

INDUSTRY PANEL ON ENTREPRENEURISM



On March 29, Dukes LEAD hosted an alumni panel of former JMU student-athletes who are now entrepreneurs. The panel included Jim Dotter (Men's Track), David Lee (Football), Scotty McGhee (Football), and Amanda Presgraves (Swim & Dive). This dynamic group told the student-athletes how to bring enthusiasm and drive to all that they do in order to stand out and one day become an entrepreneur.



Leading From Where You Are

On April 14, former JMU Football player and member of the JMU Black Alumni

"Ole School Group", Michael Thurman, discussed what it takes to be an effective leader by using your strengths and being present. where you are.

BOGDAN, BENTLEY SHARE THEIR INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES



Dukes LEAD partnered with the Center for Global Engagement on campus. Through this partnership, two student-athletes were connected to international internships virtually.

Click to read more about how Isabella Bogdan, Women's Cross Country/Outdoor Track & Field, and Patrick Bentley, Football, stepped up and added more to their plate this semester.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE HIGHLIGHT BEN & KATE KEEFER



READ MORE highlighting the Keefer's. Ben, Golf, and Kate, Gymnastics, are former student-athletes who have invested in the Dukes LEAD program because they see how it raises the bar for JMU Athletics.

COMMUNITY SERVICE FINISHING STRONG!



As the semester closes, student-athletes are working to meet their community service goals. Teams participated in more Anicira, a local animal shelter, events.

JMU Athletics SAAC Relay for Life team raised over \$1,700 and JMU Athletics has currently donated over 500 books to Harrisonburg City Schools for our diversity book drive!

NEW APC SIGNAGE



Thanks to all of our Athletic Director's Circle Members for their contributions and support!

SAAC UPDATE

I cannot believe it is already the end of April. Even though it was a strange year, SAAC has accomplished so much! Most recently, our Mental Health executive chairs created care packages to deliver to our quarantined student-athletes, in an effort to connect with our peers and let them know we are in this together. Our Dukes Let's Talk program has had discussions on the intersections of race and sport, the Asian-American hate crimes, and a meeting surrounding "Morgan's Message." Morgan's Message is a program dedicated to Morgan Rodgers, a Duke Lacrosse player who suffered from mental illness and tragically took her own life. In efforts to reduce stigma

around mental health, both the field hockey teams and lacrosse teams

had games dedicated to the message – lacrosse even had Morgan's parents as honorary captains. Looking towards the summer, we are optimistic for what SAAC will continue to achieve together. We are excited about our annual (virtual) **JMAs in June** to celebrate the successes of our athletes and teams! While this year looked quite different, we are hopeful and optimistic for what the future holds – especially with so many of our student athletes having recently received their **COVID-19 vaccinations!** Thank you for everyone's continued support and as always, Go Dukes!

- Caroline Cahil, JMU SAAC President, Field Hockey



#GODUKES



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