Notes From the Director

We Have Moved!

The Office of Grants and Research has moved from Old Main to room 1160 Blair Hall. Because desks are comfortably separated, work flows more smoothly in the new larger office. We also have room to accommodate the additional work we anticipate as a result of upgrading the structures of the Institutional Review Board and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

Restructured Council on Faculty Research

The Council on Faculty Research has been restructured. The previous structure drew nine members from representative disciplines. The new structure consists of two representatives from each of the four colleges plus one representative from the library. The Council encourages applications from all eligible faculty members during each of its rounds of funding: one in the spring semester and one in the fall semester.

Research Involving Human Subjects

Eastern is currently working to upgrade its Institutional Review Board (IRB). This board is charged with protecting all humans who participate in research as subjects. Numerous federal regulations govern this type of research, and the IRB will work to assure compliance with these regulations. A first draft of a new charter for Eastern’s IRB is being circulated through departments that commonly do research with human subjects. Please direct comments and suggestions to the Office of Grants and Research.

Research and Teaching Involving Animals

Eastern is currently working to upgrade its Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). This board is charged with protecting all animals used in teaching and research. Numerous federal regulations govern this type of research, and the IACUC will work to assure compliance with these regulations. A first draft of a new charter for Eastern’s IACUC is being circulated through the Department of Biological Sciences. Please direct comments and suggestions to the Office of Grants and Research.

Edwin L. “Bud” May Award

The May Award is given annually to a member of the university community for outstanding achievement in research and grants. For more information or to make a contribution click here.

Bob Chesnut
Interim Director, Grants and Research
EIU subscribes to two electronic research information services, SPIN™ and IRIS. Both services may be accessed by all faculty, administrators and staff through EIU’s server. You may not connect using a commercial Internet service provider.

The Sponsored Programs Information Network SPIN™ currently contains information from more than 1,200 different sponsoring agencies, which together fund over 11,000 separate funding opportunities. All of the information on SPIN™ is obtained directly from the sponsoring agencies to ensure the integrity of the information. Each funding opportunity is updated on SPIN™ as the sponsoring agency comes out with updated or revised information, which is typically on an annual basis. To access the web site you may link through the Office of Grants and Research’s site at http://www.eiu.edu/~grants (click SPIN on the left sidebar) or link directly to the SPIN™ web site at http://spin2000.infoed.org/new_spin/spinmain.asp.

The Illinois Researcher Information Service (IRIS) is a database of over 8,000 federal and private funding opportunities in the sciences, social sciences, education, arts and humanities. Users can search IRIS by agency, deadline date, keyword and other criteria. Most IRIS records contain live links to sponsor Web sites, electronic forms, or Electronic Research Administration (ERA) gateways, so getting started on a proposal can be only a mouse-click away. The Illinois Researcher Information Service (IRIS) is a unit of the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign. The IRIS office compiles the IRIS database of funding opportunities. The office also maintains a library of publications (informational brochures, application guidelines, and annual reports) from over 2,000 funding agencies. To access the web site you may link through the Office of Grants and Research’s site at http://www.eiu.edu/~grants (click IRIS on the left sidebar) or directly at http://www.library.uiuc.edu/iris/.

**Awards Received / January - March**

- **Borzi, Mark**, Speech Communication. Iranian Film Maker Project. Illinois Arts Council, $2,000.
- **Davidson, Eric**, Health Services. Evidence Based Practices for Alcohol and other Drug Prevention on College Campuses. EIU Office of Safety Programs, $5,000.
- **Herrington Perry, Mary**, Vice President for Academic Affairs. Graduation Incentive Grant Program EIU 4. Illinois Board of Higher Education, $16,860.
- **Lisowski, Marylin**, Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education. Project TEAMs (Technological Enhancements and Applications in Math and Science) FY04. Illinois Board of Higher Education, $95,000.

- **Strader, Michael**, Peace Meal. Senior Nutrition Program FY04. Normal Township, $14,000.
- **Strader, Michael**, Peace Meal. Senior Nutrition Program FY04. Community Foundation of Champaign County, $1,000.
Proposals Submitted / January – March

Bizer, George, Psychology. Balance Framing of Attitudes. National Science Foundation.


Coons, Janice, Biological Sciences. Catalog and Database of Tallgrass Prairie Fruits, Seeds, and Seedlings as an Aid to Restoration. Illinois Department of Natural Resources.


Crews, Daniel, College of Arts and Humanities. Cooperative Work Study Program FY04. Illinois Board of Higher Education.


Cross, Jeffrey, Vice President for Academic Affairs. Title III Institutional Development Planning Grant. U.S. Department of Education.


Markwell, Becky, Safety Programs. EIU Policies and Programs. Illinois Department of Transportation.


Meiners, Scott, Biological Sciences. Effects of Intense Deer Herbivory on Community Composition and Species Richness. Illinois Department of Natural Resources.


Morice, Kathryn, Tarble Arts Center. 2005 Arts-In-Residency Grant. Illinois Arts Council.

Mullin, Stephen, Biological Sciences. Repatriation as a Mechanism for Restoring the Amphibian Community at Warbler Woods Nature Preserve. Illinois Department of Natural Resources.


Sutliff, Ron, Technology. Hewlett-Packard Technology for Teaching Grant at EIU. Hewlett-Packard Company.

Tucker, Gordon, Biological Sciences. Botanical Inventory of Prairie Ridge State Natural Area. Illinois Department of Natural Resources.


Campus Spotlight

Selected Accomplishments at Eastern

David Raybin has taught in the EIU English Department since receiving his doctorate from Columbia University in 1981. His scholarship focuses on the literatures and cultures of the medieval period with an emphasis on Chaucer. Along with editing two books, Closure in the Canterbury Tales: The Role of the Parson’s Tale and Rebels and Rivals: The Contestive Spirit in the Canterbury Tales, Professor Raybin has published over a dozen articles and chapters on medieval subjects. He is now in his third year as editor of The Chaucer Review: A Journal of Medieval Studies and Literary Criticism. Professor Raybin has developed the annual EIU Literature Conference as a forum for presenting content-oriented workshops and seminars to school teachers. In support of his work with teachers, he has authored eight grants from the Illinois Humanities Council and one from the Ohio Humanities Council. He has also received funding from Eastern’s Council on Faculty Research.

Mike Strader is director of Peace Meal, a program that was created in 1974 to assist senior citizens and their spouses in receiving at least one hot, nutritionally balanced meal five days a week. Mr. Strader has written many successful proposals to a wide range of funding agencies. Peace Meal has grown to serve nearly 1,600 meals per day in a fourteen-county area. The organization has an annual budget of $2.4 million and a staff of 150. Mr. Strader recently received the Outstanding Lifelong Achievement Award from the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs.

Morton Heller, professor of Psychology, serves on the editorial boards of two journals: Perception and Perception & Psychophysics. He has published more than 60 articles and chapters, and edited three books. Dr. Heller has served as a consultant on more than a dozen special emphasis panels for the National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health, and he has reviewed grant proposals for NSF. Professor Heller was recently funded by the National Eye Institute for his ROI grant, “Tactile Pictures and the Visually Impaired.” This research concentrated on picture perception and spatial cognition in blind people. The aim of the research was to uncover the pictorial abilities of the sense of touch. He is currently funded by an NSF grant to continue research on touch perception in sighted and blind people. Dr. Heller recently helped organize an international conference in Madrid, Spain. The meeting was funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology, and ONCE, the Spanish organization of blind people.

The Illinois Cooperative Collection Development Program has awarded grants totaling $12,710 to six librarians at Booth Library. David Bell, Johnson Kuma, Pamela Ortega, Marlene Slough, Jan Sung, and Ann Brownson will use the funding to purchase new library materials. As a result, Booth Library’s collections will be enhanced in several areas, including theatre arts, life sciences, Latin American art, diversity, and multicultural issues in educational administration.

Kathlene S. Shank is a professor and Chair of the Department of Special Education and the Interim Chair of Student Teaching. Dr. Shank has co-authored or facilitated eight externally funded grants from agencies including the U.S. Department of Education and the Illinois State Board of Education. In addition, Dr. Shank has obtained internal funding from Eastern with four Technology Enhanced and Delivered Education Grants (TEDE) and several ATAC grants. Funding has supported preparation of early childhood special educators, preparation of educators to consult, as well as other teacher preparation projects. Dr. Shank has been president of the national organization, Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, an organization of approximately 4,000 members. Dr. Shank has received an Outstanding Volunteer Award from the University Foundation, an Outstanding Faculty Merit Award for her teaching, and a Chair Leadership Excellence Award for her work as a chairperson.