



BioBriefs

Department of Biological Sciences
Eastern Illinois University

Spring 2013

2013 Annual Spring Alumni Picnic Coming Up...

Mark Your Calendars!

EIU Celebration of the Arts	April 19th — 21st
Beta Beta Beta Scholarship Banquet	12pm April 26th
Spring Alumni Picnic	11:30am April 27th
BIO Reception with Dr. Grado	6pm April 3rd
College of Sciences Commencement	9am April 4th
EIU 2014 Homecoming	October 24th—26th

Our first Spring Alumni Picnic held last year was a success! Please consider joining the Biological Sciences Faculty, Staff, Annuitants and your fellow alums during our 2nd Annual Spring Alumni Picnic on Saturday, April 27th at 11:30am. The event will be held at the Campus Pond Pavilion. We will also recognize our graduating students and some of the many accomplishments made in the department this past year.

Activities Include:

- ◆ Potluck Picnic at the Campus Pond Pavilion - Lunch to begin at noon
- ◆ Catching up with your professors and fellow alumni
- ◆ Recognition of our graduating seniors
- ◆ Bio building tours (or you can roam around on your own)
- ◆ Poster presentations by some of our undergraduates

Making plans to come? Please let us know.

Sign up here:

[Click here to RSVP!](#)

What Have You Been Up To???

Please visit the BIO Alumni Homepage & let us know.

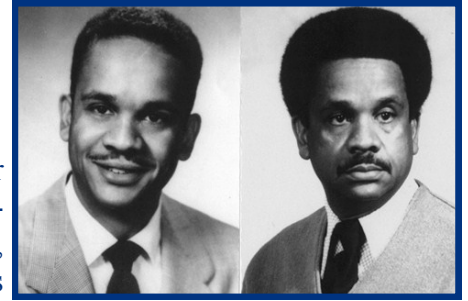


Grado To Receive Honorary Degree. Named Commencement Speaker.



Dr. Gordon Grado, founder and medical director of the Southwest Oncology Centers and the Grado Radiation Center of Excellence, will be awarded an honorary degree this academic year. Recipients of honorary degrees typically are those who have achieved distinction in their profession on the state, national or international level and those who have made an especially outstanding and significant contribution to the University. Grado will also be the commencement speaker at graduation ceremonies in May, 2013. Dr. Grado has been extremely generous to Eastern Illinois University and has provided 9 on-site internships to our pre-medical studies undergraduates over the past two years.

Ridgeway To Be Honored at the 2013 Annual Spring Alumni Picnic



This year we'll give honor to Dr. William T. Ridgeway, EIU Professor Emeritus. Ridgeway received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Missouri at Columbia. In 1966, he joined the Department of Zoology at EIU, and served in this position until his retirement in 1995. He also served as the Director of African American Studies from 1971 to 1973. After retirement, he worked part-time in the Office of Civil Rights. Dr. Ridgeway was honored in 2009 by Alpha Phi Alpha for his efforts in helping to organize the local chapter over 40 years ago. We will recognize his contributions to the sciences, to EIU and the community during the Annual Alumni Picnic on Saturday, April 27th.

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EIU alum Fritz Jaenike (BS Zoology, 1977 and MS Environmental Biology, 1979) is the General Manager of Kava Farms, an 800-plus-acre shrimp-farming operation in Texas, that produces about 30 percent of the 3 million pounds of shrimp raised each year in the United States. Mr. Jaenike gave a presentation to Dr. Rob Colombo's Fisheries class and a general seminar to

the department about the aquaculture business during Fall 2012. A nice overview of the shrimp market in *Seafood Business* can be found at the following link: <http://www.seafoodbusiness.com/articledetail.aspx?id=19391>



Undergraduate student, William Fernandez and his faculty mentor Dr. Michael Menze have been selected to participate in the 2013 Posters on the Hill program in Washington D.C., at which participants present their research to congress on April 24. Only 60 participants were selected from over 800 applicants. Participants will also be able to meet with their state's U.S. Senators and Representatives.

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BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ROCKS AT AFS ANNUAL MEETING!



EIU's Department of Biological Sciences was well represented at this year's Illinois American Fisheries Society Meeting held at Rend Lake, IL. Our current students received so many awards that the commentator asked for all associated with EIU to stand and there were 29 current and former faculty, students and alum present! Vaskar

Nepal, Amanda Wildenberg and Sarah Huck received the Larimore AFS Student Research Awards and David Ollesch received an AFS Travel Award. Oral and poster presentations were given by: Amanda Wildenberg, Cassi Moody, Sarah Huck, Ryan Hastings, and Vaskar Nepal, Manisha Pant, Sharon Rayford and Adam Hughes. EIU also won the Boat Paddle for the second consecutive year.