



a publication for broadcast students

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Cross & cue, a summer at WEIU

By Zach Nugent

Cross and cue! These were the words 12 students lived by for 12 weeks.

This summer, WEIU-TV played host for seven Eastern Illinois University students and five students who traveled from all over the country, to take part in the 2008 Summer Internship program.

Eastern students and current WEIU-TV/FM volunteers Brittany Sager, Brian Gallagher, Barbara Harrington, Krista Henery, John Twork, Amy Arhart and Heather Gosewisch spent their summer working both on and off air positions.

"I wasn't excited about spending my summer in Charleston at first, but I'm really glad I did because the internship gave me experience I couldn't gain anywhere else. I was able to do things I never

imagined I could do as a sophomore in college," said Barbara Harrington.

Erica Anderson (California), Beth Guarnieri (Pennsylvania), Denise Batson (Massachusetts), Brandi Matthews (Louisiana) and Kevin Kline (North Carolina) made Central Illinois their home for most of the summer as well.

For many coming from more urbanized areas such as Boston

and New Orleans, the endless stretch of corn country came as quite a shock.

"It was very different from the city, and I was a little worried about being out here and adapting, but I fell in love with it and actually would like to move out there to live," said Denise Batson.

During the intensive 12-

See *Intern* pg.4



Summer intern Amy Arhart works behind the camera. After her summer work at WEIU, Arhart currently works at the station full-time.

Photo courtesy of Barbara Harrington





Professor Janice Collins has won five regional broadcast Emmy Awards over the course of her career.

Photo by Mitch Surprenant

Settling in, working hard, and having fun

By Zach Nugent

Professor Janice Collins no longer buys spaghetti sauce; with the garden at her new home in Charleston, she grows tomatoes and herbs, among other vegetables, and makes her own marinara.

"I hope to one day own enough land to have my own farm and my own garden, because I like to work hard for everything I have, even my food," said Collins.

Working hard seems to be high on Collins' list of ethics, as she handed out 13- and 12-page syllabi to her Broadcast News Writing and Journalism and Democracy classes, outlining exactly what she expects of her students.

"I believe if you want to

bring out the best in a student, they must be challenged, which means they have to be given responsibility for their future; if they make an A out of a class, it's because they earned an A, if they made a B, they earned it, even a failing grade, they earned it," said Collins.

Collins said Eastern seems to be the perfect fit for her, and the move out to Central Illinois, actually felt more like three different moves.

"Settling into Illinois has been great," explained Collins, "settling into my home has been great, settling into Eastern, in the profession of journalism, has been wonderful."

But actually, Collins has another location to settle in to as well. Besides her office and classrooms, Collins has

been acclimating herself to the WEIU-TV newsroom, where she will spend some of her time observing and mentoring students.

Kelly Runyon, WEIU-TV News Director, has been working on and off with Collins since the summer, helping her become acquainted with the newsroom and its operating systems.

"It's been a real positive having her on campus," said Runyon.

A professor like this has never been a part of the university... "She's spending quite a bit of time observing...and spent some time working during the day with producers and writers... she's really excited and very energized," said Runyon.

Krista Henery, WEIU anchor, reporter and producer, had the chance to be one of the first students to work with Collins in the newsroom.

"I really think she can add a lot to the newsroom," Henery explained, "Kelly (Runyon) is

great, but it's always nice to have a different set of eyes look at our work and offer different kinds of suggestions or opinions."

Henery said although Collins is still familiarizing herself with the WEIU-TV viewing area, she offered writers help with creating leads for stories and gave different style tips.

"She seems so passionate about what she does," said Henery.

Collins, coming from a career in television news, said she never expected the WEIU newsroom to run as it does; she said she's never worked at a university in which the newsroom was not directly connected to the classroom.

"It's like I've never left the newsroom, it's like I've never left television," Collins said.

Even with the action of the newsroom and the work of teaching classes, Collins said she still has time to perform faculty research and work towards her doctorate, which she expects to complete sometime this winter.

Overall, Collins has expressed her confidence in choosing to make the move to Eastern.

"I felt that... and was convinced by Dr. Tidwell, Dean Johnson and some of the senior faculty here, that this was a program that was not only growing, but in (the department's) equation as far their growth and their progress for this program, would include someone such as myself."

But it is not just the university, rather the entire city of Charleston, that Collins has found welcoming and fitting.

"To go to the grocery store and talk to the president (of the university) while your standing there in line is awesome, that was a glorious feeling," Collins said.



Graduation leads to line-up changes

By Hannah Plevka

Last spring, Hit-Mix 88.9 WEIU faced a problem they never had before.

Fourteen student workers graduated, leaving positions open that needed to be filled.

According to Jeff Owens, WEIU-FM director, graduation was a good problem because it allowed new opportunities for others to get involved and gain experience.

"Hit-Mix 88.9 WEIU radio is a great place for EIU students interested in having a hands-on learn-

ing experience in all aspects of radio," said Owens.

Last semester, a team trained under the current staff to learn the operations of the radio station. These staff members and the training team will be used

to fill the positions.

New students are recruited one or two semesters and often speak in different classes as well as place flyers around Eastern. The Odyssey, Eastern's online radio station, is used as a training station for future WEIU staff members.

This semester at Hit-Mix, look for returning staff members like John Twork, sports director, John Mattson, news, and DJ Roxy Van Housen, as well as the recent additions of DJs Kate Kelley and Demi Lobo.



**Interested in
working for Hit-Mix
or The Odyssey?**

If so, contact:

Jeff Owens,
jeff@weiu.net

or

Rob Calhoun
rob@weiu.net

or

Logon online at:
www.weiuhitmix.net

Broadcast Job Fair

Mingle with 12 companies
representing
25 radio and TV stations

9 a.m. – Noon

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Union—Grand Ballroom

For more information contact: Mike Bradd, 581-3323

This event is part of the **Communication Studies Career Day**.

Co-sponsored by the Illinois Broadcasters Association and EIU Career Services.



From INTERN, pg.1

week program, students don't just learn how to live in a community surrounded by corn,

they learn how to create and execute a half hour live newscast all on their own.

Throughout the summer, News Director Kelly Runyon

and student trainers help and give pointers to the interns, but other than reading over a few scripts and helping reporters with writing packages, these in-

terns perform everything on their own. they make about a dollar an hour, but in the end, they say the experience taken away from the program is invaluable.

"It probably one of the best things I've ever done; it was worth traveling across the country for," said Batson.

On the stations Web site organizers say, "experiences are varied and offer the student who is academically prepared an outstanding opportunity to learn in the country's 82nd television market."

WEIU hosts the internship every summer and is currently taking applications for the 2009 program.

Interns must have at least sophomore status at their college or university and it is preferred that the applicant has some experience in the field of television, production or similar experience.

The application deadline is January 4, and finalists will be chosen in February. Finalists then must submit a résumé tape and selected interns will be notified in March.

For more information or to obtain an application, visit www.eiu.net or call the newsroom at (217) 581-3710.

For the first two weeks, students do nothing but train, spending hours learning Avid NewsCutter and editing, Avid iNews and writing, shooting techniques and tips for being on-air. The students receive free housing, for the past few years it's been an apartment in University Court, and a \$50 stipend.

During the summer students joke



Erica Anderson, University of Florida, Barbara Harrington, Eastern, and Kevin Klein, Elon University, get ready for a taping of WEIU Newswatch this summer. Anderson and Klein are two of the seven interns that traveled from across the country to intern at WEIU.

Photo courtesy of Barbara Harrington



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