



EIU Annuitants Association NEW HORIZONS

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Treasurer

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Financial support of EIU Foundation appreciated

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LOOKING AHEAD

Our next meeting will be held on November 2 in the Neal Welcome Center.

8:30 - Coffee, tea, & conversation

9:00 – Business Meeting followed by a presentation from Ken Baker, Director of EIU Rec Center, regarding an exercise/fitness plan, particularly as we age, and the facilities and opportunities available for annuitants at EIU.

MEETING DATES COMING UP

EIUAA MEETINGS: (8:30 am)

2007

Jan 15 – Luncheon at Cross County Mall

April 05 – Neal Welcome Center

June 07 – To Be Determined

Sept 06 – CANCELLED

Nov 01 – Neal Welcome Center

EIUAA EXEC. COMMITTEE MEETINGS: (9 am)

Dec 07 – Neal Welcome Center

2007

Mar 01 – Neal Welcome Center

May 03 – Neal Welcome Center

Aug 02 – Neal Welcome Center

Oct 04 – Neal Welcome Center

Dec 06 – Neal Welcome Center

PRESIDENT'S VIEW

Dear Colleagues,

The EIU Annuitants Scholarship, the Beginning of a Legacy

During my 38 years experience in higher education academic administration, I have experienced and followed the tangible and intangible impact of awards and scholarships on the educational experiences of our students' success. I have witnessed the excitement and

joy on the faces of students, as well as their parents and grandparents, as they received awards. I have followed the progress of scholarship recipients as they continued for advanced studies, many of them, all the way to their doctorates. They will make significant contributions to our enormous knowledge base.

The Annuitants' Scholarship that we have just established for the offspring of any EIU annuitant or employee with five or more years of service, will light a torch which will burn for the entire lives of the recipients, generate confidence, and unleash immense amounts of energy.

The bonus for those of us who help to endow the scholarship is that our organization will be honored, its name etched on tangible records, recognized in awards ceremonies, and will remain in the memories of the recipients, for what we hope will be eternity. Our children, grandchildren, and their offspring will proudly remember that there was once a visionary and generous person in their family tree - a great legacy, and a noble gift to leave behind.

It is a privilege for me to share a personal story that vividly demonstrates this. I was born in a family of very modest means, in a dictatorship system surrounded by fundamentalist religious people who prescribed every aspect of our lives - where to go, what to read, listen to, think, and career path to choose. There was no opportunity for individual initiatives, planning short and long range goals and, consequently, no hope. Disobeying any of the government decrees resulted in severe physical and mental punishment and even death. When I went to bed at night I would listen to the Voice of America on my short wave radio, hearing the events and

news coming from the most advanced and tumultuous civilizations in the world describing the lives of their people.

In the morning, I would walk to school not knowing whether I would come back, be arrested, and never see my family again. The contrast between what I heard on the radio and how I lived was immense. I often dreamed of how it would be to live in the country I heard about on the Voice of America. The only possible chance for me was to do well academically, pass the entrance exams to the University of Tehran, and then, win a scholarship upon graduation. I never lost hope that this dream, no matter how remote, would one day become a reality. I graduated as the valedictorian of the College of Sciences and received a scholarship to study abroad.

I landed in New York City on November 16, 1960 on a clear, pleasant fall day. My eyes were full of tears of joy as I looked at the silhouette of the city. I couldn't believe it was real - not a dream. I experienced what millions before me did, as I landed on the shore of the most majestic country - leaving behind persecution, intimidation, isolation, and poverty.

Soon, I learned that while I was well prepared for the academic vigor of American higher education, I lacked the experience to handle the freedom and the concept that you are in charge and accountable for your actions and success. Fortunately, I met Carlene, my wife, who guided, advised, and helped me to use my new found opportunities effectively. I received my MS in Geophysics from the University of Oklahoma and my Ph.D. in Geochemistry from the University of Tulsa.

Here I am, the luckiest man in the world, with the most successful, rewarding career, family life, and outstanding friends, all due to the generosity of a benefactor who gave me a scholarship. While the EIUAA members contributed the original \$5,000 to establish this scholarship, we plan to appeal to individuals and groups to further enhance the monetary value of the award, and we will gratefully acknowledge the donors' generosity.

Alan Baharlou, President

CHAPTER NEWS

Due to a series of unfortunate and unavoidable circumstances, several members of the Executive Committee could not make the September 7 meeting. We apologize to our members. We want to thank Nancy Page for bringing the meeting to order and keep the program going.

Jim Painter, Chair of the School of Family and Consumer Sciences, presented a program on "Why Americans are Gaining Too Much Weight." In a nutshell, we eat too much food; we don't exercise enough; we lead a sedentary life style. Our lifestyles today are stressful and food becomes comfort. Advertisements lure us in to fast food facilities. Food may also meet emotional needs. The presentation was well received.

Also at the meeting, the EIU Annuitants Association Scholarship was formally established. It will be funded by a \$5,000 contribution from our treasury. We will also be seeking private donations from EIUAA members in the future.

John Terwilliger spoke about the Survivor Advocates training sessions and asked for volunteers.

We have lost contact with some of our annuitants and are looking for addresses for: Robert E. Brinkmeier, Betty L. Cribelar, Carrie Chen, Constance Myers, and Marjorie Saunders. If you know how we may reach these individuals, please contact us at the EIU Annuitants Association, c/o EIU Foundation, Brainard House, 600 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston IL 61920.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY NEWS

President Lou Hencken announced his plans to retire next year after serving 41 years at EIU. We wish him well!

For the seventh consecutive year, EIU was named one of the top Midwestern public universities in its class by U.S. News & World Report. It is ranked 10th among all Midwestern public universities, and the only Illinois public university that ranked in the top 12.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards have been announced. Those receiving the awards this year are: **Gregg Altobella** '88, '89 (communication disorders and sciences);

Brigadier General Joseph Balskus '76, '77 (communication disorders and sciences); **John Currey** '62 (business education); **Dr. Gordon Grado** '74 (biology); Jerry Van Dyke ex '55; **Paul Ward** '71 (history), '74 (political science). The Outstanding Young Alumnus Award goes to **Captain Gary Kelly** '01 (marketing). The Distinguished Educator Award goes to **Linda Kirby** '74 (geology/geography), '82 (educational administration), '89 (special education). The Alumni Service Award goes to **Ivan "Ike" Kennard** ex '44. Congratulations to all!

NEWS FROM YOU

We need to hear from you! Please send your news bits to EIUAA, c/o EIU Foundation, Brainard House, 600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston IL 61920 or email them to eiuaa@hotmail.com

IT HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO US MANY TIMES, THAT ONE OF THE BEST FEATURES OF THE NEWSLETTER IS THE "NEWS FROM YOU" SECTION. UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVEN'T BEEN RECEIVING MUCH INFORMATION. WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE ACTIVE IN TRAVELING, VOLUNTEERING, ETC. AND/OR HAVE FAMILY NEWS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT AND SEND THEM TO US. OUR ADDRESS IS IN THE BOX ABOVE.

RUTH DOW and her husband Charles celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 19. They are the parents of three children and have eight grandchildren. Congratulations!

Bruce Guernsey had his poem "Moss" featured in Ted Kooser's column "American Life in Poetry" recently. More of his work can be found on his website at www.bruceguernsey.com. Congratulations!

FRANCES HARRIS and her husband Carl celebrated their wedding anniversary and his 75th birthday with an open house. They were married on September 3 thirty years ago. They have six children, 13 grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Congratulations!

RICHARD LARSON and his wife Geraldine celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 7. They have two daughters, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Congratulations!

BOB PROPST and his wife Barbara celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on October 1. They have three sons and five grandchildren. Congratulations!

REMEMBERING FRIENDS

Andrea Carter, age 27, of Lebanon, Indiana, died on August 13 as the result of an auto accident. She is the granddaughter of EIU annuitants B. F. and Dorothy McClerren and Goldie Lannon.

PATRICIA E. DOUGHERTY, age 78, of Mattoon, passed away on September 29. She is survived by a son and six daughters and twelve grandchildren. She taught in the English Dept. for 17 years before retiring. Memorial gifts in her honor may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave. Suite 1700, Chicago IL 60601 or Sisters of Charity, B.V.M. Office of Development, P.O. Box 858, Dubuque IA 52004.

ANN JACKSON, age 85, of Charleston, passed away on August 30. She was an Elementary Education professor for over 26 years before her retirement. She is survived by many cousins. Memorials can be made to St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 921 Madison Street, Charleston IL 61920.

GOLDIE JAMES, age 94, of Carthage, Illinois, formerly of Charleston, passed away on October 8. She is survived by two sons, four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren. Her brother is EIU annuitant Jim Richardson. Goldie served in Custodial Services for many years before her retirement.

GENEVA D. MARCHANT passed away on January 20, 2006.

David E. Perkins, age 64, of Charleston, passed away on August 29. He is survived by his wife Ruth and two children. He is the son-in-law of EIU annuitants George and June Cooper. Memorials may be made to the Disabled Veterans Association.

ROBERT B. SONDERMAN, age 84, of Charleston, passed away on September 26. He is survived by his wife Hazel, one daughter, one son, and three grandchildren. He retired from EIU after serving 33 years in Industrial Arts and Technology. Memorials may be made to the Coalition for People in Need or Hospice of Lincolnland.