

BRIDGECENTER

Building Relationships, Intercultural Dialogue and Global Engagement

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A rich history, a promising future

Since 1914 when Johnson & Wales University was founded, our primary goal has been to support our students in fulfilling their professional aspirations. Our unique approach to education has attracted students from every state in the United States and around the globe — and we embrace and welcome the many perspectives of our diverse student population. The cultural differences represented on our campuses enrich the educational experience for our students, faculty and staff, as well as the greater community.



Supporting our students

For the past 20 years, the needs of JWU's multicultural and international students have been supported by the Intercultural Center and the International Center through programs such as

- Monthly art exhibits featuring works by members of the JWU community and local artists that celebrate cultural diversity
- Cultural celebrations such as Diwali, Chinese New Year and Kwanzaa
- Weekly discussion groups such as International Coffee Hour
- JWU Goes Global, a weeklong celebration of all things international
- Cultural Companion Program, which matches international students with local volunteers to share each other's cultures, customs and food

Bridging differences

While both centers have served separate functions over the years, both have undergone various transformations to broaden the scope of their programs and services to reflect the changing needs of JWU students, faculty and staff.

Now, we are pleased to announce the creation of the BRIDGE Center, a unified entity that integrates the work of the Intercultural and International centers by acknowledging the expansive cultural needs of our student body while supporting the university's goal of practicing and modeling local, national and global citizenship.

BRIDGE stands for Building Relationships, Intercultural Dialogue and Global Engagement. The center's goal is to bring together JWU's richly diverse community through educational programs, cultural events and social activities designed to promote international and intercultural awareness and understanding within the university community.

Through active learning and a wide variety of cultural programming, the BRIDGE Center

- Aims to unite students from all backgrounds
- Helps students acclimate to campus life
- Bridges cultural barriers and encourages cultural exchange
- Builds cultural and intercultural competencies both within and beyond the classroom
- Provides opportunities to socialize and network

Encouraging cross-cultural engagement

As we prepare our students for the global workforce, the BRIDGE Center will work to provide an active learning environment where JWU students, faculty and staff can exchange ideas and engage in meaningful discourse. By broadening attitudes to appreciate the complexities of the world, the center can bridge our differences through cross-cultural understanding.

ALTERNATE FRONT COVER 