many months in the Winter and Spring of 1967. It was comforting for all involved that we were part of MSU.

The late 60's demanded change. They demanded it in the streets, they demanded it in the government, and they demanded it in the Universities. In fact, seeing some of our first students yesterday, I just wish they would apply their enthusiasm and wisdom to bring about change in today's society.

A major piece of the Madison structure is clearly the faculty. This was the genius, and again it's a point I've carried with me throughout my career. First of all, there were these young, eager faculty members who were looking for something different perhaps than when they went to graduate school. They were much more socially aware of the times, and there was a core of these high-quality individuals who came in over the first few years, folks like Bob Banks. Herb Garfinkel and others screened each candidate very carefully they had to have an intellectual curiosity as well as a humanistic component. The absolute insurance policy for Madison's success was the fact that

we peppered the planning committee and the original new faculty with some of the seasoned veterans from Michigan State University. These were people who had credibility within the University community and relevance in their departments. So, the fact that these senior scholars were now teaching and representing Madison College as well as contributing to developing our curriculum instantly gave Madison College credibility.

We had a little bit of a chip on our shoulder but not such a chip that it was going to get in the way of making the college successful. It was a Passion, it was Passion from the young new faculty, it was Passion from the elders who brought their experience to us. The totality of the faculty makeup took a lot of angst out of our University critics who were trying to figure out who this upstart was siphoning budget dollars for this new operation. Dr. Banks will talk more about these crises in a moment.

The final building block of this marvelous experiment was the leader, the visionary Dr. Herbert Garfinkel. Without his courage and unwillingness to water down our experiment, we would not be celebrating this golden anniversary. This was his idea, and yet he was wise enough to let others contribute and make it better. He was sort of a combination of Bobby Knight



and Mr. Rogers. He wouldn't compromise with the university administration, was unrelenting and he took that passion and vision to move us toward what we are today. Trust me, I'm not up here as part of a beatification program, Herb drove me crazy, and many of you experienced this. But honestly, in my view of 50 years of working in startup organizations, it wouldn't have been possible without the foundation and standards he established. He didn't suffer fools lightly. He truly believed in mutually assisting scholars, even though there was an occasional difference in opinion among students about what mutually assisting meant. He didn't give out participation trophies, but he did build one heck of a college. My long career has taught me that if you do not have a leader with that kind of passion, vision and drive, you're going to wind up with a mediocre product.

I have learned from organizations both in the university and the private sector, that the future of the entity largely depends on the success of passing the reins of leadership. Fortunately for Madison College, the leadership of the college was turned over to Dr. Robert Banks. The young College still needed a respected leader with a vision and understanding of the College and the University. The passing of the Deanship ensured that the future would be built on the brilliance of Madison's

founding, coupled with insights of what was now needed to thrive. Dr. Banks will share with you in a moment how imperiled Madison was as we matured as a college. His guidance and leadership have ensured our legacy.

These are principles that built Madison College and allowed it to flourish. I have found them critical ingredients in every organization I've ever worked in. It took passionate people with a high intellect who were good communicators, empathetic and kind people who took pride in quality. When I listened to some of our students yesterday, and what they've been doing for their careers, I know we did good work. There are very, very few organizations in the country that have achieved what we did. The residential component of Madison was essential as a way to develop a community.

Being part of this community in 'the late 60's and 70's helped shape my life, and I have had an unbelievably fortunate career which I wouldn't trade. The only thing is I'd love to come back now with these 50 years of experience and understanding and apply it in this setting. Thank you for the memories and lesson learned. Thank you for a future where I continue to brag about this organization and I couldn't imagine being anywhere else in the world this weekend to help us celebrate. Thanks.



# Alumni Voices

## From the JMC 50th Anniversary Celebrations



Recently, on October 14, I was thinking of my college roommate and fellow JMC IR grad, Lisa Burchfield. Fortunately, I remembered that the next day was her birthday and that I needed to send her my good wishes. Then I did a mental doubletake as I realized that Lisa and I had actually been together for her birthday last year on October 15, 2017. In fact, we'd spent a long weekend together--and with many other Madison alumni and students, faculty, staff, and College well-wishers--at the JMC 50th Anniversary Gala Weekend on the MSU campus.

I had a fabulous time that weekend on many levels. At its heart, the occasion was an opportunity to reconnect socially, intellectually, and emotionally--with people, with ideas, and with our own histories. In addition to chatting late into the night to catch up with Lisa, I also had the joy of seeing many of my former professors (e.g., Prof. Rubner, who came up from Florida) and beloved College staff members (e.g., Dixie Platt, who also came up from Florida), recognizing and sharing updates with lots of old friends and classmates from Case Hall, and meeting some of the more recent grads and current students. We shared stories over meals at local hangouts like Bilbo's and Beggar's Banquet as well as at the Kellogg Center. We learned and reminisced at sessions that were about the history of the College, and we even passionately debated--like in our college days--during panel sessions such as "Populism and Media" and "War Looking Back and Forward." It was invigorating and inspiring to see fellow alumni leap into the fray, and even more so to see some current students do the same with similar gusto. And finally, we all partied and danced across generations at the gala dinner at the Huntington Club overlooking Spartan Stadium.

I am a pretty sentimental person, with deep affection for the College, so my happiness and nostalgia through the weekend were hardly unexpected. But I daresay that many others rekindled and renewed their own attachments to this special institution during those few days. As a member of the JMC Alumni Association Board, I was thrilled to see

one possible consequence: We had an unprecedented number of applications to join the Board in November 2017, including grads from the early 1970s all the way through to 2016 grads!

**Ruju Bhatt Srivastava (IR '93)** *pictured above left*

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I was thrilled to see so many of my classmates from the early 1970s at the 50th Gala. Most still knew their own name and had more hair than Dean Garnett.

Speaking of the Dean, I recall he was two years behind me at JMC. I am pleased that his professional achievements have climbed far beyond the expectations of upperclassmen like me, and I think no less of him for earning his PhD in Ann Arbor.

As always, Zinman was running amok. I was deeply touched when he came up and took me by the arm. Then he asked me to bring him a single malt. That's the last time I'll wear my tux to a JMC event.

To summarize, the Gala was a splendid affair that I will remember for the rest of my life, or at least as long as Rocky Beckett keeps sending me JMC fundraising materials.

**Ed Grafton (JMCD '75)**

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I want to thank each of you for your contributions to the success of the Reception Honoring Black Madisonians' Contributions. From my first conversation with Anne [Mervenne] when I pitched the idea through Saturday evening, I am truly grateful for all you did. I look forward to continuing the journey of celebrating and connecting black JMC alumni.

**Ruth Johnson (JMCD '83)**

Madison's 50th anniversary weekend was bittersweet, celebrating the college's successes and marking the end of an era. It reminded me of a family reunion, as elders regaled the youth with stories from the early years that have become part of the school's folklore. Professors and staff, many of whom retired in recent years after serving as the college's heart and soul for decades, were embraced by graduates of all ages. There were also poignant reflections on those who left our community too soon. At the same time, it was heartening to see how current faculty and students are creating new traditions and helping the college evolve with the times.

When I visited Madison months later, several students told me one of the reunion's most memorable and widely discussed events was a panel on the evolving nature of war. That panel, on which I spoke, was also a highlight for me. Alongside two professors and a recent grad, my classmate John Hill and I debated the current direction of US foreign policy. He is a former military officer and a Republican; I'm a former diplomat and a Democrat. The students said it was the first debate they had seen address substantive issues, while they were struck by how calmly and respectfully we both articulated our views despite clear disagreements. At a time of deep polarization in our country, it was an important reminder of the need to engage our fellow citizens. It was also a fitting tribute to the college that had taught us both how to think critically, speak clearly, and most importantly be good citizens.

#### **Amanda Sloat (PTCD '97)**

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As a Founding Alumni, I found the whole experience to be fascinating and worthwhile - both catching up with old friends, and observing the bright young people who are carrying forth the Madison tradition.

When I read about these students in the newsletter, they are sometimes a bit scary - so bright, so accomplished, so focused - so determined to use their knowledge and skills to make the world a better place.

I was chatting with Tom Emling ('73) after dinner. We noted that this is what Dean Garfinkel intended for the college, and what he did not get with us. The war in Viet Nam overrode everything else for us - it was constantly on our minds - being aware that it was possible, and perhaps by circumstances you were unable to control - that you might be called up. (This happened to a non-Madison friend of mine - he was called for his physical. He didn't go - he had a heart murmur - but he was a wreck the rest of the term.) Careers seemed unimportant, compared to this possibility.

I have always been proud of my Madison degree. Although my career led me down other paths than Public Policy, my Madison experience taught me how to read, to gather information, to sort through all that I gathered, and present it in a logical, coherent fashion. I learned how to learn, and that has served me well throughout my entire life. Dean Garfinkel, Dean Banks, Professors Zinman and Miller and Zerby and Lyman - and so many others - were all part of it.

These young folks make me even prouder. To know that, in my own small way, I helped build the foundation for James Madison College is very humbling.

#### **Jud Cole (JMCD '72)**

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I fortunately was chosen as a speaker for the JMC 50th Anniversary Gala, and it was a pleasure. Whenever speaking in front of a group of people, I am always honored to be a representative of the entity I am speaking for and wanted to express not only how much admiration I have for JMC, but why - the phenomenal experiences, dynamic staff and faculty, critically cultivating curriculum, and surplus of opportunities. To be in a room filled with so many people with one thing in common, sharing histories of JMC was a delight, I look forward to the 75th, 100th!

#### **Gerena Walker (SRP '18)**

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I was invited to participate in one of the discussion panels during the JMC 50th celebrations in 2017 and while I was looking forward to the discussion, I approached it with some trepidation. As an outspoken conservative, I find many "inclusive" environments, not very inclusive lately and my views, while seasoned by education, life experience and "actually being there" for many of the nation's security issues we discussed as a panel, not always welcome.

In the end, I had nothing to fear, as I should have remembered that Madison always favors open discussion and dialogue where any and just about all views and opinions are welcome and open for debate! I felt that my presence and viewpoints may have altered some opinions that day or at a minimum gave folks something new to consider when they analyze a particular issue. I greatly benefited from the other panelists, in particular Dr. Amanda Sloat, a JMC classmate of mine, whose worldview & political ideology could not be more opposite of my own. Over the years, we have kept in touch, as we have held similar positions in government over the years. We both have come to respect each other's positions on major issues, even if we do not like each other's views! I have the ultimate respect for Amanda, her experience and education and love the fact I have a liberal colleague and friend that I can always count on for an honest and informational discourse.

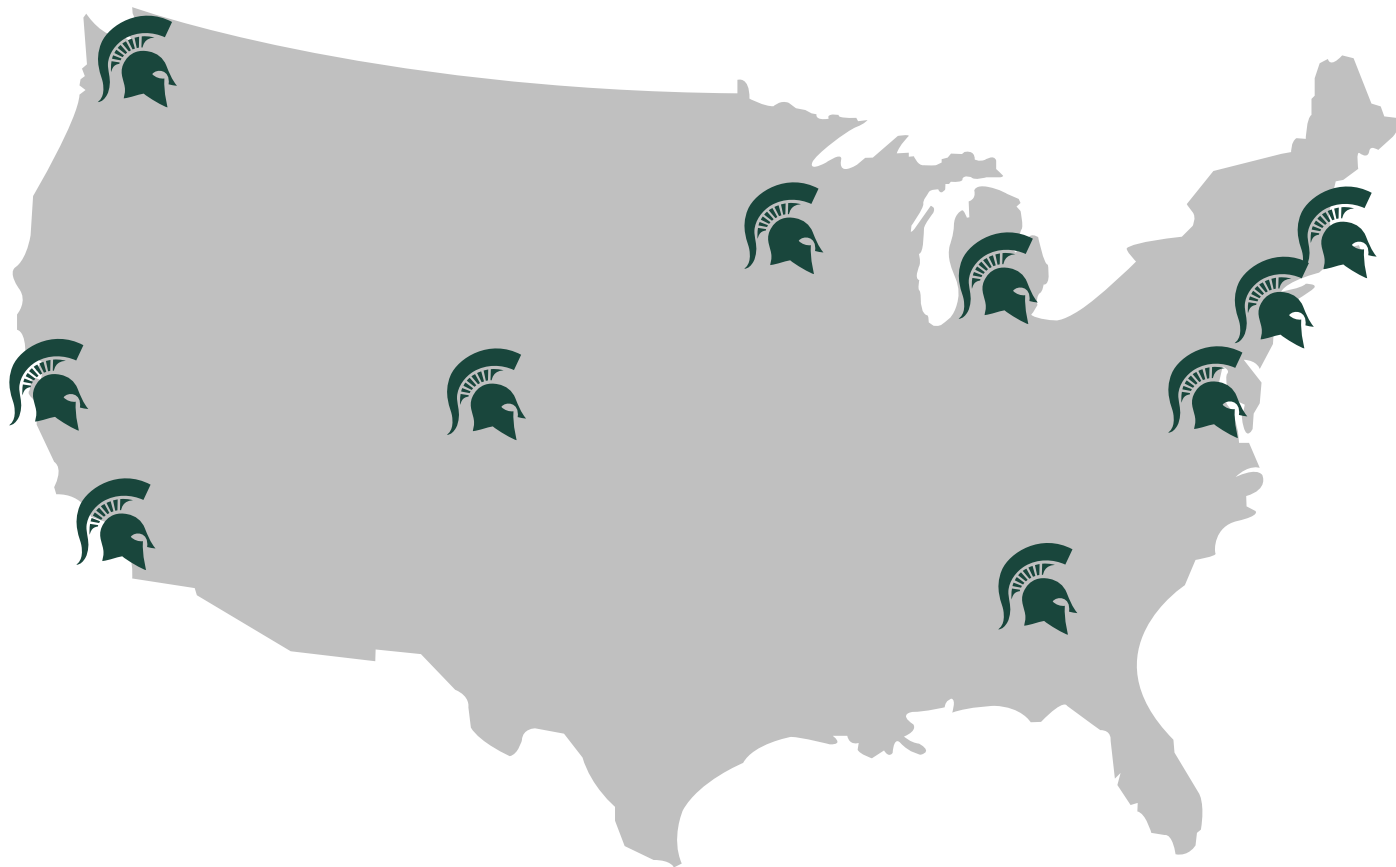
I think ultimately that is what Madison is about, we can have a spirited discourse on any issue, but what we have is respect for each other's differing opinions, something not all too common these days!

The experience was truly enlightening...and I was able to catch up with Ron Dorr for much of the weekend!

#### **John Edward Hill (IR '97) *pictured opposite right***

# Alumni News

With nearly 9,000 living alumni, James Madison College's reach extends from East Lansing to across the globe. Most alumni - nearly 4,700 - live in Michigan, but there are ten cities around the United States with sizable JMC populations. Here they are, with approximate alumni numbers.



1. **Washington, D.C.**  
650 Alumni
2. **Chicago, IL**  
550 Alumni
3. **New York City, NY**  
250 Alumni
4. **San Francisco, CA**  
125 Alumni
5. **Denver, CO**  
100 Alumni
6. **Seattle, WA**  
100 Alumni
7. **Atlanta, GA**  
100 Alumni
8. **Los Angeles, CA**  
90 Alumni
9. **Boston, MA**  
90 Alumni
10. **Twin Cities, MN**  
80 Alumni

## Alumni Association 2018 Awards

The James Madison College Alumni Association Board of Directors sponsors two annual awards to honor distinguished alumni and friends of the college. The Distinguished Alumni and Honorary Alumni awards have been established to acknowledge those individuals who have significantly contributed to the college. Distinguished and Honorary Alumni are nominated by fellow alumni and members of the college faculty and administration.

### 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award Mary Kay Henry (Urban '79)

Mary Kay Henry is the first woman president of the two million-member Service Employees International Union (SEIU). After graduating from Michigan State University in 1979 from James Madison College, Mary Kay began working at SEIU, one of the few unions hiring women as organizers at the time. As a researcher in California, she worked with janitors, public employees, and health care workers. She led the Healthcare Division of the Union in 1993, and she became the Organizing Director for Southern California in 2000.

In 2010, Mary Kay Henry became the first woman to be elected President of the SEIU. By 2015, she was named one of the 100 most creative leaders by *Fast Company* magazine and was included in the top 50 visionaries reshaping American politics by *Politico*. In 2017, she was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame.

### 2018 Honorary Alumni Award Dr. Robert L. Green

Dr. Robert L. Green has a long connection to Michigan State, which began when he earned his Ph.D. in Educational Psychology. He is a former Dean of the College of Urban Development and was a founding faculty member of James Madison College from 1967 to 1970.

Dr. Green is recognized for his lifelong work and scholarship in urban development, education and issues related to diversity. He has advised elected officials and community leaders on policy issues and has counseled on curriculum and faculty development.

Additionally, Dr. Green worked for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as the education director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from 1965-1967.

In 2004, Dr. Green was recognized with the Distinguished Alumni Award from the MSU Alumni Association.

## JMCAA BOARD MEMBERS

The JMC Alumni Association is managed by a board of directors. The board is composed of alumni leaders who are selected to represent the larger James Madison College alumni population. They provide oversight and strategic planning of association matters. The board is the primary communication link with the college on behalf of the alumni and meets regularly throughout the year.

If you are interested in becoming involved, contact Sam Troutman (samtrout@msu.edu).

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### PRESIDENT

Jeremy Blaney (IR/CCP '10) Washington, D.C.

### VICE PRESIDENT

Amy Bratzel (IR '12) Chicago, IL

### SECRETARY

Nate Strauss (CCP '16) Lansing, MI

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Laura Casey (SR '93) Novi, MI

Timothy Owens (IR '81) Columbus, OH

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Dan Stump (PTCD '00) Lansing, MI

Joshua Tooker (CCP '10) Ann Arbor, MI

Bethany Wicksall (PTCD '98) Lansing, MI

Brittany Zwierzchowski-Tisler (PTCD '15) Chicago, IL

# Student Success



**JMC seniors Jessica Gonzalez (SRP '19)** and **Katherine "Cookie" Rifiotis (PTCD '19)** were two of the ten Michigan State students selected for the 2018 Homecoming Court. Gonzalez was recently awarded the Newman Civic Fellowship for her commitment to educational equity and opportunities for Latinx students. Rifiotis is the current Associated Students of Michigan State University president, and the first international student to become president of MSU's student body.



Recent graduate and former president of ASMSU **Lorenzo Santavicca (IR '18)** earned the prestigious Student Body President of the Year Award from the National Campus Leadership Council this summer. Santavicca served as president for two terms and previously was the ASMSU vice president of academic affairs.



Three JMC seniors were nominated for prestigious graduate school awards: **Alexa Stechschulte (CCP '19)**, Marshall Scholarship; **Alexis Sargent (SRP '19)**, Marshall and Rhodes Scholarships; and **Sumaya Malas (CCP/IR '19)**, Rhodes Scholarship. Sargent and Malas both advanced as finalists for the Rhodes Scholarship.



Student group leaders and award winning students were recognized at the **2018 Parade of Honors**. Deans Julia Grant, Jeff Judge, and Linda Racioppi presented certificates for all-university, James Madison College, study abroad, field experience, and national scholarships.





# James Madison College Conservatives

## JMC's Newest Student Group

In December 2017, James Madison College freshman Adam Green and a few of his friends were engaging in a pastime familiar to many students and alumni - getting together and discussing current issues. They wanted a forum to talk about ideas and policy, and finding no other group on campus suiting their needs, founded the James Madison College Conservatives. The four founding students didn't want the group to focus on tribalism and partisanship; instead, they sought to create a space for refined argument and keeping abreast of all sides of the debate.

During the 2018 spring semester, the group continued to grow and host bipartisan meetings. With events like "Desserts and Debate" and "Pizza and Politics," the group focused on listening and learning from one another. Green, the founding and current president of the group, said of the events, "we wanted to encourage people to get involved and talk civilly. If we

have a conversation and establish a relationship, we'll go so much further to create longstanding change."

The group currently stands at nearly 100 students that regularly attend events. Their largest event yet came during the primary election in 2018, when the JMCC hosted a Republican Gubernatorial Townhall at the MSU Union. Three of the four primary candidates were present, answering student questions and discussing issues facing Michigan.

The JMCC has continued through the semester, holding further bipartisan events and collaborating with groups across campus. During the general election cycle, they hosted three Independent candidates for a forum, including JMC alumni Cooper Nye and Jeremy Peruski.

*Learn more and follow at [jmccconservatives.com](http://jmccconservatives.com).*





*We would also like to thank our amazing Madison alumni who not only provided valuable insights into their career paths and fields but welcomed us into their workplaces in all three cities.*

Phil Santer, Ann Arbor Spark

Patricia Petrowski, University of Michigan

Nick Pfost, University of Michigan Ford School

Jacqueline Mullen, University of Michigan Ford School

Sruthi Naraharisetti, University of Michigan Ford School

Ben Galicki, ITHAKA

Kelly Hagemeyer, YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids

Joel Fauson, U.S. Department of Justice

Carrie Almassian, U.S. Department of Justice

Kendra Kuo, U.S. Department of Commerce

Janay Brower, Public Thread

Elyse Mathos, Spectrum Foundation

Kary Moss, ACLU

Jessica Ayoub, ACLU

Merissa Kovach, ACLU

Marlee Sherrod, ACLU

Josh Berg, General Motors

Dustan June, General Motors

Chris Miller, General Motors

Laura Casey, General Motors

Ray Wert, General Motors

James Heath, Detroit Office of Inspector General

Derek Miller, Detroit Office of Inspector General

Cydney Camp, Detroit Creative Corridor





# HABIB FAMILY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

John Habib has a great story to share, one that is international but is also uniquely American. Dr. Habib has chosen to share his story and his generosity by establishing two endowed scholarships at James Madison College. The John S. Habib Scholarship in Muslim Studies was created in 2006 and recently endowed. The Habib Family Endowed Scholarships in James Madison College will be awarded for the first time this academic year.

The youngest of 11 children, John was born in Detroit, Michigan on July 7, 1930, the last of five boys and six girls to Sasin Habib El Khoury Hannah and Mary Backus Saad Ishaq, both of whom immigrated from remote Lebanese mountain villages in 1900 and 1896 respectively. Sasin and Mary

were married in St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Cathedral in Detroit in January of 1904, and they both became naturalized US citizens later that year.

“By the time I came along, America was in a full depression and my parents, like many Americans, lost everything they had worked for except their faith in God and in America. Like most Americans they picked themselves up and started over,” John stated. “They taught their children love of country and for each other, and respect for others, and by their example the blessings and rewards of the work ethic. I can still hear my mother’s exhortation, ‘thank God you were born in this country,’ when as kids we got to complaining.” John benefited from the cumulative sacrifices and love

of his parents and ten older siblings, having enjoyed a distinguished career as a US diplomat, national security officer, management consultant and professor.

With a deep desire to remember his family's struggle, grace and generosity, John established a special room marked with a plaque in memory of his parents at St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, his mother's favorite charity. After recognizing his eldest brother, David J. Habib, with a scholarship at the University of Michigan, John also wanted to perpetuate the memory and names of his other nine siblings by creating the Habib Family Endowed Scholarship in James Madison College at Michigan State University. The first three siblings' scholarships will be awarded for the 2018-19 academic year, followed by three more siblings' scholarships next year, and the last three Habib siblings' scholarships in the 2020-21 academic year. The Habib Family Scholarships will assist with tuition for Madison students for generations to come.

John Habib was first introduced to James Madison College as a visiting professor at MSU during the 2005-06 academic year, in which he shared his knowledge and

experiences about Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and America by teaching courses on international relations. Once on campus, John met Professor Emeritus Mohammed Ayoob and was impressed by Ayoob's studies and work, particularly, "The Many Faces of Political Islam."

John's relationship with Professor Ayoob and his respect and appreciation for Ayoob's leadership of the Muslim Studies Program at MSU are primary inspirations for establishing the Habib Scholarships. "I knew the urgent need for Americans to better understand the Islamic Middle East." John's financial support for student scholarships advances this understanding, knowledge, and determination to seek solutions to complicated contemporary world issues. He is proud to know that at least one Habib Scholar holds a sensitive US Government position dealing with the Islamic World already, and more are pursuing their goals and dreams to have a positive impact in the future.

*Please contact Rocky Beckett and James Madison College to learn more about and make contributions to the Habib Scholarships.*

## **HABIB FAMILY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS**

### Set One: 2018-19

Eva Habib Malcoun - humorous and compassionate  
Agnes Habib Moffett - devoted daughter and mother  
Bergeta Habib Nahas - classy and astute

### Set Two: 2019-20

Jemelia Habib Thomas - devout and fun loving  
Backus Mitchel Habib - artistic and warm hearted  
Margaret Habib Pagano - innovative and caring

### Set Three: 2020-21

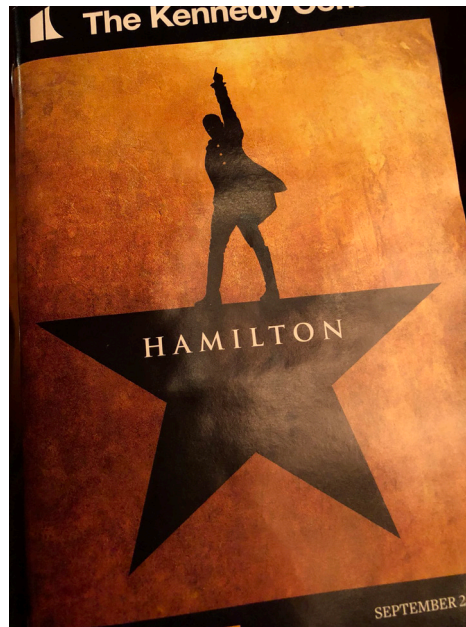
Lillian Habib Andary - intuitive and risk taker  
Joseph Anthony Habib - protector  
Thomas Sasin Habib - friend

*The scholarship rotation repeats every third year.*



# MADISON AND HAMILTON

It started with an opportunity for the college to purchase 50 tickets to see *Hamilton: An American Musical*. Donors were invited to purchase those tickets and make a gift, which grew into the Madison-Hamilton Challenge raising over \$102K for James Madison College. On September 6, 2018, Dean Garnett hosted donors at a reception and the performance of *Hamilton* at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. A special thank you to the Founders Circle members and annual donors that purchased tickets and made a generous gift to surpass our challenge goal. *Hamilton* was great and Madison alumni and donors are the best!



# SPRING 2019 EVENTS

## January 7

Classes Begin

## January 25

Social Justice Art Festival

*The 2nd Annual Social Justice Art Festival is co-hosted by JMC and RCAH. The goal of this event is to provide a unique platform that engages undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff, and the greater MSU/East Lansing community around social justice topics through artistic expression.*

## January 27

Dean's List Reception

## February 19

Jack Paynter Lecture  
Speaker: Forrest A. Nabors

*Forrest A. Nabors is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Alaska Anchorage and author of "From Oligarchy to Republicanism: The Great Task of Reconstruction."*

## March 4-8

MSU Spring Break

## March 20

Founder's Circle & 50th Anniversary Closure  
2019founderscircle.eventbrite.com

Speakers: Professor Tobin Craig, James Madison College; Professor Michael Zuckert, Nancy Reeves Dreux Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame; and Professor Alan Gibson, California State University, Chico.

## April 1

Race in 21st Century America: The 11th National Conference  
*Race, Democracy, and Socialism*

*The biennial Race in 21st Century America conference is FREE to attend, bringing together leading scholars, community activists, public officials and residents, representing racial, ethnic, gender and ideological diversity, to participate in an important conversation with the MSU community about race in America.*

## April 4 & 5

Madison Diversity Leadership Program Symposium

*A new curricular initiative, the Madison Leadership Program aims to cultivate the next generation of leaders, particularly women and members of underrepresented groups, with a focus on two key arenas of public affairs: electoral politics and government, and civic activism and non-profit leadership.*

## April 6

JMC Student Senate Charity Ball Honoring Professor and Alumnus Eric Petrie

## April 17

Parade of Honors

## April 26

JMC Research Showcase

## May 4

JMC Commencement

Visit  
[jmc.msu.edu/events](http://jmc.msu.edu/events)  
for full event listings



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**UNIVERSITY**  
James Madison College

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