

Teachers Tame the Prairie

Vignettes of Eastern Illinois University
and Education in Illinois

Programs and Events

Tuesday, October 12

7:30 p.m. Booth Library, West Reading Room



The Coming of the “Normal School”: Vision and Mission in the Founding of Eastern Illinois University, 1895 to 1900
Dr. Terry Barnhart, Professor, History

The establishment of the Eastern Illinois State Normal School at Charleston in 1895 illustrates an important chapter in the intellectual and cultural history of the state and the nation. State legislatures and boards of education established “normal schools” throughout the Midwest during the last quarter of the nineteenth century in response to community needs. The normal school movement articulated a populist mission about expanding the educational franchise and standardized (normalized in the parlance of the day) the training of teachers for service in public schools. The coming of the normal schools fulfilled the aspirations of educational reformers and local community leaders who lobbied the legislature to establish normal schools within their respective regions of the state.



Dr. Barnhart’s presentation will discuss the circumstances and incidents leading to the establishment of the Eastern Illinois State Normal School at Charleston, and the intellectual and cultural trends that shaped its founding mission and sustained its early curriculum.

Terry A. Barnhart is professor of history at Eastern Illinois University. He holds a B.S. in education from Miami (1975), and a Ph. D. in history from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio (1989).

In Search of Eden: America's Endless Journey Toward School Reform

Dr. Charles Titus, Assistant Professor, History

In newspapers and magazines, on television and the internet, there seems to be almost daily commentary about the need to change American education. Professor Titus will examine the phenomenon of school reform as it has appeared in America during the past century, trace the significant reform currents that emerged during that time, and offer an assessment of where this seemingly endless journey toward reforming the nation's schools has led thus far.



Charles Titus is an assistant professor of history and coordinator of social science studies (a teacher education program for history and social science majors) at Eastern Illinois University. He received a B.S. in education (history) and a M.A. in history from Eastern Illinois University and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Indiana University, Bloomington.



Thursday, October 14
4:30 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

School Days...Ah Yes, I Remember Them Well

Members of the Past - Forward Memoir Writing Group



Ruth Jaenike
Marilyn Dudley
Trisha Burrus
Jane Gilbert
Marty Gabriel
Julie Rea
Daiva Markelis
Bill Heyduck
Janet Messinger

A Requiem to a Rural One-Room School
One-Room Country School
Walking Without a Cell Phone in My Pocket
The Training School & TC High
Second Grade
Zullinger School
Catholic Grade School Memories
The Substitute Teacher
Junior High Gym Class



Members of the Past - Forward Memoir Writing Group share their school memories. The group, sponsored by the Coles County Arts Council, first met April 25, 2008. The writing group is composed of individuals from different backgrounds who have multiple interests, as well as different levels of writing skills, styles, and experience.

Two memoir sessions are held each month; focus is on developing and enhancing individual writing skills. The Second Friday Group meets from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Coles County Life Span Center. The Last Friday Group meets from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Charleston Carnegie Public Library. Individuals are welcome to attend one or both sessions. Workshops and guest speakers are also scheduled throughout the year to educate and inspire the writers. For more information contact Janet Messinger at 217-348-1475.



Thursday, October 14

7:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Discovering Normal Schools through Primary Documents

Marie Fero, Assistant Professor,

Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle-Level Education

Sheila Lambert, Title I Reading Teacher,

Arland D. Williams Junior Elementary, Mattoon



This session will take a look at the history of the preparation of teachers. Primary sources are used to demonstrate how the traditional normal school practices compare and contrast to those used in colleges of education today.

Dr. Fero, assistant professor of early childhood, elementary and middle level education at Eastern Illinois University holds degrees in music, elementary education, and educational leadership. She has served as a teacher of K-12 music, elementary classroom, Title I classroom, and gifted education. She has been an elementary principal, chair of education, and an instructor of teacher education at six institutions around the country.

Sheila Lambert is a Title I reading teacher at Arland D. Williams Junior Elementary in the Mattoon Community Unit School District #2. She holds both a B.S. and M.S. in elementary education from Eastern Illinois University.



Tuesday, October 19

7:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Film - *Blackboard Jungle* (1955)

Moderated by David Bell, Professor, Booth Library

Glenn Ford plays Richard Dadier, an eager new teacher at the inner-city North Manual High in this film which examines school issues still controversial such as race, sexuality, violence, and apathy. Ford's idealistic determination to make a difference brings him into conflict with a group of young rebels led by Vic Morrow and the legendary Sidney Poitier. Directed by Richard Brooks. (101 minutes)



Wednesday, October 20
4:00 p.m. Buzzard Hall Auditorium



Essential Legal Concepts for Teachers in the PK-12 School

John Dively, Associate Professor and Chair of the Educational Leadership Department

This program is designed to provide attendees with a basic legal overview of issues that pertain specifically to new teachers entering the PK-12 educational environment. Specifically, the presenter will interactively review with the audience important developments in the most litigious areas of education including: tort liability, search and seizure, religion in public schools, teacher-student relationships, student discipline, teacher tenure, teacher termination, teacher free speech rights, student free speech rights, electronic gadgets, special education, response to intervention, acceptable use policies, and any other school law topic raised for discussion by the audience.

John Dively is associate professor and chair of the educational leadership department at Eastern Illinois University. Although he enjoys teaching courses related to educational research methods, school-community relations, personnel administration and the principalship, his special area of interest is public school education law. Dr. Dively has a law degree from the Southern Illinois University School of Law and a doctorate in education from Illinois State University. During his career, he practiced law for five years and served as a school administrator for thirteen years—all in Illinois. Prior to accepting his current position at Eastern, Dr. Dively was Executive Director of a state-wide organization for principals. He is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association Education Law Section.

Monday, October 25

2:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Early English Instruction at Eastern Illinois University

Angela Vietto, Associate Professor, English

Kim Hunter-Perkins, English graduate student

John Klyczek, English graduate student

Jacob D. Smith, English undergraduate student

Following a number of lines of inquiry related to institutional history of English studies, Dr. Vietto and a group of students she is mentoring will discuss their project to utilize the resources in University Archives and Special Collections to learn about the early history of instruction in English at Eastern Illinois University.



Angela Vietto is an associate professor of English at Eastern Illinois University and is affiliate faculty in women's studies. She studies and teaches colonial and revolutionary American literature, with interests in gender studies and publishing history. She received her Ph.D. in English from Pennsylvania State University, where she also completed her undergraduate and post graduate degrees. Dr. Vietto also serves as the faculty mentor for a collaborative research project with a group of English majors.

Kim Hunter-Perkins, an M.A. student at Eastern Illinois University, is recipient of the 2010-2011 Provost's Research Assistantship.

John Klyczek is a graduate student in English at Eastern Illinois University.

Jacob D. Smith is an undergraduate student in English at Eastern Illinois University.

Monday, October 25
7:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440



Westfield College: An Experiment in Morality

Ryan D'Arcy, History graduate student, Eastern Illinois University

In 1861, the United Brethren in Christ founded the Westfield Seminary, which three years later, in 1865, was incorporated as a coeducational college known as the Westfield College. This presentation will focus on the College's mission to educate the faithful as well as the United Brethren's abolitionist, pacifist, and egalitarian viewpoints. The equal treatment of women will be examined, as well as how the college worked within the wider context of its home community and the educational system of the United States.



Ryan D'Arcy was raised in Westfield, Illinois, and grew up two blocks from the site of Westfield College. His interest in the College developed early in his life, and was pursued throughout his academic career. Ryan graduated in 2003 as salutatorian of the Casey-Westfield High School, and has been awarded two degrees from Eastern Illinois University—a B.A. in history and a B.A. in secondary education. He is currently working on his Master's thesis, which will complete his third degree from Eastern Illinois University.

Tuesday, October 26
7:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440



Film – *Stand and Deliver* (1988)

Moderated by David Bell, Professor, Booth Library

Edward James Olmos stars as Jaime Escalante in this story of a teacher who turns a group of troubled Latino teens into students so dedicated that their scores on advanced placement calculus tests are initially met with disbelief. Based on a true story, this stirring film demonstrates how a group of students were able to make academic history with the help of an inspirational, clever, and resourceful teacher. (103 minutes)

Wednesday, October 27

3:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Re-Visioning Education

Chris Kahler, Professor, Art Department

Students from Painting III class, Eastern Illinois University

The Eastern Illinois University Art Department is pleased to present the Painting III class' visual interpretation of their educational history combined with a historical interpretation of the advancement of education in Illinois. Responses vary from a nostalgic look back on their personal recollections to an insightful and realistic depiction of factual events and places. Come and see for yourself the wide variety of responses students have while participating within the system in which they critique.



Chris Kahler received his B.F.A. at Ohio Wesleyan University in 1991. Within his junior year of college, he spent a semester abroad at Parson's School of Art And Design and the American University in Paris, France. He then went on for an M.A. at Eastern Illinois University in 1992 and an M.F.A. from Northwestern University in 1995 where he studied with Ed Paschke, James Valerio, and William Conger. He has been teaching at Eastern Illinois University since 1999, where he is professor of painting and drawing and graduate coordinator for the Art Department.

Student Artists



Jennifer M. Bagwell
Eric W. Bartl
Hannah L. Brinson
Nathan H. Doering
Alice R. Ellsworth
Sarah E. Gillespie
Sarah E. Olson
Klent R. Smith

Art
Teacher Certification, Art
Studio Art (below)
Studio Art, Film Studies minor
Art
Studio Art, Biological Sciences minor (left)
Art
Art



Tuesday, November 2
4:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Little Schoolhouse on the Prairie

Elizabeth "Ellie" Carlson, Illinois Humanities Council Road Scholar

A costumed interpretation of a typical school day in northern Illinois, circa 1858. Ellie, dressed in appropriate period clothing, becomes schoolteacher Miss Isabella Hoffmann. Participants will travel back in time to 1858 and be given arithmetic, geography, recitation, and penmanship lessons.



Elizabeth Carlson, also known as Ellie, is a museum curator with twenty-five years of experience in small and mid-sized museums. She currently serves as the Curator of Costume for the Winnetka Historical Society, but, as that is a part-time appointment, she also works with many other historical societies on special projects and exhibits. Ellie has a B.A. with honors from Roosevelt University and a M.A. in historical administration and museum studies from the University of Kansas. She completed her professional internship at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in the Division of Costume in 1987. She has mounted over thirty museum exhibitions, moved the entire collection of six institutions, and is the recipient of over twenty awards from the Illinois Association of Museums, the Illinois State Historical Society, and the American Association for State and Local History.



Tuesday, November 2

7:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Film - *Freedom Writers* (2007)

Moderated by David Bell, Professor, Booth Library



Based on the best-selling book *The Freedom Writers Diary*, this film tells the story of Erin Gruwell, an inner-city teacher faced with the daunting task of reaching a group of teens labeled as "unteachable" by an indifferent system. Gruwell rises to the challenge by encouraging the students to find their own voice and tell their stories. In the process, the teens learn about tolerance and discover their hidden potential. Two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank leads a cast including Patrick Dempsey of Grey's Anatomy and recording artist Mario. (123 minutes)

Wednesday, November 3

4:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Critical Educational Ontology

Gustavo Albear, Assistant Professor, Secondary Education and Foundations

This presentation examines the education model of Critical Educational Ontology (CEO) which focuses on the constructive criticality that education should develop in a student. It looks to the student's educational career as an ontological development process; the process of a being, the student, in the act of becoming individually better as a person and as a member of a society over time.



CEO defines this goodness or betterment as a focal shift from an econo-centric mentality, subsidized by the hegemonic controlling power structure, to an aesthetic of existence that is dependent on the creation of beauty in or through a chosen process, or in the case of the student, a major.

Gustavo Albear received his Ph.D. in curriculum, instruction and media technology at Indiana State University. At Eastern Illinois University, Professor Albear holds the rank of assistant professor in the department of secondary education and foundations. Gus has been an academic advisor at Eastern for the Gateway program with the Office of Minority Affairs.

Thursday, November 4
4:00 p.m. Library Conference Room 4440

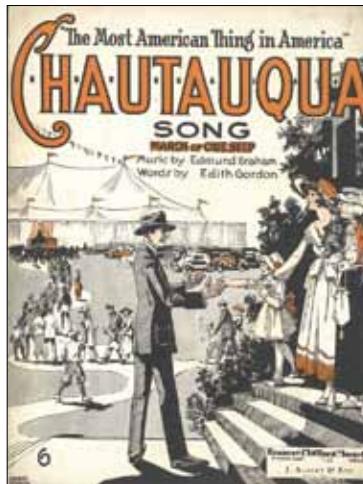
Chautauqua Yesterday-Consortium Today

William A. Smith, Professor Emeritus, Recreational Administration



This presentation will draw a parallel between the historic development and widespread activities of the Chautauqua education process and the present day revitalization of the consortial educational process. Consortia are generally external to the institution and are focused on a particular set of activities, thereby overcoming the holism of an institution. In consortium education, a new set of relationships, a new learning environment, and new rules are in effect. These and other related issues will be presented.

William A. Smith is professor emeritus of recreational administration at Eastern Illinois University. He has served as dean and faculty member in the National Outdoor Recreation Rural Tourism Consortium. He is an avid collector and researcher of Chautauqua postcards and ephemera.



Tuesday, November 9

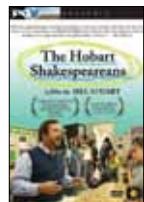
7:00 p.m. Booth Library Conference Room 4440

Documentaries

Moderated by David Bell, Professor, Booth Library

The Hobart Shakespeareans (2005)

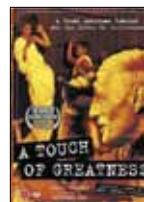
Imagine the sight and sound of American nine- and eleven- year-old children performing Shakespeare's *Hamlet* or *Henry V* and understanding every word they recite. Imagine them performing well enough to elicit praise from such accomplished Shakespearean actors as Ian McKellen and Michael York, and to be invited to perform with the Royal Shakespeare Company in England. Now imagine those kids are recent Mexican and Korean immigrants attending a large Los Angeles inner-city public school in one of America's toughest neighborhoods. *The Hobart Shakespeareans* discovers how one man's uncommon commitment and resourcefulness have opened up worlds of opportunity for his disadvantaged students and perhaps have demonstrated a way forward for America's beleaguered public education system. (53 minutes)



A Touch of Greatness (2003)

In the 1960's, Albert Cullum rejected Dick and Jane for Shakespeare and Sophocles in his elementary school classroom, where students swam down the Mississippi River and hurled themselves from the walls of Troy without leaving school grounds. This portrait of America's most influential educator shows how Cullum ignited the imagination of a generation of children, teaching them how to find their own inner greatness.

(56 minutes)

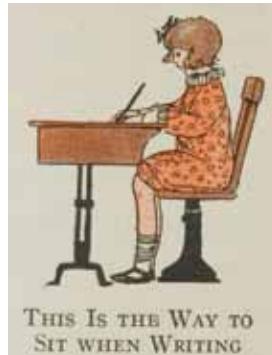


David Bell is a reference librarian and professor of Library Services at Booth Library. He earned his M.S. in library and information science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and an M.A. in English literature at Northern Illinois University. He is the subject bibliographer for journalism, theatre arts, recreation administration and kinesiology/sports studies. David coordinates the film presentations for this exhibition. His current research includes the creation of an online digital resource of *The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan*, which will provide online access to valuable information about the history of theatrical performance in downstate Illinois. Through an arrangement with Sullivan, Illinois' Little Theatre on the Square, 50-plus years of theater programs and some additional ephemera have been preserved.





A kindergarten student at Dalton City Grade School awaits instructions for his next task, 1992. (DH)



THIS IS THE WAY TO
SIT WHEN WRITING



Color art from early twentieth century children's books in the Booth Library collection.



Mt. Zion Intermediate School sixth grade pupils shout the fifth graders, 1988. (DH)