2006

Outstanding Graduate Alumni Awards









2005-2006 Graduate Alumni Advisory Board

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Martin Elzy, Ph.D.

Selected by the graduate program in history

Martin Elzy's senior year at EIU was spent working as a resident assistant in Thomas Hall, which led to his introduction to Lou Hencken, who was just beginning his career at Eastern. However, Elzy's career would take him far

from Eastern's campus and his hometown of Sullivan, Illinois. Earning a bachelor's in education degree in 1968 and a master's in history in 1969, Elzy credits Eastern's history department with his decision to pursue a career in the study of American history. He earned his doctorate in American History from Miami University in 1975. It was during his research for his dissertation at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum that he first inquired about employment opportunities in presidential libraries. Elzy taught one year at Franklin High School in Franklin, Ohio before joining the National Archives and Records Administration in the summer of 1973. At the National Archives in Washington, DC, he worked in the Office of Presidential Libraries. and had the opportunity to work in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress on a training assignment with the NARA. In 1974, Elzy accepted an archivist position at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in Austin, Texas. It was while working in Austin that he met his wife Mary and their son Joshua was born. With the departure of President Jimmy Carter from the White House in 1981, Elzy moved to Atlanta, Georgia, as one of the first three NARA employees to begin planning the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum. When the library was dedicated in 1986, he was named Assistant Director and held this position the remainder of his career. While living in Georgia, Elzy was active in state history and archival organizations, serving a term as president for both the Georgia Association of Historians and the Society of Georgia Archivists. He also acted as co-director of the Georgia Archives Institute for fifteen years. Elzy has retained close ties with Eastern's history department and has returned to campus to speak to students about his career, as well as hosting EIU Historical Administration students at the Carter Library. In 2003 the Elzys retired to Austin, Texas.

Jennifer Jones-Hall

Selected by the graduate program in college student afffairs

Accomplishment in higher education and Greek life define Jennifer Jones-Hall's career. Earning a bachelor's in psychology and communication from Central Michigan University in 1985, and a master's in guidance



and counseling from EIU in 1988, were just the beginning of her university connections. Jones-Hall currently holds the position of Assistant Dean of Students for Greek Life and New Student Orientation at Valparaiso University and has been at Valparaiso for the past nine years. Before coming to Valparaiso, she worked with Greek life communities at the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, and Central Missouri State University. Throughout her career in higher education, Jones-Hall has been active in several associations and has served as the Association of Fraternity Advisors Foundation Chairman from 2002-2003 and was the 1999 President of the AFA. In addition to her involvement with AFA, she has served on the National Executive Board for Gamma Sigma Alpha Honor Society, volunteered with her fraternity Phi Mu, and also acted as the Indiana Province Advisor for the National Order of Omega. In 1999, Jones-Hall was the recipient of the Greek Advisor of the Year Award through the National Panhellenic Conference. She received the Distinguished Service Award through the Association of Fraternity Advisors in 2002 and most recently was honored with the Lambda Chi Alpha Outstanding Greek Advisor Award in 2004. Jones-Hall met her husband Brian Hall while working at the University of Arizona, they currently reside in Wanatah, Indiana with their dog, Scooter, and three cats.



John Hamman, Ph.D.

Selected by the graduate program in political science

John Hamman recalls many fond memories of his time as a student at Eastern. Enjoying the traditional social activities of an Eastern student in the 70s, such as listening to bands at Ted's

Warehouse, playing pinball at Ike's, and hiking at Fox Ridge State Park, resulted in lifelong friendships and most importantly how Hamman met his wife Ann. Earning degrees in political science, a bachelor's in 1977 and a master's in 1979 from EIU, marked only the beginning of Hamman's commitment to education. He received his doctorate from the University of Illinois in 1988 and taught as an adjunct professor at Illinois Wesleyan, a visiting professor at the U of I, and joined the faculty at Southern Illinois University in 1989. Hamman's current position at SIU is as the Director of the Department of Political Science's Master of Public Administration Program. His major areas of interest are in American politics and public administration. His work in these areas has been published in American Political Science Review, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Research Quarterly, American Politics Quarterly, Presidential Studies Quarterly, Public Administration Review, and Review of Public Personnel Administration. "Career Experience and Performing Effectively as Governor" appeared this year in the American Review of Public Administration 34 (June): 151-163. He has also authored several book chapters. "Presidential Ideology and the Public Mood, 1956-1994" (with Jeffrey Cohen), appears this year in *The Presidency*. Hamman presented "The Performance of Political Amateurs in the Statehouse from 1978 to 2004: A Research Note Applying David Canon's Theory of Amateurism," at the Midwest Political Science Association Meeting Chicago, IL, in April 2005 and "Prior Political Experience and Gubernatorial Popularity" (with James King and Jeffrey Cohen) to the State Politics and Policy Association Meeting Lansing, MI, May 2005. His paper, "Amateurism in American Politics: The Election and Tenure of U.S. Governors from 1977 to 2002" was presented at the American Political Science Association meeting in Washington, D.C. in August 2005. Hamman and his wife Ann reside in Carbondale, Illinois with their two daughters, Elizabeth and Catherine.

Barbara Baurer

Selected by the graduate program in business administration



In 1989, Barbara Baurer earned the distinction of becoming the first female vice president of Country Insurance & Financial Services. Her career began at Country in 1977 and

she has served in various leadership positions including. Vice President and General Manager of the Property and Casualty companies, Vice President of Information Services, Director of IS Application Development, Associate Director of Life and Health Systems, and Administrator of Data Administration. Since 1999, Baurer has held the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at the company's Bloomington headquarters. Eastern Illinois University was Baurer's home for her undergraduate and her graduate degrees, earning a bachelor's in mathematics in 1975 and a master's in business administration in 1976. She also furthered her education in the insurance industry, earning the designations: Chartered Life Underwriter, Chartered Financial Consultant, and the Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter. Baurer credits Eastern for her knowledge of sound business practices and instilling an understanding of the learning process. Among her many accomplishments and achievements in her career, Baurer was also the recipient of the Women of Distinction Award for Business in McLean County in 2004. She and her husband Wayne Buswell reside in El Paso, Illinois.

The mission of graduate education at Eastern Illinois University is to provide superior graduate degree, certificate, and post-baccalaureate options designed for career specialization and advancement, certification and credentialing, professional and leadership development, and preparation for advanced scholarship.



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