



Buzzard Hall
 600 Lincoln Ave.
 Charleston, IL, 61920
 ph: 217-581-2400

NEWSLETTER

Guiding You Into A Fulfilling Semester

WELCOME BACK, CHE PANTHERS!

The CHE faculty and staff welcomes you to a new year and a new semester of growth, discovery, and opportunity. Whether you are just beginning your academic journey with us or are continuing to build on the solid foundation you’ve already established, we are honored to have you as part of our community.

To our spring admits – Welcome to our CHE family. We deeply appreciate you choosing us for your professional educational goals.

To our second-year students – congratulations! You are almost there. Your dedication and hard work have brought you this far, and we’re thrilled to see you through.

To our international students – we hope that we are providing you with the experiences that you imagined, and we look forward to continued learning from the diverse perspectives and experiences you bring to our community.

Together, let’s make this semester one of inspiration, connection, and success.

Here’s to a wonderful Spring 2025—let’s make it remarkable!

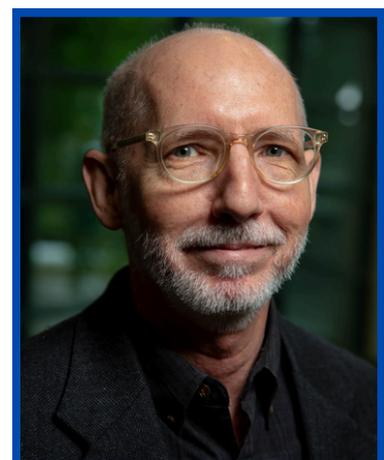
DR. ROBERTS RETIRES!

Dr. Richard (Rick) Roberts says goodbye after 28 years of service to the department. Dr Roberts arrived at EIU as chair in 1997. He served in this capacity until the summer of 2022. Under his steady leadership, CHE achieved numerous milestones, including multiple name changes, program additions and the establishment of the a multi-million dollar, Paul Ward Endowment. In his words, “I am fortunate to have worked with such talented faculty students and staff.” Thank you for your service, Dr. Roberts. We’ll miss you!

Dr Roberts’ last day is June 31st, 2025.



Catherine L. Polydore, Ph.D.
 Chair



Richard Roberts, Ph.D.,
 Professor

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STAY IN THE LOOP

PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP: Mandatory Meetings

Clinical and School Counseling students who plan to enroll in Supervised Clinical Experience (CHE 6900 & CHE 6901) or Supervised School Experience (CHE 6920 & CHE 6921) during Summer/Fall 2025 must attend one of the following mandatory informational meetings:

Clinical Counseling (Dr. Yoder)

- Monday, Feb.10 at 12:00 PM in 1103
- Wednesday, Feb.19 at 10:30 AM in 2125

School Counseling (Dr. Larson)

- Tuesday, Jan. 28th at 11:00 AM in 2125
- Tuesday, Jan. 28th at 2:30 PM in 2125

Students must attend this meeting or enrollment will not be allowed. Students who are completing 2nd semester internships at the same site as their first semester are not required to attend the meeting but do need to submit a new application and contract.

[Watch emails for Updates](#)

PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENT FOR COUNSELING STUDENTS

In order to keep up with CACREP Accreditation requirements, we require all Practicum/Internship students to obtain Individual Professional Insurance. Additional information can be found on the Student Resources Practicum/Internship page and at the link here: <https://www.eiu.edu/counseling/Professional.Liability.Coverage.starting.FALL.2020.pdf>



NCE EXAMS

Planning on taking the NCE Fall 2025?

If you are interested in taking the NCE Exam in the Fall semester 2025, please email CHE Office Manager the following information to be placed on the Department roster, which is submitted to NBCC:

- Legal first and legal last name (no nicknames or shortened names- must match ID)
- EIU email address
- degree track (clinical or school)
- expected graduation date (month/year)

Reminders will be emailed to everyone regarding deadlines.

***Please note, the Department Roster **ONLY** certifies with NBCC that you are eligible to register for the NCE. **You will still need to register for the exam and payment is required at the time of registration.** The cost is approximately \$335.00 to take the NCE.*

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

Passing the Comprehensive Examination is required for ALL 2nd Year Clinical AND School Counseling students.

This exam is offered during the fourth Thursday in March (4/3/2025- 3:00-5:00 p.m.) and the third Thursday in September (9/18/2025 - 3:00-5:00 p.m.). The test will take place in Buzzard Room 1430. If you are taking the NCE in the fall, it is suggested that you take the comprehensive examination in September in preparation for the NCE. It is required that 2nd year clinical students take the comprehensive exam in September in preparation for the NCE exam.

COUNSELOR LICENSURE

The Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing Act became effective January 1, 1993. It requires licensure to provide professional counseling services to individuals, couples, groups, families and organizations in any field of professional counseling. Application may be obtained at <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/ProfCounselor.asp>

HOODING

Hooding will take place on May 9, 2025. Please be mindful of emails as the date approaches.

GRADUATION

The last day to apply or reapply for graduation for the Spring is March 26, 2025. Applications may be obtained through the PAWS System. After signing on to PAWS, click on the Records tab to arrive at the application. Commencement will be held on May 10, 2025. Look [here](#) for information on how to apply, deadlines, ordering cap and gowns, and more.

ACCOUNTABILITY

For information on Assessment Data collected about our programs please see the following pages:

COUNSELING:

<https://www.eiu.edu/counseling/about.php>

COLLEGE STUDENT AFFAIRS:

<https://www.eiu.edu/collegestudentaffairs/about.php>

IMPORTANT DATES

January 20	MLK Day
February 14	Lincoln's Birthday
March 6	Mid-Term
March 17-21	Spring Break
May 2	Last Day of Class
May 5-9	Finals
May 9	Hooding Ceremony
May 10	Commencement

CONFERENCES

2025 NASPA Annual Conference

The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Conference will be held from March 15th - 16th, 2025 in New Orleans, LA. For more information and registration go to: [2025 NASPA International Symposium](https://2025.naspa.org/international-symposium)

2025 IL APT Annual Conference

The annual Illinois Association for Play Therapy (APT) Conference will be held on February 7th and 8th, 2025 in Oak Park, IL. For more information and registration go to: <https://ilapt.org/conferences/>

2025 ACPA Convention

American College Personnel Association (ACPA) Annual Conference will be held from February 16th - 19th, 2025 in Long Beach, CA. For more information and registration go to: <https://longbeach2025.myacpa.org/>

2025 ICA Southern Conference

The Illinois Counseling Association (ICA) Southern Conference will be held on March 21st, 2025 in Collinsville, IL. Watch the ICA for more information go to: <https://www.ilcounseling.org/events/>

2025 ACA Conference and Expo

The American Counseling Association (ACA) Conference and Expo will be held from March 27th through March 29th in Orlando Florida. This conference is dedicated to the premier professional development and networking for licensed professional counselors, students, and mental health professionals. For more information go [here](#).

Find out how to fund these conferences

AWARDS AND GRANTS

CHE encourages students to present at professional conferences.

Williams Travel Grant

Williams Travel Grants provide travel support for EIU graduate degree-seeking candidates who have papers or creative works accepted for presentation at regional, state, national or international conferences. *If the student plans to travel during both the Fall and Spring semester, they are allowed to apply for this grant twice.* The deadline for spring semester is Friday February 10th). Additional information about this grant and other awards available may be found at: http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_competitivestudent.php

Williams Travel Grant Applications may be obtained on-line at:
<http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/machform/view.php?id=17>

Eberly Wallace Professional Development Award

This award was created for the purpose of providing financial assistance to graduate students in the College Student Affairs program completing research, presenting projects, professional development and/or travel. Additional information about this award can be found in the Award Management System: <https://eiu.academicworks.com/>

Competitive Awards for Graduate Students

For a listing of all scholarships and awards available to Graduate Students, please visit the following sites:

https://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_competitivestudent.php

<https://eiu.academicworks.com/>

The CHE department highly encourages students to apply for awards to receive funding for education and conferences. Below is a list of awards dedicated specifically to graduate students.

***Please take note that some awards only accept nominations.*

- Augustine Distinguished Master's Thesis Award and MAGS Thesis Nomination
- Distinguished Graduate Student
- Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Fellowship
- EIU and MAGS Excellence in Teaching Award for Graduate Assistants
- EIU College Thesis Award of Excellence
- Graduate Alumni Board Outstanding Research/Creative Activity Award
- Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grants
- Hamand Society Scholars
- King-Mertz Distinguished Research/Creative Activity Award
- King-Mertz Research/Creative Activity College Award of Excellence
- Williams Travel Grant

GET INVOLVED

Chi Sigma Iota (CSI)

CSI is the international honor society for students, professional counselors and counselor educators. CSI's mission is to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, leadership and excellence in counseling, and to recognize high attainment in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence in the profession of counseling.

Meetings:

First meeting : January 27, 3:35pm

Location: Buzzard Room 2125

Contact: Joshua R Noe, President, jrnoe@eiu.edu

COSPA

COSPA is a student organization for graduate students in College Student Affairs for professional development, volunteering, networking, and social events. COSPA holds elections every December. Members receive cords for graduation upon completing all requirements.

Meetings:

First meeting: January 15, 10:30am

Contact: Alissa Sutton, President, ajsutton@eiu.edu

Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC)

GSAC is the representative body of the graduate student population which serves to promote interaction and involvement amongst all graduate students.

Meetings:

First meeting on January 19th at 11am in Arcola Tuscola room!

Contact: Gemin Shrestha, President, gshrestha@eiu.edu

Upcoming Campus Events

Health Internship and Job Fair	February 4
Williams Travel Grant	February 7
The Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grants	February 7
The King-Mertz Distinguished Research/Creative Activity Award	February 21
Counseling Interview Day	February 28
CSA Days	March 2-3 and 9-10
Job & Internship Fair	March 4
Annual Bonine Suicide Prevention Conference.....	March 28

STUDENT EXCELLENCE!



Counseling students Payton Turk (clinical), Madeline Hemrich (clinical), and Joshua Noe (school) under the mentorship of Dr. Yoder presented research at the International Association for Play Therapy Annual Conference 2024 in Atlanta, Georgia. #making CHE proud

From left : Josh Noe, Madeline Hemrich, Dr. Angela Yoder and Payton Turk

Well done to Alex and Megan for being recipients of EIU Division of Student Affairs Graduate Assistant of the Year Award in the for 2024!



Alex Warrick & Megan Morecraft ,
CSA



Congratulations to the 1st & 2nd year school counseling students who presented at the Illinois School Counselor Association Conference (ISCA) Presentations were made on BIONIC and Freshman Connection. #making CHE proud

From left : Josh Noe, Makayla Castle, Dr. Heidi Larson, Alana McNeely, Serena Voss, Bria Roberts and Jake Denney-Carlisle

FACULTY EXCELLENCE



Angela Yoder, Ph.D.
Professor



Heidi Larson, Ph.D.
Professor

Congratulations to Dr. Yoder and Dr. Larson for their receipt of the **Student Impact Grant** of \$1500 each.

Dr Carter and Dr Larson were the recipients of the **ACA award in service and teaching, respectively**. Big congratulations on making on your achievement!



Danessa Carter, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor



Heidi Larson, Ph.D.
Professor

ALUMNI EXCELLENCE

Four CHE alumni received awards at the College of Education Alumni Awards in the fall. Emmanuel Ayiku and Sierra Hollenbeck received the **Rising Star Award**. These awards are given to alumni within 10 years of their graduation who are making a significant contribution in their field or career. Debbi Smith and Jennifer Waller received the **Lifetime Achievement Award**. These are given to alumni who are living role models in their disciplines and have attained distinguished professional success and prominence.



Emmanuel Ayiku
CSA, 2020



Sierra Hollenbeck
CSA, 2020



Jennifer Waller
MSE, 1995



Debbi Smith
MSE, 1988

Congrats to Taylor Comer whose master's thesis, *"Incarcerated to Educated: The On Campus Experiences of College Students Post Incarceration"*, under the mentorship of Dr. Jon Coleman received the **2024-2025 EIU College Thesis Award of Excellence** for the College of Education.



Taylor Comer
CSA, 2024

PLAY THERAPY CONFERENCE

Internationally recognized expert Eliana Gil, Ph.D., RPT-S, ATR delivered an engaging presentation on The Therapeutic Power of Play and its transformative use with children and teens impacted by trauma during the 4th Annual Play Therapy Conference held on November 7, 2024. The conference brought together a community of over 150 current students, alumni, and clinicians, making it a tremendous success. Dr. Gil, a renowned authority in trauma recovery, is the senior partner of the Gil Institute for Trauma Recovery and Education in Fairfax, Virginia. Her insights and expertise continue to inspire and empower professionals dedicated to supporting people through play therapy.



PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Vital to any profession are the organizations it creates to further its standards, ethics, research, accreditation, and governance. Full-time students are offered membership at half price in any professional organization. Students are encouraged to join but are not limited to the following organizations:

Association for Play Therapy (APT)

The Association for Play Therapy (APT) is a national professional society comprised of professionals in all mental health fields across the world. APT has developed a brief video, Play Therapy Works!, that speaks to the value of play, play therapy, credentialed play therapists, and membership in the Association for Play Therapy.

For free student e-membership for Association for Play Therapy go to https://www.a4pt.org/general/register_member_type.asp?
<https://www.a4pt.org/>

American Counseling Association (ACA)

The American Counseling Association is the national professional association for counselors. ACA has been instrumental in setting professional and ethical standards for the counseling profession. The Association has made considerable strides in accreditation, licensure, and national certification. It also represents the interests of the profession before Congress and federal agencies. (ACA has 16 specialty divisions, which provide you with information and resources specific to your needs and interests.)

<http://www.counseling.org>

American College Personnel Association (ACPA)

ACPA is headquartered in Washington, D.C. at the National Center for Higher Education. They are the leading comprehensive student affairs association that advances student affairs and engages students for a lifetime of learning and discovery.

<http://www.myacpa.org/>

Illinois Counseling Association (ICA)

The Illinois Counseling Association is the state branch of the national association. The Association is an education, scientific and professional organization whose members are dedicated to the enhancement of the worth, dignity, potential, and uniqueness of each individual, and thus to the service of society. Members subscribe to the Ethical Standards of the American Counseling Association. (ICA has 8 divisions, which provide you with information and resources specific to your needs and interests.)

<http://www.ilcounseling.org>

National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)

NASPA's current mission is to serve student affairs administrators who work with students in higher education.

<http://www.naspa.org>

Faculty/Department Telephone & Room Numbers

The Department of Counseling and Higher Education is located in Room 2102, Buzzard Hall. Listed below are the faculty office numbers and emails. You should receive additional contact information directly from faculty in their respective course materials.

Area code 217-

CHE Office –	BH2102	581-2400	che@eiu.edu
C. Polydore (Chair)	BH2109	581-2400	cpolydore@eiu.edu
D. Carter	BH2104	581-2048	dacarter3@eiu.edu
J. Coleman	BH2121	581-2049	jkcoleman@eiu.edu
H. Larson	BH2114	581-2050	halarson@eiu.edu
R. Roberts	BH2117	581-2400	rroberts@eiu.edu
R. Tadlock-Marlo	BH2107	581-2051	rltadlockmarlo@eiu.edu
D. Timm	BH2105	581-5327	dtimm@eiu.edu
A. Yoder	BH2106	581-2052	amyoder@eiu.edu
W. Lane (Off. Mgr.)	BH2102	581-2400	wjlane@eiu.edu

Further information regarding the Department of Counseling and Higher Education may be found on the department's website at www.eiu.edu/che

CHE RESOURCES

CHE SNACK PANTRY

The CHE snack pantry needs a little help getting restocked for the spring. The pantry is located in the conference room (back near the door) and tea and coffee station. We understand that students can have acute nourishment needs sometimes. We ask that you satisfy your immediate needs only. For more long-term needs visit the [EIU Campus Food Pantry](#). You may also contribute to the snack pantry at anytime, by simply adding snacks of your choice to the baskets. Think about us when you are at your favorite supermarket. Enjoy!



Policy for food and drink in CHE

NO food or drinks are allowed in the counseling labs (Rooms 2118-2126) and classroom BH2125.



STUDENT RESOURCES

Booth Library Spring Hours

Monday - Thursday	8:00 am - 12:00 am
Friday	8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday	9:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday	12:00pm - 12:00am

<https://www.eiu.edu/booth/welcome.php>

Booth Library also provides free printing services.

Career Services

Career Services provides a variety of resources for students including creating resumes, job searching, interview strategies and more. 1301 Human Services [217-581-2412](tel:217-581-2412)

Academic Support Center

The Student Success Center assists with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. To make an appointment, call [217-581-6696](tel:217-581-6696)

EIU Counseling Clinic

The Counseling Clinic offers individual and group counseling, emergency services, and resources. Human Services Building, 1st floor; [217-581-3413](tel:217-581-3413); for after-hours urgent support, call [1-866-567-2400](tel:1-866-567-2400).

Online Mental Health Screening

Online, private screening tool for depression, anxiety, eating disorders, and alcohol and substance misuse. www.ulifeline.org

Health Education Resource Center (HERC)

The HERC offers health programming in the areas of alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and education, flu and cold prevention and education, nutritional analysis and education, and sexual health education, in addition to other health-related topics. 2201 Blair Hall; [217-581-7786](tel:217-581-7786).

Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity (GSD)

The GSD Center provides services such as the Trans*formation Station, a large library, year-round programming, and a comprehensive Safe Zone Training program. Stevenson Hall, lower level; [217-581-7117](tel:217-581-7117).

EIU Campus Food Pantry

The Campus Food Pantry is a means to support students and the campus community by alleviating barriers to consistent, adequate, and healthful food. Anyone with a Panther Card can visit the pantry two times per month. 1347 McAfee

Student Legal Service

Student Legal Service can assist with off-campus housing issues, traffic violations, misdemeanor criminal offenses, municipal ordinance violations, and expungement. MLK Jr University Union Room 2420; [217-581-6054](tel:217-581-6054)

Financial Aid and Scholarships

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships provides information and guidance to secure the necessary financial resources to meet educational goals and financial obligations to the university. Student Services Building East Wing; [217-581-6405](tel:217-581-6405), Fax: [217-581-6422](tel:217-581-6422), finaid@eiu.edu.

Accessibility and Accommodations

Accessibility and Accommodations offers a variety of services for students with documented disabilities, collaborating with students with documented disabilities to determine reasonable classroom accommodations, auxiliary aids, and support services that are individualized and based upon disability documentation, functional limitations, and a collaborative assessment of needs.

McAfee Gym, Room 1336; [217-581-6583](tel:217-581-6583)

Looking Forward to New Doors Opening

Notes to the Second Years

~Your CHE Faculty

Welcome to your Senior Year! Remember that while the summer is challenging, it's fast moving and over quickly. Take things day by day and enjoy the ride! - **Dr. Carter**

You are almost there! The fruits of your hard work, sacrifice, and perseverance is about to be fully realized. You've chosen a path that will shape lives and create change, and there's no greater calling. Remember, every step you take forward sends ripples far beyond what you can see. I am so proud of all you've already accomplished! Just keep breathing. The future is yours. -**Dr. Polydore**

As you embark on your final semester, remember this is a testament to your resilience, dedication, and determination. You have already overcome challenges, learned so much, and proven that you have what it takes to succeed. Stay focused, lean into your strengths, and trust the process—you're closer to the finish line than ever before! Believe in your ability to make an impact, and know that we are here cheering you on every step of the way. Finish strong—you've got this! - **Dr. Jamarco Clark**

Set an intention to enjoy your experience in graduate school. Yes, it is challenging and yes, it is also worth it! 😊 Don't waste precious moments wishing it away. One day, you'll look back and smile at this time! **Dr. Angela Yoder**

Almost there
you made it..!!!

