

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to announce **Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke**, Professor in the Department of Human Services, as the recipient of the 2022 CHHS Hanner Teaching Excellence Award. Dr. O'Rourke has been a faculty member at EIU since 2001. Her subject matter expertise is in the areas of intergenerational programming between older adults with dementia and preschool-aged children. Her nominators praised Dr. O'Rourke's teaching practices and dedication to students, stating:



*"Each class has been beautifully structured, engaging, and manageable, all due to Dr. O'Rourke's knowledge and never-ending support...She encourages her students to strive for excellence and rise up to meet any challenges presented... her passion and commitment to her students is extraordinary...I am a better version of myself because of her and I truly do not know if there are enough words to express my gratitude"*

While an in-person celebration and recognition of this outstanding achievement in the College will take place at the beginning of the Fall 2022 semester, please join me in congratulating Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke as the recipient of the 2022 CHHS Hanner Teaching Excellence Award, and thanking her for setting a great example of instructional excellence.

We are grateful to Dr. Mary Anne Hanner and her husband Dale Hanner for their continuing support of the mission of CHHS, and the members of the CHHS Research and Scholarship Committee for their excellent selection.

Once again, congratulations on receiving this recognition from your peers.

Sincerely,

Ryan C. Hendrickson  
L.M. Hamand Dean of the Graduate School  
Acting Dean - College of Health and Human Services  
Eastern Illinois University

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***About the Hanner Teaching Excellence Award***

*Established in the College of Health and Human Services during the 2019-2020 academic year, the Hanner Teaching Excellence Award celebrates and honors consistent excellence in teaching. Nominees must be full-time faculty (tenured, tenure-track, or annually contracted faculty) with at least three consecutive academic years of employment at Eastern Illinois University, and who have not received the award previously. The CHHS Scholarship and Achievement Committee, with faculty representation from each academic unit in the college, reviews each nomination and forwards a recommendation to the Dean's Office for consideration. The award is made possible through the generous support of **Dr. Mary Anne Hanner**, former Dean of the College of Sciences, and her husband, **Dale Hanner**.*