2021 Celebration of Scholarship, Creativity and Engagement
At this annual celebration, we, as a shared community, are pleased that the important work of faculty continues and evolves as faculty have broadened and redefined the boundaries of scholarship, creativity, and innovation throughout the COVID, late-COVID, and soon-to-be post-COVID eras. While we are pleased to return to more familiar campus-based traditions, functions, and activities, the experiences of 2020-2021 have contributed to the development of new forms and strategies for scholarship and creativity that reflect the core principles of faculty life and ensure that student learning remains central to the mission of Eastern Illinois University.

For that reason, our faculty, department chairs, college deans, the Provost, and the entire campus community celebrate the achievements and outstanding contributions of our colleagues and students to their disciplines and professions. And, as the following pages illustrate, faculty engaged in continuing scholarly and creative activities that have provided outstanding mentoring experiences for our undergraduate and graduate students.

In addition to celebrating faculty productivity, research excellence, and creative contributions, we also recognize faculty whose contributions have been recognized as exemplary. Specifically, the program celebrates the recipients of the Edwin L. “Bud” May award, as well as the Dean’s Award of Excellence in Summer Research and Creative Activity and all 2021 summer award recipients. Additionally, we are pleased to recognize the outstanding research mentors of each college.

Finally, we are grateful — truly grateful — for the sustained commitment of our colleagues to academic excellence and our students. The work and commitment of every member of the campus community to advance the mission has been and is inspiring.

Barbara Bonnekessen, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Austin Cheney, Lumpkin College of Business & Technology
Richard England, Sandra & Jack Pine Honors College
Jay Gatrell, Office of Academic Affairs
Laretta Henderson, College of Education
Ryan Hendrickson, Graduate School & College of Health & Human Services
Zach Newell, Booth Library

### Celebrating Academic Excellence

### Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentors

**John H. Bickford, Ph.D., Professor**
Department of Teaching, Learning & Foundations
College of Education

Dr. Bickford has engaged various undergraduate students in multiple research tasks over the course of the last year. He, specifically, mentored three different students working on five separate projects, which have yielded one internal grant, one campus presentation, and three manuscripts accepted for publication in academic journals or edited books. One student (Elizabeth Russell) remains an EIU undergraduate, while the other two (Dalani Little; Devanne Lawson) have used this experience and are in their first year as practicing teachers.

**Wutthigrai Boonsuk, Ph.D., Associate Professor**
School of Technology
Lumpkin College of Business & Technology

Through the last academic year, Dr. Boonsuk dedicated his knowledge and skills to engage students in extra-curricular creative activities, including advising 11 student research presentations. To support students and student research, he secured three Redden Grants, as well as a Student Impact Grant that will be used by students to build an autonomous electric go-kart. Through his contribution and hard work, our students have gained significant experience in robotics and automation, and learned other important skills such as time management, problem solving, and teamwork.
As her nominator notes, Dr. DeRuiter-Willems exemplifies the highest ideals of faculty/student engagement in research, scholarship, and creative activity, and her mentoring combines a commitment to scholarship and professional work with active engagement within the profession. Over the past year, Dr. DeRuiter-Willems has supervised three Honors theses, four Honors independent studies, one Honors internship, and prepared for another three honors independent studies that took place during summer 2021. Two of her students received IAHPERD Student Mentor Awards and presented as part of the IAHPERD Student Mentor Poster Session.

Dr. Angela Glaros, associate professor of Anthropology, specializes in the anthropology of Greece, Greek-American communities, gender, vocal music, religion, and food and culture. Dr. Glaros supervised 10 undergraduate student research projects that resulted in 10 individual student presentations in the “Foodways” session of the EIU Spring 2021 Virtual Student Research and Creative Activity Conference.


SCHOOL OF BUSINESS


SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

College of Education

COUNSELING & HIGHER EDUCATION


EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP


SPECIAL EDUCATION


TEACHING, LEARNING, & FOUNDATIONS


Bickford, J., & Laughlin-Schultz, B. (2020). A historical inquiry into John Brown and his raiders. In M. Karpyn (Ed.), *Teaching the Causes of the American Civil War, 1850-1861*, (pp. 43-76), Peter Lang, New York.


**College of Health and Human Services**

**COMMUNICATION DISORDERS & SCIENCES**


**HUMAN SERVICES & COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**


**KINESIOLOGY, SPORT, & RECREATION**


**NUTRITION & DIETETICS PROGRAM**


**PUBLIC HEALTH**


SCHOOL OF NURSING


College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

School of the Arts: ART + DESIGN


Richardson, D. (2020). Sinkhole. 2020 Film and Video Poetry Symposium, Los Angeles, USA.; the film was screened in the months of November and December 2020 through online and in-person venues in Los Angeles.


**BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**


CHEMISTRY & BIOCHEMISTRY


School of COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM


McDaniel, R., & Cougill, C. (2021). Pilgrimage across Poland, video. Marita J. Metzke, Program Director, Academy of Lifelong Learning at EIU (Producer). https://eiu.zoom.us/rec/play/cKZHBB_AHHJd8U9QfEGKiUhYoDh_iPnjQtyWfIR-7f-t-9BhKAWC_9ZaqxMe3ycyp0SwsspFW6rCE.hZwVCqot0UD7sLAB?startTime=1604595166000&_x_zm_rtaid=KQiVH1QMSneCsBJAJLl-OA.1629727269491.a477ec12d0045b3240c5ead15&_x_zm_rhtaid=644


GEOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY


HISTORY


Laughlin-Schultz, B. (2020). Confronting the disconnect in student understanding of the causes of the Civil War. In M. Karpyn (Ed.), Teaching the Causes of the American Civil War, 1850-1861, (pp. 43-76), Peter Lang, New York.


**MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE**


School of the Arts: MUSIC


POLITICAL SCIENCE


PSYCHOLOGY


**SOCIOPY, ANTHROPOLOGY, & CRIMINOLOGY**


School of the Arts: THEATRE ARTS


LIBRARY SERVICES


McDaniel, R., & Cougill, C. (2021). Pilgrimage across Poland, video. Marita J. Metzke, Program Director, Academy of Lifelong Learning at EIU (Producer). https://eiu.zoom.us/rec/play/cKZHBB_AHHJd8U9Q0fEGKiUhYoDh_iPnjQtysWF1R-7f-t-9BhKAWC_9ZaqxMe3ycyp0SwsgpFW6rCE_hZwVCqot0UD7sLAb?startTime=1604595166000&_x_zm_rtaid=KQiVH1OMSneCsBJAI1L-QA,1629727269491.a477ec12d0045c8e3b50b3240c5ead15&_x_zm_rhtaid=644

Dr. Robert Colombo
Biological Sciences

Dr. Robert “Rob” Colombo’s research focuses on anthropogenic impacts on fish populations. Specifically, he is interested in how habitat degradation, harvest, and invasive species impact native fish communities. Since joining EIU in 2009, Dr. Colombo has developed research projects on the impact of habitat restoration on Kickapoo Creek, the population dynamics of the invasive silver carp, the impacts of hot water effluent on sportfish assemblages, the impact of wastewater on fish populations, and the effects of harvest on fish populations in the Wabash River.

Dr. Colombo’s research program has been funded by private (AMEREN), state (Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Natural History Survey), and federal agencies (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). Dr. Colombo is a proud alumnus of State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry (BS 1998). He received both his master’s degree (2004) and Ph.D. (2007) from Southern Illinois University.

In honor of Bud May (director of Grants and Research, 1978-2003), the Graduate School, in collaboration with the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (Grants and Research), established the Edwin L. “Bud” May Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research and Grants. The award is given each year to a member of the university community who has demonstrated extraordinary success in securing external support for research, public service, or creative activity.

Dr. Robert Colombo
Biological Sciences

Academic Affairs

Project Directors: Davenport, Mona/Burkhead, Maggie – Inclusion & Academic Engagement
Funding Agency: US Department of Education
Title of Project: TRIO: Student Support Services Program FY2021

Project Directors: Armstrong, Ke'an/Owens, Jeff – WEIU
Funding Agency: College Radio Foundation
Title of Project: “Fearless Behind the Mic & Beyond” - Hit-Mix 88.9 WEIU FM Radio Remote Broadcast Equipment

Project Director: Owens, Jeff – WEIU
Funding Agency: Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Title of Project: CPB Community Service, Interconnection, and Universal Service Grants FY21

Project Director: Owens, Jeff – WEIU
Funding Agency: Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Title of Project: CPB American Rescue Plan Act Stabilization Grant

Business Affairs

Project Directors: Gibson, Ryan/Newell, Zachary – Information Technology Services (ITS)/Booth Library
Funding Agency: Illinois Board of Higher Education
Title of Project: Connecting Tech and Training with Students’ Need: A COVID-19 Response (GEER Grant)
**College of Education**

**Project Director:** Reid, Brian – College of Education Dean's Office  
**Funding Agency:** Grow Your Own Illinois  
**Title of Project:** Grow Your Own Continuation Grant - Rural School Pipeline

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**College of Health and Human Services**

**Project Director:** Edwards, Misty – Human Services & Community Leadership  
**Funding Agency:** Illinois Department of Human Services  
**Title of Project:** Child Care Resource and Referral

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**Principal Investigators:** Lynch, Krystal/Maulding, Melissa – Nutrition & Dietetics  
**Funding Agency:** Illinois Innovation Network (University of Illinois System)  
**Title of Project:** Squash Hunger in Eastern Illinois through Partners in Produce: An initiative to improve food access and decrease food insecurity among low-income residents

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**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

**Principal Investigator:** Colombo, Robert – Biological Sciences  
**Funding Agency:** Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
**Title of Project:** Assessing and improving harvest as a control measure for bigheaded carp in the Wabash River Bain (Subaward)

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**Principal Investigators:** Colombo, Robert/Martinez, Eloy/Meiners, Scott/Effert-Fanta, Eden – Biological Sciences  
**Funding Agency:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources (USFWS)  
**Title of Project:** A long-term monitoring program of fish population on the Wabash River

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**Principal Investigators:** Colombo, Robert/ Effert-Fanta, Eden – Biological Sciences  
**Funding Agency:** University of Illinois Urbana Champaign  
**Title of Project:** Assessment of Asian Carp reproduction and ecosystem response in the Illinois Waterways

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**Principal Investigator:** Meiners, Scott – Biological Sciences  
**Funding Agency:** Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)  
**Title of Project:** Effect of Spatial arrangement of prairie vegetation to suppress invasion of undesirable species on utility right of ways - Increase and extension.

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**Principal Investigator:** Meiners, Scott – Biological Sciences  
**Funding Agency:** Electric Power Research Institute  
**Title of Project:** Influence of vegetation management on pollinator communities in power line ROWs

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**Principal Investigator:** Periyannan, Gopal – Chemistry and Biochemistry  
**Funding Agency:** Illinois State Academy of Science  
**Title of Project:** Determination of the Functional Significance of Glutamate Carboxypeptidase II in Folate Metabolism in Caenorhabditis elegans

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**Principal Investigators:** Periyannan, Gopal/Beck, Michael – Chemistry and Biochemistry  
**Funding Agency:** Illinois State Academy of Science  
**Title of Project:** Molecular Probe to Detect GCPII Expression

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**Principal Investigator:** Crandall, Jake – Geology/Geography  
**Funding Agency:** Universities Space Research Association  
**Title of Project:** Detectability of magmatic intrusions within sulfur-rich sediments for Martian mineralogical and in-situ operational - Year 3
Dr. Britto Nathan
Biological Sciences

Dr. Nathan’s research centers around neuroscience, with special interest in neurological diseases. His current research is aimed at understanding the pathological pathways that lead to death of brain cells in aging humans, and predisposes them to dementia such as Alzheimer’s disease.

A wide range of molecular, biochemical, and cellular techniques are used in his laboratory. He has received funding from the Alzheimer’s Association and the National Institute of Health, and has published in several journals, including Science.
2021 Summer Research & Creative Activity

Assande Des’ Adom – Economics
Can digital currencies serve as safe havens in a post-COVID-19 era?

Michael Beck – Chemistry and Biochemistry
Development of chemical tools and methodologies for measuring the effect of genetic differences on drug metabolism in live cells

John Bickford – Teaching, Learning, and Foundations
Examining Curricular Resources’ Historical Representation of Charles Darwin and Evolution, Racists’ Most Reliable Theory

Julie Campbell – English
A Continuation: The Publication History of Isabella Andreini, 1587-1699

Thomas Canam – Biological Sciences
Functional Characterization of Unidentified Fungal Genes Involved in Biomass Deconstruction

Gary Canivez – Psychology
Structural Validity of the Canadian WISC–V: Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analytic Analyses with First Nations Youth

Lauri DeRuiter-Willems – Public Health
Adulting: How prepared are young adults to manage their health care independently?

Tim Engles – English
“Possessive White Male Spatiality in Alexander Payne’s The Descendants”

Linda Ghent – Economics
Game Theory of Thrones

Dongheon Ha – Physics
Super-resolution optothermal microscopy for electronic devices and biological samples

Hongshan He – Chemistry and Biochemistry
A Two-in-One Nickel Photocatalyst for C-N coupling

Rebecca Johnson – Music
Songs for the Imagination

Alexis Jones – Teaching, Learning, and Foundations
Theoretical Literature Review

Andrew Kerins – Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation
Exploring Women’s Experiences of Engagement in Roller Derby

Hyunsun Kim-Hahm – School of Business
Differential Media Coverage of Startups and its Spillover Effects on the Fundraising of U.S. Venture Capital Firms

Britto Nathan – Biological Sciences
Molecular Studies to Examine the Role of Flna-201 in Alzheimer’s Disease

Julie Park – Music
Discovery of hidden Asian musical repertoires and their potential contribution to college music education in the U.S.

Steven Pellizzeri – Chemistry and Biochemistry
Investigating the Adsorption of Wastewater Contaminants on Activated Carbon

Gopal Periyannan – Chemistry and Biochemistry
COVID-19 and ACE2: A Tale of Zinc

Radu Semeniuc – Chemistry and Biochemistry
Mix and Match: Fine tuning of metal – metal distances in dinuclear metal complexes
Council on Faculty Research

College of Education
Jennifer Stringfellow
(currently vacant)

College of Health & Human Services
Hasan Mavi
Laurel Teller

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Ronan Bernas
Jad Smith

Lumpkin College of Business & Technology
Toqeer Israr
Simon Lee

Library
Kirstin Duffin

Note of appreciation:
Special thanks to the following Booth Library staff members for production of the 2021 Publishing Scholars booklet:

Todd Bruns
Beth Heldebrandt

On the Cover:
Top: A Zoom collaboration by the Department of Music

Bottom, from left: A live-streamed performance by the Eastern Symphony Orchestra; clients get to know each other in the Child & Family Life Education Center; U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo’s virtual book reading as part of Booth Library’s NEA Big Read program.