

The Journalist

2006
Special Edition

Newsletter for Journalism Majors

Annette Samuels to retire

Colorado, family and friends are on the agenda for Professor Annette Samuels, who will retire this

to serve as a spokesperson for a United States President, Jimmy Carter. She also served as a press secretary to Washington, D.C., Mayor Marion Barry, and for two years as the executive director of the District of Columbia's Commission for Women. She was also a member of the National Association of Commissions for Women's delegation. Samuels also served for two years as the executive director of the District of Columbia's Commission for Women.

She has been active in the National Association of Black Journalists, Women in Communication, Inc., and the Association for Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Samuels, who holds a master's in public administration

year after 10 years at Eastern.

She plans a move of her home base to Denver, to be near a son and his family, but also hopes to travel to visit friends in old haunts such as New York City and Washington, D.C.

Samuels' career has been filled with honors.

Most recently, she was named a Woman of Achievement by Eastern's Women's Studies Program for her significant contributions to Eastern and to the community.

Samuels' career includes being the first African American woman



degree from Harvard University, 1989, worked for many years as a journalist for such media as Community News Service and Tuesday, Essence, Family Circle and Mademoiselle magazines. She has had titles ranging from fashion editor to managing editor.

While at Eastern, Samuels has taught a number of classes including Public Relations in Society, Minorities and the Media, Women in the Media and numerous senior seminars.

Samuels has also sponsored various EIU student groups including the student chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists and advised Minority Today/Diverse.

She has served on many faculty committees and represented diverse viewpoints on many panels and forums during her Eastern career.



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Peter Voelz to retire

By Tom Hochbaum

“If you had told me when I came here that I’d be here for 28 years I would have said ‘I don’t think so,’” said retiring professor Dr. Peter Voelz.

After teaching for 44 years, 28 at



Eastern, Voelz is ready to call it quits—well, almost quits!

Dr. Voelz says that he plans to do some traveling

with his wife, who retired last year, before returning to teach at least one class at Eastern next spring. Voelz is also considering writing a book and maybe a few articles in his extra time.

The history and journalism professor earned his doctoral and two master’s degrees at the University of Michigan and received his bachelor’s degree from Loras College in Iowa.

Voelz is known for keeping his students on their toes in class, firing questions at them about anything from political current events to recent pop-culture. His teaching method has netted him a lot of

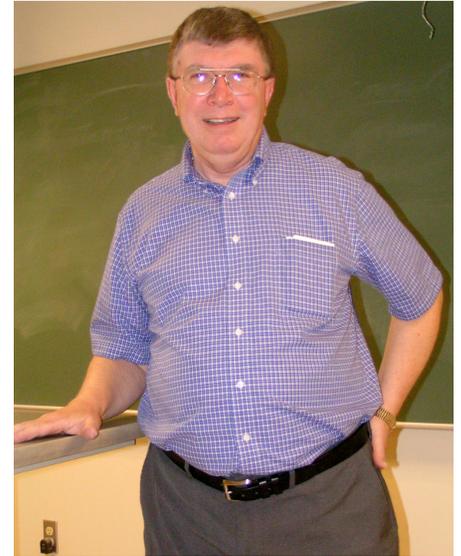
positive feedback over the years.

“I still get e-mails from students that I taught years ago, just letting me know how they are doing now,” Voelz said. “It’s really nice to have people continue to contact you like that.”

Retirement may not be an easy transition for Voelz because of the joy he gets from his job.

“I really enjoyed teaching. The classroom has given me many fond memories and I have had a lot of interesting students,” he said.

“I think I am going to miss the classroom the most. I have been coming back to school every September since I was five years old, so this year will be something different for me.”



Voelz’ professional career includes being a reporter for The Toledo Blade, publishing many newspaper and magazine articles, publishing a book titled *Slave and Soldier: The Military Impact of Blacks in the Colonial Americas*, and writing articles for various

encyclopedias including an article on the black soldier for Harvard’s new encyclopedia, *Afropedia*.

He has taught at Sophia University, Tokyo; University of Detroit; Wayne County Community College and Eastern Michigan University.

During his years at Eastern he has advised The Warbler Yearbook, *Minority Today*, *Heartland*, Eastern Illinois High School Press Association and numerous students as their academic adviser.