



connections

a publication of the
College of Education and Professional Studies at
Eastern Illinois University



fall 2010

hello.

Please take a moment to learn about what the students and faculty in the College of Education and Professional Studies at Eastern Illinois University are doing to make a difference in today's world.



Left to right: EIU Provost Blair Lord, Joe Glassford and EIU President William Perry

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Joe Glassford Receives Honorary Doctorate

“What an honor -- I am truly humbled.”

That’s how Joe Glassford feels about his Eastern Illinois University honorary doctorate, conferred at the May 2010 commencement ceremony. Eastern Illinois University is honored to count this successful and committed educator among its alumni. After graduating from EIU with his bachelor’s degree in 1964 and his master’s degree in 1966, he became a special education teacher. Upon his promotion to director of special education for Illinois, he successfully advocated at both the state and federal levels to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families, which resulted in significant federal legislation assuring the rights of individuals with disabilities.

Glassford helped reduce special education teacher shortages in Illinois by designing systems to educate current teachers so that they could be certified to teach special education students, as well. When many of these teachers were not able to attend classes at a university, he worked with Eastern to create a cohort program which brought the university classes to the teachers instead of the other way around.

“Glassford’s vision and dedication have positively influenced Illinois’ special education programs beyond measure over four decades, benefiting those with disabilities and, ultimately, all of society,” said EIU President William Perry.

Improving Your Balance

I wonder. Such is the way much research begins – with a simple “I wonder” statement. This was the way that Dr. Phyllis Croisant, professor of kinesiology and sports studies, approached the Wii Fit game system by Nintendo. Most people think of this system as a video game, or as a way to get some exercise, but Croisant, with her academic interest in physical activity and the aging process, wondered if using the Wii Fit would improve balance in older adults. Wii Fit activities are performed while standing on a balance board that monitors weight shifts. The focus of the balance games is on an individual’s ability to control his or her center of gravity while shifting body weight. Could these games help reduce fall risk in older adults?

During her sabbatical in the fall semester of 2009, Croisant, assisted by graduate student Randi Lundstedt, investigated whether playing Wii Fit could improve balance. Twenty-five community-dwelling adults, ages 60 to 91, volunteered for the study. Thirteen of them did 20 training sessions where they played balance games such as table tilt, river rafting, tight-rope walk, ski slalom, ski jump and soccer heading, while the other 12 participants served as a control group. Although the control group showed no significant changes, the Wii Fit participants improved on the Up & Go agility test, on static balance with the eyes closed, and on three of the memory and executive function tests.

Croisant presented her results at the American Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance this past spring, and plans to continue her research in this area.



Participant in Dr. Croisant’s balance research

International Faculty Exchange



Professor Yassein El-Hakim

The Department of Kinesiology and Sports Studies welcomed Professor Yassein El-Hakim (Yaz), director of Learning and Teaching at the University of Winchester, England, to Charleston last fall for two weeks. Yaz spoke with faculty and students on motivation; choice and responsibility; and teaching and learning styles throughout his time at Eastern.

In May 2010, Dr. Tony Oliver, associate professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Sports Studies, traveled

to the University of Winchester in the United Kingdom to continue the faculty exchange. He made presentations on specific U.S. sport industry topics, including stadium naming rights, Title IX, campus recreation, U.S. intercollegiate athletics challenges, and minority hiring in college football.



Dr. Tony Oliver

“Our ongoing goal is to continue to develop this partnership with the University of Winchester, so that other colleagues at both universities will be able to participate in the exchange,” he said.

English Language Learners

The English Language Learners (ELL) conference was held in October at Eastern Illinois University, where more than 40 professionals and EIU students got a glimpse of how practicing teachers handle the opportunities and challenges of language diversity in the classroom. Dr. Sham'Ah Md-Yunus, the conference committee chair and assistant professor in the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle Level Education, stated that schools in the U.S. have become more diverse, and teachers are finding that they need to prepare themselves to teach academic and language skills to English Language Learners so that the children can understand the content of their lessons.

Md-Yunus said educators realized their limitations and that this conference was one initiative to help prepare

them to address ELL students' needs. Randy Kalal, an area teacher with 10 years of experience with ELL students, and Jennifer Hixson, a teacher and former director of Urbana's multicultural program, spoke at the conference. Kalal spoke on current teaching strategies and how to work with ELL students in the classroom. Hixson spoke on literacy and teaching ELL students how to read.

Md-Yunus knows personally how students from other countries can be affected by coming to a new education system. Two of her children started school in Malaysia.

"Children coming from another country have different levels of education, and teachers must understand their cultural background and native language in order to help the children learn," Md-Yunus said.

How Hot is the Sun?



Sun's Core Challenge took place in March, when these seventh-graders were challenged to eat two wings covered in "core sauce" in two minutes without drinking water for another two minutes.

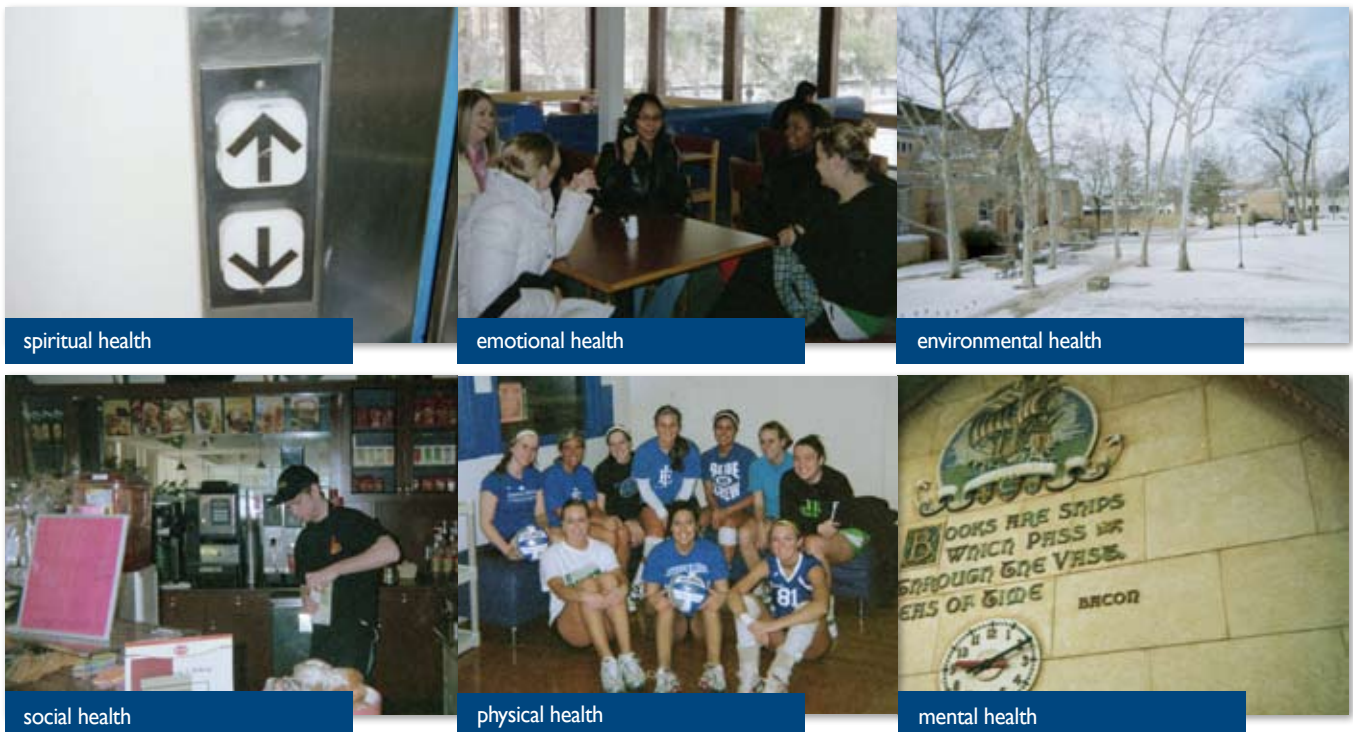
Monica Genta and Ingrid McCallister are seventh grade teachers at Mattoon Middle School and graduates of EIU who challenge their students on a daily basis to apply their classroom learning with real-world applications. "Earlier this semester, a number of our students wrote letters to Buffalo Wild Wings, offering up the idea to create a new hot sauce called 'the core' since the core is the hottest part of all stars," said Genta.

The students' letters were sent to the corporate office of Buffalo Wild Wings. "We have studied the sun and have found that the core is the hottest part, at 15 million degrees Celsius," wrote the seventh graders. "Maybe you could add one more (sauce) to your menu and call it the 'Sun's Core.' Think about that name -- doesn't it sound amazing? Everybody would want to try it."

Buffalo Wild Wings agreed to participate. "It was a no-brainer," said a company representative. An incredible taste test, the "Sun's Core Challenge," took place in March, when these seventh-graders were challenged to eat two wings covered in "core sauce" in two minutes without drinking water for another two minutes. Certificates and T-shirts went to students who managed to complete the challenge. Those students who could not quite finish the challenge received certificates that read, "I Attempted the 'Sun's Core' Challenge." McCallister said, "Our students were able to apply curriculum from our science classroom to their real-world surroundings."

Healthy Visions

Thanks to the overwhelming success of their joint project, “Eye on Health,” Dr. Misty Rhoads, assistant professor of health studies, and Dr. Kathy Phillips, professor of health studies, received a grant in March through the College of Education and Professional Studies to buy digital cameras. Students in introductory health classes piloted a project for which they were given disposable cameras to take pictures of people, places or things that represented the six domains of health (physical, mental, social, emotional, environmental and spiritual).



Rhoads said the purpose of the creative activity was to better understand how college students view these dimensions of health through the use of photography.

Phillips said, “Using photography to allow students to capture their perspectives on health issues provided a unique alternative to standard classroom interventions. There is support in the literature promoting the effectiveness and appropriateness for use of the arts as health education strategies.”

Rhoads said the students enjoyed the opportunity to step outside of the classroom, take pictures with disposable cameras, and then present their research. Students rated the project a “100” and agreed they learned more about themselves and about health during the project. “This project was a fun and effective way to increase the students’ awareness of the health-oriented activities in their environment,” Phillips said.

Rhoads said that the digital cameras will only enhance the project because digital cameras will allow the students to view their pictures as they take them, instead of having to wait for them to be developed. Of the pilot project she said, “They took pictures of the homeless, churches, nature... We really enjoyed seeing students’ perspectives.”

Play Can Be Therapy

The 31st annual Department of Counseling and Student Development Spring Conference at Eastern Illinois University featured Dr. Sue Bratton, who presented “Healing Children and Families Through Child/Parent Relationship Therapy” (CPRT). Bratton is an associate professor of counseling and director of the Center for Play Therapy at the University of North Texas.

Play, which is children’s natural medium of communication, is utilized to help children communicate and resolve their concerns.

- Dr. Angie Yoder, instructor, Counseling and Student Development

The spring conference attracts alumni from the Department of Counseling and Student Development, professionals within the community, and Eastern students with a variety of majors. Dr. Angie Yoder, instructor in the department, said, “EIU was very fortunate to have an internationally recognized speaker such as Dr. Bratton present.” Dr. Yoder also added that Dr. Bratton’s extensive knowledge and expertise in the area of play therapy, as well as her engaging way of presenting the information, encouraged several students and community members to sign up for the department’s course, Play Therapy, which was offered this summer. In the course, students learn developmentally appropriate ways to work with children. Because most children under the age of 11 or 12 are incapable of sustained abstract thinking, concrete forms of communication tend to draw children’s mental health concerns out in a more effective way.

“Play, which is children’s natural medium of communication, is utilized to help children communicate and resolve their concerns,” Dr. Yoder said. “While play therapy used to be discounted as lacking empirical validation, research in this area is currently much more compelling, leading the American Psychological Association to publish books, DVDs, videos, and now a peer-reviewed journal in this area. Currently, researchers have found empirical validation for a variety of play therapies, including CPRT.”

Left to right: Angelina Berg, Steven Jay Hopper, Fred Washburn, Dr. Angie Yoder



Recreation Research Outreach



Dr. Michael
Mulvaney

Dr. Michael Mulvaney, assistant professor in the Department of Recreation Administration, has found a great way to provide students in Research and Evaluation of Leisure Studies with a real-world application of the course material. Last fall, his students worked to provide the Forsyth (Ill.) Village Board with information about what recreational opportunities their residents would like to have, including, possibly, a community center.

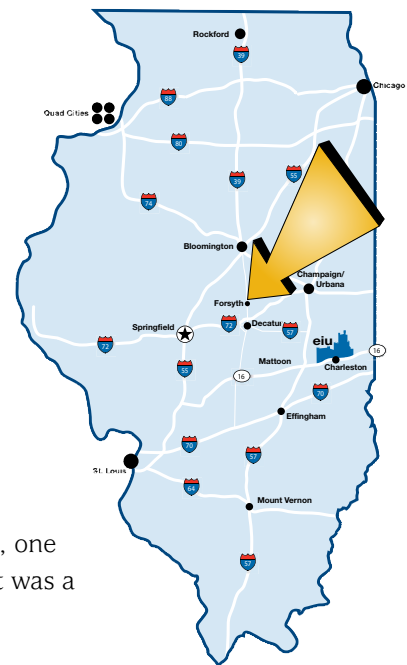
“The students were involved from the start of this project – conducting stakeholder interviews, designing and piloting surveys, collecting and analyzing data, interpreting results and writing the reports,” he said. The students were very impressed that Forsyth could be making a large financial commitment based, in part, on their research.

As mayor of the village of Forsyth, I feel we were very fortunate to be able to participate in an endeavor that not only aided the village in a much-needed survey, but also provided the students that were involved with a very good hands-on project.

- Harold Gilbert, mayor of Forsyth

“This was the most ‘real-life’ project I have done in college,” said Lindsay Wood, one of the students. “It was worth the time and effort, knowing that the final product was a key component to the agency’s planning process.”

Harold Gilbert said, “As mayor of the village of Forsyth, I feel we were very fortunate to be able to participate in an endeavor that not only aided the village in a much-needed survey, but also provided the students that were involved with a very good hands-on project. The guidance of Dr. Mulvaney was very professional and the work of the students was very thorough. I am very happy with the end product.”



Keeping Up-to-Date on School Law

Creating a website is not a new endeavor, but it can have unexpected results. Dr. John Dively, chair and associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, created a public website for his School Law course. The site is accessible to anyone at www.eiu.edu/~dively/schoollaw54102, and is designed to supplement and enhance student learning and to serve as a connection to former students.

The site has received nearly 40,000 visits since its inception, and includes a variety of legal research links, school law landmark cases, specialized school law website links, photographs of famous litigants, and class pictures. The regular updates with links to articles and cases regarding current legal developments has made it particularly useful to school professionals. Dively receives feedback from students, former students and practitioners regarding current issues and topics.

“This scenario is one of many examples of how CEPS faculty are using technology to interact effectively with students and the larger community it serves.”

**- Dr. John Dively, chair and associate professor,
Department of Educational Leadership**

In fact, Dively was contacted by a school administrator from a district in northern Illinois (whose daughter had just enrolled at EIU as a freshman) regarding a link on the School Law website related to a student-parent-teacher handbook contents checklist. In communications with the administrator, Dively was able to provide advice regarding the school administrator’s handbook. “This scenario is one of many examples of how CEPS faculty are using technology to interact effectively with students and the larger community it serves,” Dively said.



Student Research in Special Education

Students in the course, Behavioral Principles in Special Education, conduct research projects that are supervised by associate professor Dr. Frank Mullins and assistant professor Dr. Christina Edmonds-Behrend, both in the Department of Special Education. Students collect data on elementary student behavior during an after-school tutoring program at elementary schools in the local area.

“Collecting data and developing a plan is an experience that students need for the real world. As professionals, we make data-based decisions daily.”

- Dr. Christina Edmonds-Behrend, assistant professor,
Department of Special Education

EIU special education students were asked to pinpoint behaviors, define the behaviors, and develop a plan to increase positive behaviors. Students chose topics such as “increasing preparation” or “increasing on-task behavior.”

“Collecting data and developing a plan is an experience that students need for the real world,” Edmonds-Behrend said. “As professionals, we make data-based decisions daily.”

Instead of a final exam in the course, students presented their research by displaying their variables, methodology, abstract and data on their posters. Education professionals were invited to ask students questions about their research and findings.

Edmonds-Behrend said she remembers her poster presentation from when she was an Eastern student. “It was very worthwhile,” she said. “The experience professionally prepares our students and will make them more effective educators.”



Kayla Napue



Amanda Tenerelli



Aaron Taylor



New Secondary Education Master's Program

The Department of Secondary Education and Foundations is offering its first Master of Science in Education program in Effingham, Ill. The graduate students are all practicing teachers, and are enrolled in two classes each semester. Eastern faculty travel to Effingham twice a week to deliver these classes. The two-year program – the only one of its kind in this region – currently has 15 students enrolled.

The program's mission is to prepare teachers, based on the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), who wish to pursue a program of study focusing on increasing pedagogical knowledge and skills. As teachers continue in the program, they apply the knowledge and skills to their current classrooms, and learn from their experiences as a teacher, as well as a student.

"All students are asked to reflect on their teaching practices in order to develop portfolios for the master's program which may be used in the development of portfolios for the NBPTS certification process," said Dr. Patricia Fewell, chair of Secondary Education and Foundations. For information on this program, please contact Dr. Fewell at 217-581-5931.

Dr. Patricia Fewell Wins Department Chair Award

Dr. Patricia Fewell, chair of the Department of Secondary Education and Foundations, received the 2010 Eastern Illinois University Department Chair Leadership Award, which recognizes outstanding leadership in guiding a department to improve the academic experience and success of its students.

"It was truly a surprise for me to win the award," said Dr. Fewell. "In order to do the best for our students, I depend on the support of our faculty, the other department chairs in the college, and our dean's office."



Dr. Patricia Fewell

CEPS Philanthropy Board

In March, the College of Education and Professional Studies brought together its first CEPS Philanthropy Board. Lou Hencken, EIU president emeritus, chairs this board. Twelve talented alumni and friends, with a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, agreed to serve as inaugural members.

The CEPS Philanthropy Board is the critical link with our alumni and friends. Board members will advise and assist with many philanthropic efforts planned for the next few years. Watch to see how you can help the CEPS Philanthropy Board!



Front row: Maranda Rehg, Dean Diane Jackman, Carol Tyler, Noelle Greathouse, Becky Barnett.

Back row: Don Sandercock, Bill Hill, Ron Leathers, Lou Hencken, Stan McMorris, Cheryl Crates. Not pictured: Joe Glassford, Mike Rylko.

CEPS Wins Service Award

The College of Education and Professional Studies received the 2010 Dean's Award for Service from the School of Continuing Education at Eastern Illinois University. "The College of Education and Professional Studies and the School of Continuing Education have been partners in off-campus education for over 30 years. One of our most successful collaborations was the development of the cohort site-based model (later copied by other public Illinois institutions) to deliver education programs in high-need disciplines to underserved areas of Illinois," said Dr. William Hine, dean of the School of Continuing Education.



Dr. Will Hine (left) and Dr. Doug Bower

CEPS Faculty Retirements:

Judith Barford	16 ½ years	Audrey Edwards	21 ½ years
Gail Lockart	15 ½ years	William Fischer	17 ½ years
Scott A. G. M. Crawford	21 years	Sallee Lowery	5 years
Barbara Walker	24 years		

First Alumni Awards Presented

The Alumni Board of the College of Education and Professional Studies held its inaugural Alumni Awards program in March. Ten alumni were honored for career achievements and service to their respective professions with three different awards: the Rising Star for alumni who have excelled in their careers and who graduated less than five years ago; the Leadership and Service award for significant impact to an alumni's chosen profession, community or society; and the Lifetime Achievement award for alumni who have attained distinguished professional success and prominence. To nominate an alumnus for the 2011 awards, please visit: www.eiu.edu/~cepsalumni.



Front row: Susan Friend, Noelle Greathouse and Rebecca Minkwitz. Back row: Mike Rylko, John McNary, Mike Metzen and Mark Drone. Not pictured: Roger Eddy, Sue Payton and Collen Coffey.

Dieker and Turkal Receive Outstanding Graduate Alumni Awards



Front row: Lisa Dieker, Bev Turkal. Back row: Graduate Dean Robert Augustine, President William Perry, Provost Blair Lord, CEPS Dean Diane Jackman.

Dr. Lisa Dieker (Special Education; '86, '88) and Ms. Beverly Turkal (Educational Administration; '79, '86) received Outstanding Graduate Alumni Awards in April from the Graduate School at Eastern Illinois University.

Dieker is a professor and Lockheed Martin Eminent Scholar at the University of Central Florida (UCF), and is the director of the UCF/Lockheed Martin Mathematics and Science Academy. Her primary research interest is in the collaboration of general and special education in secondary schools.

Turkal rose through the educational ranks to become superintendent of the Robinson (Ill.) and East Richland (Ill.) school districts. She has served on the Illinois State Board of Education, and is currently president of Lincoln Trail College, an institution of the Illinois Eastern Community College system.

Paying Respects

Lou Hencken, president emeritus of Eastern Illinois University and a faculty member in the Department of Counseling and Student Development, participated in the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington Cemetery in Arlington, Va., in May.

"The experience was wonderful," said Hencken. "It was an impressive ceremony – I felt very honored to be involved." Randy Bailey, former Eastern student and resident adviser, asked Hencken in April to apply to the superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery to lay the wreath. Hencken, along with a Vietnam veteran, placed the wreath in front of the tombs during the changing of the guards slightly after noon. "I was nervous about tripping, but that all went away because you realize why we are there when you hear the chimes at 12 o'clock," he said.

After the laying of the wreath, taps was sounded and could be heard throughout the cemetery. "Being able to participate and honor those who have served was a moving and fantastic experience," Hencken said.



Left to right: Michael Wheeler, Lou Hencken, Rocky Miranda and Mitch Price

Crates Wins Alumni Award

Cheryl Crates (Elementary Education, '70) received the Distinguished Educator Award from the Eastern Illinois University Alumni Association in October. She is the chief financial officer of CUSD 300, a large suburban Chicago school district with 1,300 teachers and 20,000 students, where she administers a \$200 million annual budget. After completing her bachelor's degree as a first-generation college student, she began her career as a math, health and physical education teacher. She is a charter member of the College of Education and Professional Studies' Philanthropy Board.



Cheryl Crates

McCollum wins NEA award

Tim McCollum (Zoology; '73, '77) was one of five recipients of the 2010 Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence, given by the National Education Association in April. He is an eighth grade science teacher at Charleston Middle School and has been recognized for quality teaching throughout his career. His students interact with NASA, the National Science Foundation and other science agencies as they work on class projects. He supervises many student teachers and practicum students from EIU, and serves as a member of the college's P-12 advisory committee.



Tim McCollum

Illinois Teacher of the Year is an Eastern Graduate

Kevin Rutter (Social Sciences, '97) is the fifth Eastern alumnus to become Illinois Teacher of the Year. Since 2000, he has taught social studies at Carl Schurz High School on Chicago's Northwest Side. He helped establish Schurz' Business, Finance and Careers Academy, where interested students can enter the three-year program their sophomore year. As the coordinator of the program, Rutter brings in guest speakers, helps students set up internships, and assists his students in other ways that help them find employment after college.



Kevin Rutter

Rutter said he uses multi-media and best-selling books such as "Freakonomics" in his daily lessons, as well as "practicing what I preach." He was nominated by Principal Mary Ann Folino, who said Rutter goes "well beyond the usual expectations for a teacher."

Global Ambassadors Bring the World to Eastern

Dr. Peter Gitau (Educational Administration, '95), a native of Kenya, Africa, received the 2009 Global Ambassador Award from the Graduate School of Eastern Illinois University. Dr. Gitau currently serves as the associate vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students at Southern Illinois University and founded Teach My Kenyan Children (TMKC), whose goal is fostering development through education in Africa.



John Dively, Peter Gitau and Dean Diane Jackman

Meeting the Need

Dr. Carol Helwig, professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education, began teaching at Eastern in 1969. Coincidentally, this was about the time when the university and college began reaching out to meet Illinois residents' educational needs by having some education courses taught in area communities.

Many of Carol's students in Danville and Urbana, Ill., who dreamed of being teachers, did not fit the 18- to 22-year-old age group and would never have been able to attend classes in Charleston. "They had financial or family concerns that most traditional-age students could not imagine," she says.

Upon retirement from Eastern several years ago, Carol did what she had been thinking about for a long time. She created a scholarship called the Carol Helwig Award, which is given to non-traditional students seeking certification in elementary or early childhood education. She finds that in helping students achieve their professional dreams, she derives enormous satisfaction. "It feels good to be a part of the academic process for these special individuals," she says.



Carol Helwig

Supporting Deserving Students

Mary Sexton and her family established a scholarship to honor her husband, Carl, who passed away suddenly in the summer of 1986. The scholarship is given to a student majoring in health studies.

"Carl loved teaching, and we wanted to create a lasting tribute for him," Mary said. Dr. Sexton, who was a professor of health studies at EIU for 20 years, mentored many students as they began their careers in health education. He enjoyed coaching basketball, track, baseball and tennis, and farmed seven acres of strawberries.

According to Dr. Robert Bates, chair of the Department of Health Studies, "The Carl Sexton scholarship has provided financial support for the student selected by the faculty as the most deserving school health major during the year, and has become the premier award in the department's area of school health education."

Mary enjoys receiving notes from the students who have benefitted from Carl's scholarship and she is very pleased that 23 students have been helped so far.



Mary Sexton

Message from the Dean

As you can tell, this has been another busy, yet educational year for our faculty and students. We continue to provide our students with numerous educational experiences that could not happen without your support. With state support for higher education declining, your gifts to the College of Education and Professional Studies become even more important.

The Dean's Circle for CEPS allows alumni and friends to support the College and its departments, and be recognized for this support. All contributions will strengthen the academic experiences of students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees in the College.

Dean's Circle members contribute a minimum of \$1,000 annually and can designate their contribution for one of the following funds: the CEPS Fund for Academic Excellence, which supports professional development experiences for students and/or faculty; the CEPS Technology Fund, which provides state-of-the-art equipment for student or faculty use; or the CEPS Student/Faculty Research Fund, which is used to assist students and their faculty mentors to pursue research projects in their disciplines. Gifts can also be designated to support a specific CEPS department.

In addition, donors who have more than \$25,000 in lifetime giving to the College of Education and Professional Studies will be inducted into the Dean's Circle.

Dean's Circle members receive a pin to signify their membership in the Circle, invitations to special College events, an exclusive College communication about what's new in the College and on the EIU campus, and annual recognition in the CEPS electronic newsletter.

To become a member, contributions may be sent to the attention of Mary Bower at CEPS, Eastern Illinois University, 600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston IL 61920. Checks should be made payable to the EIU Foundation and should reference the fund that you would like to support with your gift. For more information, please contact Mary Bower, assistant to the dean, at 217-581-7796 or mebower@eiu.edu.

I look forward to inducting you into the Dean's Circle.

Diane H. Jackman, Ph.D.
Dean



Diane Jackman, Ph.D., Dean

Yes, I want to be a part of Eastern's future.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone (Home) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Office) _____

E-mail _____

If your spouse is an Eastern alumna/us, please provide us with his or her full name (and maiden name if applicable) so we may update our records

please accept my gift of: \$50 \$75 \$100 \$1,000 Deans Circle Other \$ _____

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