

The Leisure Time News

Volume 33, Issue 1

December 1, 2007



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RECREATION
ADMINISTRATION**

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The Leisure Time News

The Department of
Recreation Administration

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Message from our Chair

The major task of the faculty of the Department of Recreation Administration is to educate our students to be prepared for professional careers upon graduation. While that is a simply stated goal, its attainment is de-



William Higelmire, Chair

pendent upon a vast network of relationships. The "web" concept from our computer course also applies to our academic undertakings.

At the core of our instructional activities is the focus on student-centered learning and hands on experiences. Eastern Illinois University has always been known as a place where faculty and students "connect" in positive ways throughout the

educational process. Our program is constantly being evaluated to improve faculty-student interactions along with practical experiences. Fieldwork and Internship, required of all majors, further develop the applica-

tion and problem-solving skills that employers demand and often lead to employment opportunities. This year the department refined the requirements and expectations for both to reflect changes in the field.

The "worldwide web" of relationships is expanding for students who participate in Study Abroad experience. The department recently ap-

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This year, the **Distinguished Alum Award** will be presented to **Pat Fitzgerald**

Message from our Dean

As you can see by the numerous articles in this newsletter, the Department of Recreation Administration had a very busy year. The faculty and students continue to be involved in some interesting projects, both professionally and personally.

This year, the department is completing two reviews of the undergraduate program in recreation administration. One review is for

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Message from our Chair (continued)

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proved several new course offerings in Australia, England and New Zealand.

We also appreciate the relationships with professionals away from EIU who return in person to enrich the learning process for our faculty and students. The advisory council represents an invaluable resource of expertise, assistance and commitment to our program.

Our success would not be possible without the continuing relationships that we have with alumni and friends who support our efforts with contributions of time and expertise, as well as dollars needed to invest in our improvement. We invite you to "connect" and enjoy a brief visit through this publication. And please keep connected whenever possible through communications or personal visits to campus.

The department was fortunate to hire Dr Mulvaney in a tenure track position. He

earned his doctorate from the University of Illinois in Recreation, Sport and Tourism with a concentration in Recreation Management. His research interests include: management issues within public recreation agencies. He hails from Collison, IL (near Danville) and enjoys spending time with his wife, running and being outdoors. He has been the assistant manager at the Decatur Indoor Sports Center and most recently was a research assistant at the University of Illinois at Champaign Urbana.

The department will undergo two reviews of the program. One review is for the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and one is the accreditation self-study report for the National Recreation and Park Association. We look forward to showcasing our programs and to receiving information on how we can improve or curricu-

lum.

I must take this opportunity to thank those of you who were kind enough to send cards and words of encouragement during my recent heart attack. In all I had four stents placed in two different arteries. Your thoughts and prayers were most appreciated and helped lift my spirits. My recovery has been completed, and I am now able to run my usual three mile course.

As always, to make this newsletter more interesting, please take a few moments from your busy schedule and fill out the attached form, and we'll share the information in the next issue. I can't tell you how many of you make positive comments about that portion of the newsletter and enjoy keeping up with each other. For it to be a success however, we need for you to fill out the form or email it to me at whigel-mire@eiu.edu



Intern Spotlight: Rhonda Bowdry

My name is Rhonda Bowdry and I am a Senior Recreation Administration major. I was blessed with my internship with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago. My internship consisted of both corporate and field experience. When I wasn't down-

town at the corporate headquarters, I was serving as a part time gym instructor at the Martin Luther King Jr. Boys & Girls Club on the west side of the city. Every morning at the club, I had the children to exercise and run around to get their

blood flowing. We played games that were already planned by permanent staff or sometimes I would allow the children to spontaneously pick a game of their choice. It was a wonderful and rewarding experience being a positive role model for children between the ages of 5-15. My corporate experience consisted of me doing clerical duties, data entry, data analysis and city wide

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Faculty News

John Henry Pommier

I am happy to inform everyone that my classes are being exposed experientially more than ever! My students have been involved in the inception of the new Paradise Equestrian Therapy Center. The horse-based therapy center is located just a mile outside of Charleston's city limits. One fieldwork student, Erica Thompson, was instrumental in PET's success. Students from REC 2250 and 3250 spent several hours on-site.

My finance class has been exposed to funding issues (i.e., exactions, TIF, EAV enhanced valuation associated with open space, grants, user fees, etc.) as the city of Charleston looks into the feasibility of constructing our first community center.

My Challenge of Leisure class has been involved with projects that focus on getting youth involved. They developed real proposals (invention-based) and submitted them to a website competition. REC 2500 also looked at sportsmanship issues. All students were involved with a youth sports program (several helped with my U-9 boys

travel soccer team), putting theory into practice.

Peggy Holmes-Layman

What a delightful winter we have been having. I hope each of you has a chance to enjoy the great outdoors through all these beautiful seasons. Lots of exciting things have been happening with our department. September was a conference and travel month; the Consortium, the ATRA conference and the NRPA Conference were scheduled very close together. That made for a very busy and hectic first weeks in the classroom. I, along with two other faculty from the Consortium, did a presentation on the Outdoor Education Program at the Great Smoky Mountains that was well received. The ATRA conference was tied up with a discussion about Therapeutic Recreation Philosophy which

is always interesting. Our department has revisited our Therapeutic Recreation mission and philosophy and remains committed to therapeutic recreation having a necessary foundation in the understanding of leisure and recreation behavior. We may be one of the few departments in the country that still see that tie so strongly, but all three of us on the faculty that are CTRSs believe in it. All of recreation can be therapeutic, and the leisure behavior foundation becomes even more important as health care provision continues to be in flux. The rest of the semester will be full with many student projects and further work on the Alumni Survey. One of the fun things we have had students do this semester is visit the Amish Interpretive Center in Arcola, studying that culture from a tourism perspec-

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Department of Recreation Administration Advisory Council

The department wishes to recognize and thank our **Department of Recreation Administration Advisory Council** for their excellent service!

- **Mike Rylko**-Buffalo Grove Park District, Buffalo Grove, IL mrylko@bgpkr.org
- **Ron Oestreich**-(Past Chair)-Bolingbrook Park District, Bolingbrook, IL roestreich@bolingbrookparks.org
- **Kristina Neven** -SEASPAR, Downers Grove, IL kneven@seaspar.org
- **Ken Baker**-Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL kjbaker@eiu.edu
- **Lefty Bryden**-Charleston, IL unmebryden@earthlink.com
- **Larry Closson**-Springfield, IL – lclosson@sbcglobal.com
- **Jamie Gower**-(Secretary)-Decatur Park District, Decatur, IL – jsmiege@decparcs.com
- **Dave Haring**-(Chair)- Schaumburg Park District, Schaumburg, IL dharing@parkfun.com
- **Kelly LaMoore**-Bourbonnais Twp. Prk District, Bourbonnais, IL <KellyL@btpd.org>
- **Glenn Lyons**-Charleston, IL –Fox Ridge State Park, Charleston, IL <glenn_lyons@illinois.gov>
- **Mike Sterba**-Coloma TWSHP Park District, Rock Falls, IL ctpd4fun@essex1.com
- **Deborah Tiger**-Cunningham Children's Home, Urbana, IL dtiger@msn.net

Please consider serving on this vital Council!

Faculty News (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

tive. We had a wonderful meal in an Amish home, and students enjoyed the interactions. It is a terrific opportunity to have this and other sites and agencies available to provide the needed experiential situations for student learning. Well, that's all for now-hope to see everyone at the Spring banquet!

Michael Mulvaney

Hello from Charleston! Things here are moving along as I settle in for my second year with the Department of Recreation Administration. Over the

summer I taught a Senior Seminar course (Leisure Time: An American Perspective) while co-authoring the text, *Official Study Guide for the Certified Park & Recreation Professional Examination, 3rd Edition*. The text is scheduled to be on the shelves this fall.

This fall I am teaching Research & Evaluation in Leisure Studies, Computers in Leisure Service Agencies, Operations of Leisure Facilities, and the Pre-Internship course. Some of the projects students are working on in these classes include: conducting a

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Dean's List - Fall 2006

- Scott Falli**
- Joseph Smith**
- Emily Stewart**
- Erica Thompson**

Dean's List - Spring 2007

- Meagan Dagon**
- Patrick Healy**
- Chris Thomas**

Congratulations!!

Spring 2007 Awards Banquet

- **Chair Award** – Erin Morettes
- **Faculty Award** – Aaron Cooklin, Rebecca Minkwitz, Angela Easter, Jackie Kelley, Andrew Dorian, Jayson Schippits, Chelsea Bach, Meagan Dagon, Brittany Winger
- **Ewen “Lefty” Bryden Scholarship** – Kasey Boeger
- **Gretchen Sue Denton Memorial Scholarship** – Rhonda Bowdry
- **William G. Riordan Scholarship** – Erica Thompson
- **Dorothe L. Johnson Memorial Scholarship** – Lindsay Loekle
- **William A. Smith Scholarship** – Emily Stewart

GRADUATES

Fall 2006

- Devito, Michael
- Emberton, Kiel
- Ethridge, Lynn
- Kloster, Mitchell
- Lambdin, Kristin
- Maynard, Kelsey
- Meyer, Blake
- Migler, Michelle
- Polley, Jessica
- Thompson, Andrew
- VanDuyne, Sarah
- Wetters, Kindra
- Zimmerman, Michelle

Spring 2007

- Bockelman, Kyle
- Falli, Scott
- Korhonen, Kathy TR
- Kresek, Katherine TR
- Vesper, Kevin
- Winger, Brittany

Summer 2007

- Brown, Albert
- Brusa, Jason TR
- Clemmer, Phillip
- Cooklin, Aaron
- Coyle, Andrew

- Dudzinski, Christopher
- Easter, Angela
- Hampton, Andrew
- Hinkle, Josh
- Kretch, Katherine TR
- Kubicki, Jason
- Loekle, Lindsay
- Loughery, John
- Minkwitz, Rebecca
- Pfister, Kyle
- Sobolewski, Steve
- Tindall, Kathleen

Department of Recreation Administration's
33nd Annual Spring Alumni and Awards Banquet

Please note that the Spring Alumni and Awards Banquet will be hosted in Eastern Illinois University's Grand Ballroom

Name _____ Class _____
Home Address: Street _____
City/State _____
Home Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____
Business/Agency: _____
Agency Phone: _____ Job Title _____

_____ Yes, I will attend the Awards Banquet on Friday, **April 25, 2008**
_____ Yes, I would be willing to sponsor a student to attend the Banquet
_____ Number of tickets needed

* Check enclosed for \$ _____ (\$15 for non-REC club members, alumni, family, friends).
Please, make check payable to Eastern Illinois University

Please return this information form by Wednesday, April 23 , 2008 to:
The Awards Banquet Committee
EIU - Recreation Administration
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920

- Or contact the Department via EMail <whigelmire@eiu.edu>
Phone (581-3018) with the preceding questions addressed.

REMEMBER:
Awards Banquet
Friday,
April 25, 2008,
5:30 p.m.
University's Grand
Ballroom
Eastern Illinois
University

Alumni Information Sheet

Please help us stay in touch with you by up-dating your current status - Thank you in advance!

Name _____ Graduating Class (year / semester) _____
Home Address _____
Phone _____ E-Mail: _____
Family News _____
Employment _____ Job Title _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Employment News _____

*Please return to: Eastern Illinois University, Recreation Administration, 600 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston, IL 61920
or email alumni information to: ardiehl@eiu.edu*

Message from our Dean (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and one is the accreditation self-study report for the National Recreation and Park Association. Both undergraduate program reviews allow the department to showcase EIU's program and document the success of current students and alumni. Your continued interaction with faculty and students is one of the department's strengths and will be highlighted in the reviews along with many other departmental assets.

In April, recreation administration students will be participating in a new event that will showcase the wide variety of student projects completed during the year. We are all looking forward to seeing the excellent work of our students and sharing it with the EIU community and alumni.

After meeting several of you at various events during this past year, it is clear that each of you still feel a strong connection to EIU and the program. This department is fortunate to have alumni who understand how important it is to financially support current students and faculty in their quest for excellence. The scholarship support for students is noteworthy, and you can be assured that all of the scholarship monies are being put to very good use. Your continued support will enable the students to realize their academic and professional dreams. Thanks for everything that you have done and will continue to do for the department's students and faculty.

Diane H. Jackman, Ph.D., Dean
College of Education and Professional Studies

Annual IAPD/IPRA Conference

The IAPD/IPRA Annual Conference will be held in downtown Chicago at the Hyatt Regency from January 24th through January 26th. I hope you will be able to stop by the EIU hospitality room, on January 24th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Water Tower Room. Thanks to the hard work of the EIURAAA, I know those that attend will have an enjoyable experience.

Intern Spotlight: Rhonda Bowdry (cont.)

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programming. My greatest accomplishment was the Back to School Book Bag/School Supply Drive, in which we got over 5 corporate companies to donate 600+ book bags full of school supplies. The program took a collaborated effort from me and my direct supervisor Lakesha Nelson. In addition to that we also had a Back to School Block Party for all of the summer campers. At this event, we had clowns/magicians/balloonists, face painting, inflatable equipment, dunk tanks, catered picnic food, etc. It was here that we distributed the 600+ bags to the campers/members; we also gave away (250) \$50 gift cards to Meijers that was donated by the Charles Tillman Foundation. It was a huge success! We had donors and volunteers from Huron, Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, Hard Rock Hotel (Corporate Staff), Charles Tillman Foundation, members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and several others. Outside of this life changing experience, I was asked to return for a permanent full-time position immediately after graduation. It was humbling, challenging and the greatest occurrence of my life!

In order to conserve resources, would you please contact Jerilyn <jhutson@eiu.edu> and let her know which method of delivery you would prefer to receive the newsletter (email or postal mail). Please email Jerilyn the following information:

Name (maiden if applicable)

Graduation year

Option:

Your postal address

OR

Your email address



Faculty News (continued)

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community-wide recreation study for the Village of Dieterich to assist them with their master planning process; assisting Dr. Pommer's classes with participant evaluations of the Annual Homecoming Race; developing resource websites for students preparing for Fieldwork and Internship experiences; and working with area agencies in the development of agency operations manuals.

In addition to teaching, I co-authored two articles titled, "Measuring the costs of employee turnover in Illinois public park and

recreation agencies: An exploratory study" in the Spring 2007 edition of the *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration* and, "Six steps for improving your agencies performance appraisal system" in the November/December 2007 WebExtra section of the *Illinois Park and Recreation Magazine*. I also presented two education sessions at the 2007 IPRA/IAPD Annual Conference (Chicago, IL) and one Leisure Research Symposium at the

2007 NRPA Annual Congress (Indianapolis, IN).

I continue to work on creating additional application-based activities for my courses as well as my research and service lines. If you or your agency has any ideas, I would love to hear from you. Have a happy winter and spring season!

Marian Wooten

Dr. Wooten spent the latter part of her summer and fall working on a study of the interpreters at the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site in Lerna, Illinois; in addition to learning about the interpretive message at the site, she has learned to churn butter, cook at a hearth, dry vegetables for winter, and dip candles. In June she presented a paper at the Travel and Tourism research Association annual conference in Las Vegas, and in September she presented a paper at the National Recreation and Parks Association annual conference in Indianapolis. This fall she is teaching REC 4600 (Planning and Design of Leisure Facilities), REC 3310 (Travel and Tourism), and REC 3400 (World Leisure) and supervising fieldwork students. Dr. Wooten has a book chapter, a journal article, and an executive training exercise to be published in 2008.

Annette's Perspective

Hi there! Thanks for stopping by to read about what's going on with me. Each time I write one of these articles, I mostly write about my family, and what they've been doing, etc. Not much has changed with them - everyone just keeps on doing what they're doing. So this time I decided



I'm going to write a bit more about me. The biggest change in my life since my last article is the loss of my mother. I know I've mentioned my mother in every article and how I had been caring for her for the past several years. We lost her on July 8th of this year. Ironically, July 8th was my dad's birthday, so it

was a great present for him to be joined with the love of his life again. I miss my mother very much, but I realize it was time for her to go and to end her suffering. She was the most patient, giving, and loving person that I have ever known. She would have been 95 on November 24th.

After her passing, I wasn't quite sure what to do with myself because I had been focusing on her for so long. I have been busy sorting things at my mother's house, which takes up a lot of time. I've also helped my husband plan his 55th Charleston High School Class Reunion which was in October, and I'm not even from Charleston but graduated from Casey, Illinois H.S.. Before that in September was my family reunion which was also up to me to plan. In addition, my husband and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in July. Our daughters planned a large celebration.

at the First Baptist Church in Charleston, Illinois with many friends and family, which was really nice. I'm looking forward to Thanksgiving and Christmas (and all the presents makes it even better) because this is the time all the family gathers at my home and we enjoy ourselves and always eat way too much. This will be the first holidays without my mom and she will be missed, but I'm sure she will be watching over us.

My other favorite activity is working in the Department of Recreation Administration, where I work with a great group of people and the students are never dull. I enjoy hearing from the alums and this gives me something to put in the newsletter about former students. You where all a new group of students once and then moved on, but many of you I still remember and would like to hear from you. Just email me at ardiehl@eiu.edu.

Oh and one last thing - my girls thought it would be a good idea to set me up with one of those MySpace accounts. I still haven't gotten the hang of it, but if you want to take a look at my page, just do a search for Annette Diehl! It's a new surprise to me each time I look at it! Have a Christmas and New Year!

Alumni News

The Annual EIURAAA Student Forum would like to have you present for the Department's students this Fall.



Be sure and return the alumni information sheet that is included in the newsletter or you can email me at ardiehl@eiu.edu. I've had several calls from alumni wanting to know how to reach other alum, and if your information isn't up-to-date, what can I say?...so keep me updated.

McDonnell, James – SU '74 – Lives in Chicago, IL with wife Janet (25 years married), she is retired. Have a daughter, Jen (29) who is a teacher and son James II (23) who is Railroad/ultimate fighter. James works for Chicago Board of Education and Best High School/Driver Education. He is a P.E. Health/Drives Ed. Teacher.

Noble, Tom – SP '76 – Retired from transportation companies in Orange County, California. He is a Charleston, IL native and now lives here after retirement. Tom has been driving the Panther Express Bus for the past several years, transporting EIU students to many different locations in Charleston.

Hilleke, Gayle A. – SP '78—
gayle.hilleke@gmail.com – Employed as Kentucky Campus Compact as Executive Director for Northern Kentucky University. Lives in Highland Heights, KY.

McClellan, Dave – SU '78—Lives in Martinsville, IL –217-382-4104.

Manson (Jurgensen), Janet – SU '79—
manson605@sbcglobal.net – Lives in Peotone, IL with husband Mike (23 years married) and their two sons: Brett (20) and Derek (17). She works for the Village of Matteson and is the Superintendent of

Recreation (worked for the department for over 27 years).

Jones, Tom – SP '81 –
tom.jones@unco.edu – Lives in Greeley, CO with wife Nancy (teacher) and daughter, Shannon (15) and son, Eric (12). Employed with the University of Northern Colorado as a Senior Admissions Counselor for transfer students.

Knavss (Mufich),

Susan --SP '90 – Lives in Arlington Heights, IL

Westberg, Erik – SP '92 –
ewestberg@broward.org

– Employed by Broward County Parks and Recreation Division in Deerfield Beach, Florida. He is the Parks and Recreation Manager V overseeing the County's North District Regional Parks, Facilities and Natural Sites at Quiet Water Park.

www.broward.org/parks

Benge, Cory – FA '93—
bengebow@yahoo.com –

or Benge's Backcountry (www.benges.net) – Involved with competitive archery shooting, has been involved with ASAT Outdoors in producing a bowhunting TV show for the outdoor channel, and also works for Montana Black Gold, producer of premium bowsights. Married with one daughter.

Milkint (Myers), Lori -- FA '94—

sparky0923@yahoo.com

– Lives and works in Springfield, IL for the

City of Springfield as a Web Designer in the Information Systems Division. She is married to Matt (Aug.26, 2006), who owns Phoenix Collision and Automotive Refinishing in Springfield, Illinois.

Purcell, Patricia – FA '94 –
patpurcell@ctfkllinois.org

– Lives in Shelbyville. Has 2 children, Melissa Daugherty and John Knierim and 19 grandchildren. Working for Charleston Transitional Facility as an OHSP in Charleston, IL.
Conroy, Carolyn – SU '97-
ceeroy14@yahoo.com – Lives in Roselle, IL. Employer-AHI International (working in sales), in Rosemont, IL.

Willett, Nick – FA '98 –
nick@norwalkymca.org or www.norwalkymca.org – Lives in Weston, CT. Vice President of YMCA's CT. Planning a wedding in July of 2008 to Kristen Izzo who is an elementary teacher. Congratulations.

Byers, Chelsey – SU '99—
clbyers@uiuc.edu – Living in Kankakee, IL. Working for the University of Illinois Extension in Kankakee County as an Adult Life and Aging Educator in Bourbonnais, IL. Glad you are keeping in touch!

Schmeink, John – SU '99—

schmeink@ezeeweb.com – Working as a recreation therapist at Alton Mental health Center in the forensic division. John is married to

Annual EIURAAA Student Forum

The 9th Annual EIURAA Student Forum was held on Friday, October 19th. Many thanks go out to the EIURAA Board of Directors for their fine work on this annual event. (Ron Oestreich, President, Kelly LaMore, Vice President, Jamie Davis, Secretary, CJ Applegate, Treasurer, R. Scott Smith, Todd Ranum, , Jamie Gower, Dave Haring, and Candice Holbrook, Student Representative) Speakers included: Opening Session, The EAP Plan for Recreation and Parks Students by Ryan Jastrab, Superintendent of Recreation, Itasca Park District, Get the Most from Your Internship by Lewis Dickenson, Jamie Gower and Todd Ranum presented Where do we go from here? What can I do with my education?, Four Keys to Facility Management by Terry Keigher, Janel Geary discussed Working in a Small District, and Mike Sterba spoke about Personal Volunteerism. Following the forum all attendees were treated to lunch at the Panther Paw. Ms. Amy Charlesworth, CPRP, Executive Director, Rolling Meadows Park District, and Mr. Bill Wald, Chief Executive Officer, Illinois Park and Recreation Association Overall, gave an overview of the opportunities that exist through IPRA. The event was a success as over 75 students attended. For more information or to volunteer to work on next year's forum, feel free to contact Mr. Ron Oestreich at roestreich@bolingbrookparks.org or call him at (630) 739-0272.

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Carey and they have a daughter Kloe Margaret who will be 2 on 11/30.

Hofmann (Fortin), Dana – SP '2000— dhofmann@genevaparks.com – Lives in Carol Stream, IL with her husband Brian (married Nov. 06) and she was recently promoted to Facility Supervisor at Geneva Park District, Geneva, IL.

Shields, Theresa – SP '01- seasons74@hotmail.com – Living in Fayetteville, NC. Working at Cape Fear Valley Rehabilitation Center.

Albee (Schrock), Jennifer – sjjalbee@msn.com – She and her husband and son Justin, born August 1, 2003 live in Birgden, Germany where her husband is in the US Air Force and they are stationed at the NATO base in Geilenkirchen, Germany. They have already traveled to Paris and all over Germany, Netherlands and Belgium. They will be living in Germany until at least 2009. Jennifer is currently going to school through the University of Oklahoma to get her Masters in Human Relations.

Combs, Stephanie – SU '02 – scombs@sterlingrockfallsymca.org – Living in Morrison. Working in Sterling, IL for the Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA as Aquatic Director. Has one son Lucien Gregory born on August 13, 2006 and will be married on July 14, 2007. Congratulations on both events.

Goss, Kristin – SU '04— kristin-gossaha@aol.com -- Resort Activities Manager with the American Hospitality academy in Myrtle Beach, S. C. Living in

Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Darner, Whitney -- SU '04— wdarner@ciwestminister.co.us – Works as Assistant

Aquatics Director for the City of Westminster, Colorado. Makes her home in Broomfield, Colorado.

Beranek, Daniel – FA '04 -- dberanek@rockome.com – Lives in Charleston, IL. Working for Rockome Gardens as Director of Recreation. Rockome Gardens is located in Arcola, IL and is a great place to visit. Check out the website -- www.rockome.com . Really glad to hear from you Dan!

Weisbacher, Katharine – SP '05 – kweisbacher@gmail.com – She is from Hanover Park, IL and working at Camp Champions as an Intern Coordinator which is located in Marble Falls, TX.

In order to conserve resources, would you please contact Jerilyn <jhutson@eiu.edu> and let her know which method of delivery you would prefer to receive the newsletter (email or postal mail). Please email Jerilyn the following information:
Name (maiden if applicable)
Graduation year
Option:
Your postal address OR
Your email address

Recreation Administration 122600
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920-3099

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CHARLESTON IL 61920

Call for Alumni Award Nomination

A big part of the Spring Banquet is the presentation of an award to the Outstanding Alumni of Eastern Illinois University's Department of Recreation Administration. We are currently seeking **Outstanding Alumni Award** nominations for the Spring 2009 Banquet. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged!

The following criteria will be assessed when determining the award:

1. Must have graduated from the Department of Recreation Administration (or Leisure Studies).
2. Must have made significant contribution to the profession at large in which they work.
3. Must show evidence of successful accomplishment in their job/agency profession.
4. Must show evidence of civic and professional leadership in the community in which they live.

2008 Distinguished Alum Award

This year the speaker for the Department of Recreation Administration Annual Awards Banquet will be **Pat Fitzgerald** who was born in Champaign, Illinois, graduated from Eastern in the summer of 1973. He has been happily married to Kathy Holliday from Litchfield, Illinois, also an Eastern graduate in School Psychology, for 34 years. Pat began his professional career with the City of Evanston, Illinois, as a Recreation Supervisor of the newly opened Robert Crown Center, indoor community center and ice arena in 1974. In 1979 he moved to Springfield, Illinois, to work for the Springfield Park District as Director of the Franklin P. Nelson Recreation Center, indoor ice arena and outdoor pool complex. In 1982 he began work with the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition Auditorium Authority, Springfield, Illinois, as General Manager of the Prairie Capital Convention Center. In 1987 he began work as the Director of the Warren E. Hearnes Center on the campus of the University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri where he was responsible for the facility management, event presentation, and activity coordination for this 14,500 seat Arena. Pat began work as the Director of Operations for the Cleveland Cavaliers at the Richfield Coliseum, Richfield, Ohio in 1993. This facility was the home of the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers for 20 years until the completion of the new Gund Arena located in downtown Cleveland. For the past 4 years he has served as the Vice President of Operations for the Cleveland Cavaliers at the Quicken Loans Arena (formerly the Gund Arena). He is the proud father of 3 wonderful children. Kate, graduate of Miami of Ohio, married, working and living in Charlotte, North Carolina; Kevin, graduate of the University of Dayton, Ohio, in law school at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Meghan, senior at Miami of Ohio. Persons from Eastern who have served as an inspiration to him - Dr. William Riordan, Dr. Bryden, Mike Rylko and Larry Closson. Pat indicated that: 'I love to laugh at a good joke, even if it's on me and I never take myself too seriously because no one else really does.'