

# College of Education

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™



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## NEWS FROM THE DEAN



DR. HENDERSON

### **COLLEGE NEWS ... Making a Way for Others to Follow:**

COE alumni **Alan Zuber, Andrea Zuber, Mary Zuber, and Judy Zuber** contributed a combined gift of \$156,000 to establish the **Alberta and Raymond Zuber Future Teachers Scholarship** in honor of their parents. The scholarships will be awarded to elementary and middle school education majors from Clay,

Edgar, Effingham, Jasper, Lawrence, or Richland counties.

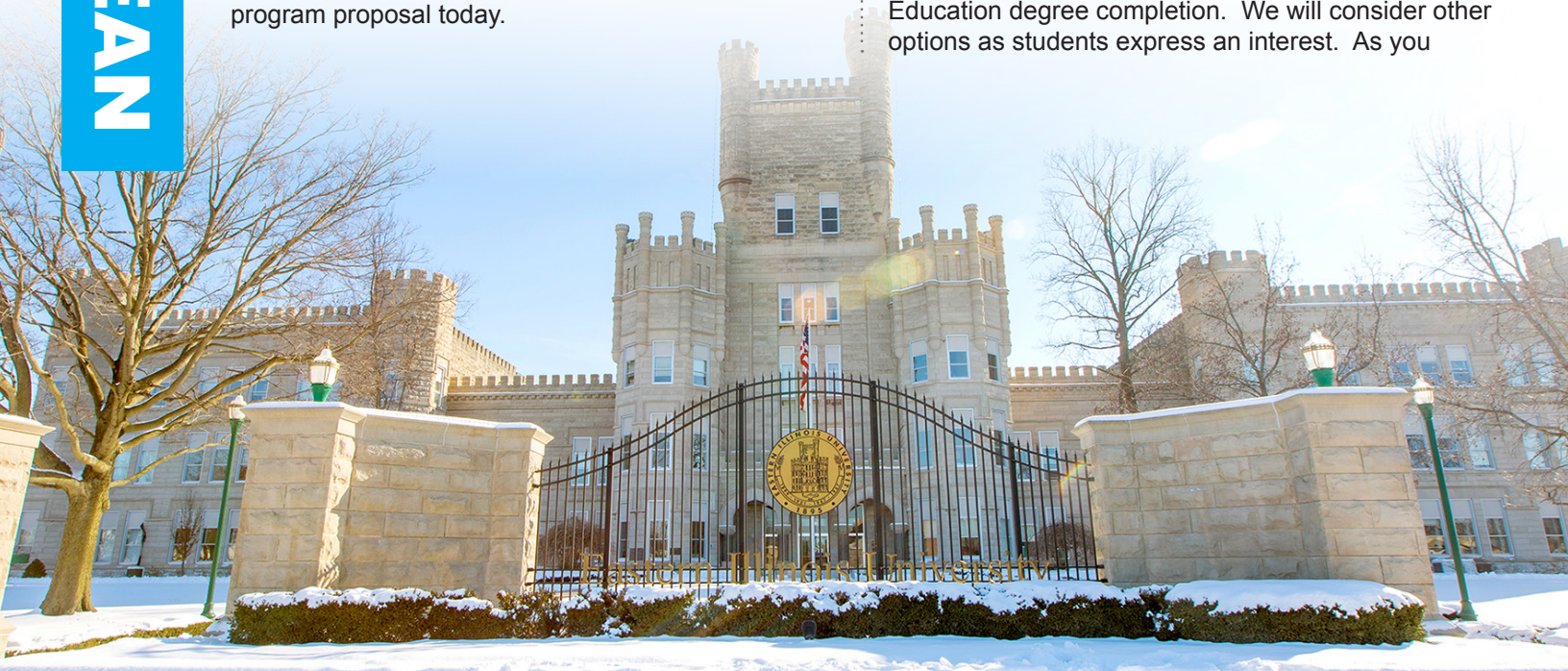
Thank you, Zuber family! We appreciate all that you do to support us in our mission to graduate teachers who will return to our communities.

**PDI:** Its official ... the **Professional Development Institute** is now a part of the School of Extended Learning and the College of Education. This is an opportunity for you to meet some of the professional development needs and desire for lifelong learning of our alumni, partners, and community members. See **Peggy Brown** or **Dr. Stephen Lucas** to submit your program proposal today.

**Dual Credit Courses:** Teaching, Learning, and Foundations is now offering **EDU 2555G: Education in a Diverse Society: The Multilingual/Multicultural Classroom** as a dual credit course with Unit 4 Champaign during the 2021-2022 academic year. We hope that this encourages students to engage in one of the many pathways to teacher certification.

**Scaling Education Pathways:** One of those pathways is a collaborative project between ROE 9 (Champaign-Ford Regional Office), Mahomet-Seymour School District, Rantoul Township High School, Parkland College, and Education for Employment System 330. The primary focus is to reduce the teacher shortage in Illinois, particularly the Central Illinois area, by reaching out to high school and middle school students to promote education as a career pathway. The goal is to create an Education Pathway endorsement on the high school diploma for the graduation class of 2023.

**New Special Ed and Elementary Ed “Grow Your Own” Cohorts in Champaign:** Also in partnership with ROE 9 (Champaign-Ford Regional Office), we will offer teacher education cohorts in Champaign beginning in the fall of 2021. As of now, we have interest in Special Education and Elementary Education degree completion. We will consider other options as students express an interest. As you



*“You rarely have time for everything you want in this life, so you need to make choices. And hopefully your choices can come from a deep sense of who you are.”*

*... Mr. Rogers*



know, this is one way that we seek to meet the educational needs of our region. Please see your department chair if you are interested in teaching in Champaign.

**Illinois Department of Correction:** Under **Jim Howley's** leadership, the College recently entered into an agreement to offer the Bachelors of General Studies program at Danville Correctional Center to offenders wanting Associate Degrees or the equivalent. Research shows that employment opportunities upon release are greatly increased, and chances of recidivism are decreased, when those who are incarcerated obtain an education.

**Digital Literacy:** Congratulations to Booth Library for receiving a Community Technology Center Grant Program from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. **Dean Newell's** vision for Booth Library is to be a regional hub for a digital literacy program, with computer access, to the general public to become instructors to offer basic computer skills training to communities across the region. We will partner with them in this planning as local high school teachers and students will be among those who are trained to support their communities. We look forward to this exciting and important venture.

**COVID:** Just a note of thanks to all of you who continue to wear masks, maintain social distance, and wash your hands

regularly. You are doing an excellent job of modeling this behavior for students and at keeping us all safe and healthy. Keep up the good work!

### FOCUS ON FACULTY ...

**Dr. David Bartz's** (EDL) article, "*Higher Education Administrators Attaining Excellence*," was recently published in the *Journal of Higher Education Management*. Congratulations Dr. Bartz!

I'm sorry to report that another colleague and alumna, **Dr. Judith Lyles** has recently passed away. Dr. Lyles was a valued faculty member in CSD for many years and retired in the mid-2000s. The funeral was held this past Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at the Mitchell-Jordan Funeral Home in Mattoon. You can see the obituary, and post your condolences, [on the funeral home's website](#). We wish her family all the best as they grieve Dr. Lyles passing.





## AWARDS & HONORS ...

**Alexandra Thompson's** (CHA) master's thesis, "*Values-Based Recruitment: Recruitment Strategy Effectiveness on Gaining Generation Z Matriculation*," has been selected for the 2021 Eastern Illinois University's **Robert and Kathryn Augustine Distinguished Master's Thesis Award**. Her award includes \$500.00 and she will be featured on the cover of the *Graduate Journal of Scholarship*. Congratulations to Ms. Thompson and her mentor, **Dr. Catherine Polydore!**

**Jenny Reid's** (TLF) master's thesis, "*Growth Mindset: A Key to Motivating Students in Reading*," received the **2021 Thesis Award of Excellence in the College of Education**. The award includes \$250.00 and she will be featured in the *Graduate Journal of Scholarship*. We applaud Ms. Reid and her mentor, **Dr. Amy Davis!**

**Robin Rennels**, Office Manager for **Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society**, recently received an **Excellence Award** from ASL's Board for her dedicated service and commitment to the society and adult learners. Robin, who been with ASL for 7 years, is "honored ... and grateful to have been given the opportunity to celebrate the scholarship and leadership of adult students in higher education. Being chosen to work in this crucial position for this outstanding organization is rewarding, uplifting, and inspiring." Way to go, Robin! The award is well-deserved.

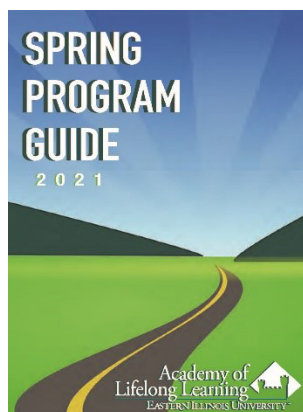


## ACADEMY OF LIFELONG LEARNING ...

Looking for something interesting to do this spring? The **Academy of Lifelong Learning's Spring 2021 Program Guide** is now available. Check out **Peggy Brown's** (SEL) class on the basics of hosting Zoom meetings, **Carole Collins Ayanlaja's** (EDL) course on traversing racialized spaces, **Amy Davis's** (TLF) program on gaining empathy and compassion by listening to the personal stories of others, as well as **Merita Metze** (ALL), and the Literary Divas book club, among many other interesting sessions. [Register today!](#)

[Check out the video](#) of Marita and some members of the Academy of Lifelong Learning's appearance on *Issues & Attitudes* program on **WEIU Radio**, in which they discuss the Academy and the impact it has on the lives of the members. It is a wonderful example of the power of continuing education. Great work, Marita!

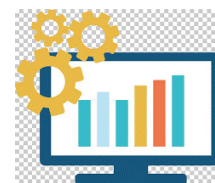
*"Thank goodness that we have the Academy of Lifelong Learning to provide the opportunity to learn about so many topics. My knowledge has been expanded*



*by being able to attend programs including those in which I previously had no interest or had never considered. Being a part of Literary Divas (book club) has resulted in an expansion of knowledge through reading books and sharing reactions on topics and insights that would have previously not entered my life. This article explains why a program like the Academy is so important for the community."* -- **Bonnie Buckley**

## UNIVERSITY-WIDE NEWS ...

**Data Analytics, Academic Advising, and Program Planning:** Predictive analytics are a wonderful tool for data informed advising, curricular planning, and retention efforts. ITS has recently created a [D/F/W Dashboard](#) for the last five years that identify the courses in which students have received A/B/Cs, D/F/Ws, credit, and no credit. Filters on the right-hand side of the screen allow the viewer to select specific student populations or courses. This is a wonderful tool to help you determine where the sticking points may be for undergraduate students in your program. Let your chair or director know if you would like access to the dashboard.



**African American Heritage Month:** The calendar of events for the virtual [African American Heritage month](#) is now available. This might serve as an opportunity to grant students some extra credit for attending an event.

**Branding:** Just a reminder to use EIU approved logos, colors, and fonts when creating EIU materials. This includes print, social media, and other digital communications. Refer to the [Marketing and Communications website](#) for a logos, guidelines, and to request assistance with marketing.



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**Knowmia:** An instructional technology now available to all faculty, staff, and students at EIU. **Knowmia** is a video creation and sharing platform that helps maximize student engagement in online courses. You can create videos or upload your own videos, pull content from YouTube or Ted Talks, and embed quizzing for added accountability as well as conversations for added engagement. It is pretty powerful and I do think COE faculty will want to learn more about it. There will be several training sessions for it, and are available for [self-register](#), as was previously have emailed to faculty – **Newton Key** (FDIC).

## News about Children's and Young Adult Literature:

The [2021 ALA Awards for youth literature](#) have been announced! *When you Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller is the **Newbery and Asian/Pacific Islander Book Award** winner. Michaela Goade is the **2021 Caldecott Medal** winner for his illustrations in *We Are Water Protectors*. Be sure to also check out the announcement for the **Newbery and Caldecott honor books** and the winners of the other ALA-sponsored awards. You are sure to find some wonderful resources to use in class, for your leisure reading, and to give as gifts from this list.