

**College of Education and
Professional Studies**

Faculty Retirees

2017-2018

Dr. Steven Conn

17.5 Years of Service

Ms. Joan McCausland

30 Years of Service

**College of Education and
Professional Studies**

**2018 Alumni Awards &
Faculty Retirement
Recognition**

Welcome

Recognition of Retiring Faculty

Dr. Doug Bower, Dean

**Introduction of Honorees and
Presentation of Alumni Awards**

CEPS Alumni Board

Closing Remarks

Ms. Sheila Lambert, Chair, CEPS Alumni Board

2015
CEPS Alumni Award
Recipients

CEPS Rising Star

Candice Holbrook
Katie Lewis
Melissa McConaha
Leah Reynolds
Lisa Taylor

Leadership & Service

Chelsey Byers
Carey Dahnke
Bridgette Hensley
Andy Kistler
Julie Wollerman

Lifetime Achievement

Chuck Balling
Barbara Hundley
Richard James
Carol Schramm
William Thiel

2014
CEPS Alumni Award
Recipients

CEPS Rising Star

Adam Karcz
Jessica Leach
Joe Sornberger
Sarah Watson

Leadership & Service

Richard "Corky" Emberson
Angela Gentry
Ruth Kissner

Lifetime Achievement

Steve Allen
Suzanne Barchers
Kent Johnson
David Stotlar

Hilary Cecil

CEPS Rising Star

Hilary graduated with a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and Sports Studies (KSS) from Eastern Illinois University in 2012. Continuing with her studies, she received a master's degree in KSS with a concentration in exercise science in 2013. While a graduate student, she was also an exercise science graduate assistant, where she taught undergraduate activity courses; supervised undergraduate students in the Assessment, Testing, and Prescription Lab; and worked with the EIU Adult Fitness Program.

After graduating from EIU, she obtained a position as a cardiology technician at Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes, Indiana. In this role, she performed diagnostic stress testing for patients, and after several years was promoted as the first clinical exercise physiologist to work in cardiac rehabilitation at Good Samaritan.

She took the position with the vision of reconstructing the current cardiac rehab program and providing the department with the knowledge and skills she gained from her EIU education.

As an exercise specialist in cardiac rehabilitation, she works alongside the cardiology patient and family educators, cardiologists, and department nurses to reconstruct the existing Phase 2 Program (acute cardiac event monitored patients) by adding an education component for the patients, adding a detailed exercise prescription according to the patient's need, implementing a new Phase 3 Cardiac Rehab Program (risk reduction and non-acute cardiac patients) and participating in community outreach programs.

Her goal is to continue to grow the Cardiac Rehabilitation program by adding more exercise classes for special populations (such as diabetes, weight loss, flexibility and stability) and facilitating opportunities to raise awareness of heart health in the community.

In addition to working at Good Samaritan, she is a fitness instructor and personal trainer at Transformations (an all-women's gym) and a basic life support instructor for the American Heart Association. She resides in Olney, Illinois with her husband, Stephen, and their two dogs, Diesel and Duke.



Tina Stovall

Lifetime Achievement

After transferring to Eastern Illinois University from Lake Land College, Tina (Brown) Stovall earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling. She initially pursued a career in community counseling before accepting a position as an academic counselor at Lake Land College. As an academic counselor, and later director of counseling, Tina served students throughout their community college lifespan, from admission to graduation and beyond. One of the highlights of her initial years at Lake Land was developing and implementing a credit-bearing student success course to help students make a successful transition to college and improve their chances for success all along the way.

To support her interest in a long-term career in college student development, Tina pursued a doctorate in Community College Leadership at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She served as a graduate research assistant and was named as a Carl W. Knox Fellow. Her dissertation research allowed further pursuit of her interest in the impact of participation in a student success course on academic performance. Her study was recognized as the Dissertation of the Year by the National Council on Student Development.



After receiving her doctorate degree, Tina relocated to serve as dean for Counseling, Advising and Multicultural Student Affairs at Moraine Valley Community College. After spending her life in rural Illinois, the move provided an exciting opportunity to live and work in a new environment as she provided leadership for implementing a comprehensive First Year Experience program, including a mandatory success course, for all new students. At Moraine, Tina was recognized with the Vernon O. Crawley Leadership Award.

In 2006, Tina left Moraine to return to Lake Land College to serve as Vice President for Student Services. In this position she enjoys working with talented staff and students across the college to provide an excellent educational experience for all students. She also enjoys the opportunity to support EIU College Student Affairs graduate students.

Throughout her career, Tina has been active in the National Council on Student Development and the Illinois Community Colleges Chief Student Services Officers. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Sarah Bush Lincoln Health System and has previously served on the Board of Directors for Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Charleston Chamber of Commerce.

Christine Foster

CEPS Rising Star



Christine Foster graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a middle school endorsement and concentration in mathematics.

During her time at Eastern she was very involved in a variety of activities including the Black Student Union and the Minority Teacher Education Association. Among other roles, she was a Peer Mentor Leader and a Prowl Leader.

Shortly after graduating Christine was a full-time nanny. She was offered a permanent substitute position at Lorenzo R. Smith Sustainability and Technology Academy, located in her hometown of Pembroke Township, Illinois. After working for six months as a permanent substitute she was offered a full-time teaching position at the elementary level. She taught 1st grade, 2nd grade, and is currently teaching at the middle level.

In her spare time, she can be seen supporting many of her students' extra-curricular activities — cheering them on the sideline at their local parade, attending their athletic games and musical concerts, as well as volunteering at the back-to-school kickoff, where she supervised recreational activities for both older and younger students in her school district this year.

Most recently, she can be seen in a video entitled "For The A Challenge", where she is motivating her students to strive for excellence through a rap remix. It has been posted and shared via the Black Educators Rock (BER) Facebook page, which allows black education professionals to share resources, photographs, videos, and other pieces of information that may be valuable to this under-represented population nationwide.

Christine continues to be a leader in her hometown, as she always greets students with warm smiles, hugs, jokes, and words of encouragement in the classroom and the community. She not only creates engaging lessons for her students, but also works diligently with their families in an effort to provide support where needed.

She also worked with Kankakee Community College as a General Education Development teacher for two years. She is in her fourth year of teaching at Lorenzo R. Smith Sustainability and Technology Academy as the middle school math teacher. She greatly enjoys the school and the community she works in—there is no place like home!

Kay Bales

Lifetime Achievement



Kay earned a master's degree in Education in Guidance and Counseling/College Student Personnel from Eastern Illinois University in 1987. She has spent nearly 29 years working at Ball State University, now serving as Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Services and Dean of Students. Kay leads a team of nearly 500 employees and oversees the division's total operating budgets of nearly \$65 million and financial aid budgets totaling \$265 million.

She provides executive leadership for the departments of Undergraduate Admissions & Orientation; Financial Aid & Scholarships; Housing and Residence Life; Counseling Center; Health, Alcohol and Drug Education; Health Center; Public Safety and Parking Services; Career Center; Student Life; Student Rights and Community Standards; Multicultural Center; Disabled Student Development; Student Center, Retention and Graduation; Student Legal Services;

Title IX and Victim Services. Additionally, Kay serves as a faculty member of the Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education master's program.

Since leading Ball State's retention efforts, student persistence (a measure of retention) has increased more than 8 percentage points. During her tenure at Ball State she has acquired more than 3.5 million dollars in external funding to support student success. One example is the development of the Achievements app, targeting at risk students. The app has brought great national and international attention to how gamification can be used to support student success. This project has been written about in national forums such as The Chronicle of Higher Education, The New York Times, Campus Technology Magazine and Education Dive as well as having received national and international accolades.

At heart a student advocate, Kay has developed numerous student leadership and development programs serving thousands through the years. Kay has been instrumental in facilitating campus building projects including the University Police department, Student Center, two new residence halls and comprehensive renovations of three residence halls.

Kortney Jones

CEPS Rising Star

Kortney Jones earned a master's in College Student Affairs from Eastern Illinois University in May 2013. Upon graduating, she began her career at her alma mater, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) in the Office of Student Financial Aid as a Student Financial Aid Administrator.

One of the duties in her role was serving as the Coordinator for the America Reads America Counts program that placed college students in underserved elementary and middle schools to tutor youth in math, reading and language arts. She worked with several community educators and administrators to improve the program to continue to meet the needs of the Champaign-Urbana community.

In 2014, Kortney started working for UIUC's University Housing as a Residence Hall Director (RD). During her tenure as a RD she also advised the Central Black Student Union (CBSU). She led the CBSU in hosting two regional conferences on campus titled, "Our Place at a Predominantly White Institution" and "Building the Bridge: Uniting Predominantly White Institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities." These conferences yielded visitors from over 10 different campuses with an attendance of over 150 participants. She supported the CBSU in a plethora of large scale events geared towards the African American community, focused on social needs as well as on social justice.

Currently, Kortney serves as the Coordinator for New Student Programs in the College of Engineering. She oversees the summer registration program/procedures for all the major departments for incoming freshman/transfer students. She coordinates undergraduate recruitment efforts on behalf of the college, co-leading the college recruitment committee which plans on- and off-campus recruitment efforts to attract more women and underrepresented minorities to engineering.

While working toward her master's degree in the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs, Kortney obtained a Master of Divinity through Christ Ministries, Inc. School of Divinity and was licensed and ordained as a minister. She is a wife, mother of 1.5, and Pastor of Acts Campus Ministry at UIUC which she and her husband have co-pastored since 2015.



Terry Tumbarello

Leadership & Service

Terry Tumbarello graduated from Eastern Illinois University with a bachelor's degree in business and finance, and received his master's degree in college student personnel. As an undergraduate, he worked as a Resident Assistant in Carman Hall and was involved in student organizations such as the



Residence Hall Association, the National Residence Hall Honorary and BACCHUS. As a graduate assistant for University Housing and Dining, he served as an Associate Hall Counselor and worked in the Office of AIDS, Alcohol & Drug Information.

After graduation, Terry accepted a position at Illinois College in Jacksonville where he served as an Area Director/Coordinator for Drug & Alcohol Education. He moved on to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (UWW) where he has been a Complex Director, Coordinator for Community Development, Assistant Director of Residence Life, Interim Dean of Students, and is currently the Associate Director of University Housing. Terry has also taught the New Student Seminar course at UWW for the last nineteen years, a course he first co-taught at EIU as a practicum for his graduate program.

Professionally, Terry has been involved in many higher education professional associations, such as the Upper Midwest Region Association of College and University Housing Officers (UMR-ACUHO) and the Association of College and University Housing Officers International (ACUHO-I). Terry recently stepped down from the UMR-ACUHO Leadership Team after serving 14 years, including as Association President. Currently, he is serving on UMR-ACUHO's Strategic Planning Task Force and ACUHO-I's Public Policy Advisory Committee.

In 2017, Terry was selected to serve as a faculty member for the National Housing Training Institute at the University of South Florida. Terry was selected to be the recipient of the Robert E. Mosier UMR-ACUHO Professional Enrichment Award for his work with mentoring new professionals into the field of higher education administration, also in 2017.

Terry and his partner, Cheryl, live in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin and are the proud parents of three children, Joey, Tommy and Jenny and their three dogs, Shadow, Molly and Kody. Terry and Cheryl met at EIU and have been married since 1994. His interests include spending time with friends and family, movies, reading, investing, fishing, boating, and coaching and playing baseball.

Samantha Rosell

CEPS Rising Star

Sam's commitment to special education and disability advocacy began in high school, when she accepted her first job as a recreation leader at a day camp for children with special needs. At EIU, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Special Education, she was absolutely inspired by the passion of professors like Dr. Melissa Jones-Bromenshenkel and Mrs. Sandy Johnson.

In 2015, Sam was accepted into the special education graduate program at University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) through Project PULSSE (Preparing Urban Leaders in Secondary Special Education) and Project SET (Seamless and Effective Transition) where she earned a Master's degree in Special Education with LBS IIs in Transition, Multiple Disabilities, Curriculum Adaptation and Technology.



Currently, Sam is in her 5th year as a special education teacher at Thornton Fractional North High School. She runs the SUCCESS Program, a district-wide self-contained functional program for students with low-incidence and multiple disabilities to strengthen and prepare them for the complexities of life after high school. One of Sam's primary focuses is parent empowerment, and accordingly, she created numerous events to support the families of her students.

Among these initiatives is hosting "Community Conversations" which bring together students with and without disabilities, parents, siblings, teachers and community members to talk about the challenges and opportunities that exist within the school and local community. The program also encourages student-led IEP meetings, in which her students take ownership over their disability and gain a strong, deeply-personal understanding of their strengths, needs and preferences.

Outside of her program, Sam has given presentations at the school, local and state level. Within her school, she provides ongoing paraprofessional training - helping the support staff within the self-contained programs to develop a stronger understanding of special education. Sam also presented at Equip for Equality in May 2016 with a group of colleagues from UIC about community integration, sharing strategies for parents and service providers.

Sam was named the Calumet City Teacher of the Year by the Lion's Club in 2016, and received the Thornton Fractional North Award of Excellence in 2017 for her contributions to the school community. Her career in special education is off to a fantastic start—Sam can't wait to see what the future holds!

Angela McQueen

Leadership & Service



Angie graduated from EIU with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Physical Education in December 1999. She started teaching math at Danville High School in January 2000. Angie substituted during the Fall 2000 semester and began teaching math at Mattoon High School (MHS) in January 2001.

She continued teaching math full-time until 2012 when she switched to teaching physical education. The following year Angie began teaching both physical education and math. She enjoys helping students that struggle in math but she also enjoys teaching kids about lifelong fitness and exposing them to non-traditional sports such as indiaca, kio rahi, rugby, lacrosse, and Gaelic football.

Angie earned a master's degree in educational administration at EIU in December 2008 and completed her educational specialist degree in December 2014. She wrote and received a grant from Action for Healthy Kids to help students improve their knowledge of lifelong fitness. While the MHS physical education department was already working with Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Systems, checking participating students' BMI (body mass index), the grant made it possible for Angie to purchase resistance bands and other exercise equipment, as well as DVDs such as T25, zumba, and yoga.

Her goal was to expose students to lifelong fitness and engage them with physical activities that they can continue to do as they age. The school also held a badminton tournament and dance workshop (hosted by a fellow teacher who is also a dance instructor in Urbana, Illinois.) At the end of the grant program, the male and female students with the greatest improvement in their BMI received an incentive.

In addition to being a Mattoon assistant coach for various sports including soccer, track, and golf, Angie is currently a part of the MHS BIONIC (Believe it or not I care) transfer team which helps students that transfer to MHS from other districts get acclimated to the school. She is also part of the grief team at Mattoon High School, helping students during difficult times.

Her hobbies including reading, exercise/sports, spending time with her dogs Laddie and Leia, and being obsessed with The Walking Dead—both the TV show and graphic novel.

Anne Giarrante

Leadership & Service

Anne Giarrante graduated with a bachelor's degree in both Elementary Education and Special Education in 1998. Since then, she earned two master's degrees, one in Curriculum and Instruction, and one in Educational Leadership.

Anne began her career in 1998 in an intermediate grade self-contained classroom in the Grundy County Special Education Cooperative. In August 2001, she became a resource teacher in the Oswego School District 308 and her career has been on an upward trajectory since she accepted her first administrative position as an assistant principal in that district in August of 2004.

Anne served as a principal and then director of special education in West Aurora, and is currently director of student services in Geneva Community Unit School District 304. In each role, she has provided leadership for educational initiatives in the given districts.

As a director, Anne created new programs and refined existing ones to support student needs including: Alternative Learning Opportunities Program, Functional Academic Skills Training, Structured Learning Classrooms, and instructional level classes. She has led, supported, and trained staff on a variety of new initiatives including: Writing Effective Functional Behavior Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans, Individualized Education Plan Facilitation, Assessment for Instruction, Specialized Instruction in Core Subject Area, and Social Emotional Programming and Supports. Each of these has resulted in enhancing the education of students and staff across the districts she serves.

Anne is dedicated to supporting students, staff, and families, focusing her administrative career on working with teams of educators and others to develop innovative new programs. She strives to develop leaders because she believes that every person has a unique strength. Anne also believes that "building people" is the greatest contribution an administrator can make to the district, to its students and to the community.

Involved in many professional organizations that sustain her national and local connections, Anne has presented at numerous seminars on a variety of topics related to special education. She is grateful to be a member of the Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education as well as the Council for Exceptional Children.

