

JUNE 2023

# IN THE KNOW

Newsletter of EIU's Division of Student Affairs

## VPSA VOICE

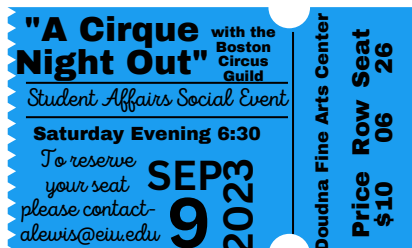
It was fun to kick off the official first day of the summer with a Student Affairs Summer Solstice Social at Dirty's. Thanks to those who were able to stop by and enjoy time with their Student Affairs colleagues! Please mark your calendars for the next Student Affairs social, "A Cirque Night Out," at the Doudna on September 9.

Earlier this month, the EIU Police Department welcomed its first canine officer and therapy dog, Penny. She will be an active part of community policing efforts and provide emotional support to those she encounters. Email [updcomfordog@eiu.edu](mailto:updcomfordog@eiu.edu) to invite her to your events. Welcome Paw-fficer Penny!

A shout out to my teammates who participated in the recent Be Well Illinois Physical Activity Challenge, Ola. Ola means life. Team Captain, Sarah Daugherty, and members Eric Davidson, Mark Hudson, Bobbi Kingery, Jody Stone, and I logged our daily activity from May 1 through June 25th. We even took a few walks together! Our team, EIU SA Panther Parade, came in 4th place out of 50 teams from across the state. I encourage you to take some time for your own health and well-being every day. Check out the Be Well Illinois website for other wellness opportunities: [Click Here](#)

Part of caring for your own health and well-being is using your earned vacation leave. For many, summer is a better time to use some vacation. If you have not already requested some time away, please considering doing so before the business of fall is upon us. Thank you for all you do for the EIU community! Enjoy summer!

Namaste,



**"A Cirque Night Out"** with the Boston Circus Guild  
Student Affairs Social Event  
Saturday Evening 6:30  
To reserve your seat please contact [alewis@eiu.edu](mailto:alewis@eiu.edu)  
**SEP 9 2023**  
Doudna Fine Arts Center  
Price Row Seat  
\$10 06 26



Chief Gamboa and Officer Penny, UPD, with VPSA Flaherty

# GET TO KNOW...

She holds University Police Department shield #175, she has an official name badge with her photo on it, and she is listed on the UPD website "Meet the Police Staff." She is Ms. Penny, UPD's newest officer and Coles County's first Law Enforcement Therapy Dog. Officer Penny (or Miss Penny if you wish) is a one-year-old Foxhound/Beagle dog finishing her training with Chief Marisol Gamboa.

Penny is a Tier Three therapy dog and a graduate of Paws and Stripes College at Eastern Florida State College, the only nationally recognized law enforcement therapy dog college. After Penny was rescued from a shelter, she was trained by female inmates from the Brevard County, FL jail, along with students from Eastern Florida State Veterinary Technology Program. Penny is a multi-discipline therapy dog able to provide individual comfort as well as accompany Chief Gamboa during EIU/community events. Penny is not a service dog, as she is trained to be able to interact with a wide variety of people.



A therapy dog is identified as a dog used to provide emotional support to an individual, or individuals, in a variety of settings with a goal of providing a soothing, comforting interaction. Therapy dog teams can neutralize negative perceptions of law enforcement and help to bridge the gap between police and community.

You may have already seen Penny and Chief Gamboa on campus interacting with students, staff, faculty, and summer campers. Penny made her first official appearance this past Friday during the June Board of Trustees meeting.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Thank you, Angie Campbell, Assistant Director for Student Insurance, Health & Counseling Services, for your 24+ years of service to EIU and Student Insurance. Enjoy your retirement!

Best wishes, Emma Noble, Assistant Director of Health Education & Promotion, Health & Counseling Services, as you make the transition to EIU faculty. Thank you for all your work during Covid-19 testing.



# NOW YOU KNOW...



Reuben Gamboa, University Housing & Dining Services, Marisol Gamboa, UPD, Officer Penny, UPD, Ceci Brinker, Office of Leadership & Engagement, Anne Flaherty, VPSA, DJ Fox, MLK, Jr. University Union, Nathan Wehr, Office of Leadership & Engagement, Sarah Daugherty, Campus Recreation, Catie Witt-Danner, University Housing & Dining Services, Mark Hudson, University Housing & Dining Services, and Eric Davidson, Health & Counseling Services.



Thank you to George Papp McClellan, University Housing & Dining, for presenting during the SA Leadership Team meeting June 7.

University Housing & Dining Services welcomes **Tyler McKinney** to the University Food Court. Tyler was previously a student worker and knows that "the EIU work environment is welcoming and friendly."



Frank Delgadillo



John Hunt



Sean Sloan



Christopher Upton

Four new faces are seen keeping our residence halls clean and comfortable for students. Let's learn a little about them: **Frank Delgadillo- Taylor Hall**, a previous Lieutenant/Paramedic is enjoying his "post-retirement job with a great organization." **John Hunt- Triad** collects deer antlers and often goes by the name "Johnayboi." **Sean Sloan- Thomas Hall** is excited to "provide a nicer and cleaner home for our students." Sloan enjoys time with his gray short-haired cat, Squirt. **Christopher Upton- Lincoln, Stevenson, Powell-Norton** has lived in the area his whole life and says "he fishes too much, but yet not enough." Be sure to introduce yourself when you are in the halls.

## Civil Service Council SA Members

**Kristin Hupp-  
Vice President**

**Nathan Wehr-  
Representative**

**Crystal Brown-  
Representative**

# IN THE KNOW...

## EIU'S DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

**EIU.EDU/STUAFF**



Vice President: Anne G. Flaherty, Ph.D.  
1031 Old Main, 600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920  
217-581-3221 | [agflaherty@eiu.edu](mailto:agflaherty@eiu.edu)



Do you have an item for the newsletter? [Fill out the submission form here!](#)



### **VISION**

The Division of Student Affairs is committed to being forward thinking and providing transformative life experiences that foster student learning and development, empowering individuals to reach their optimal potential.

### **MISSION**

The Division of Student Affairs welcomes and celebrates our students' commonalities and differences, focusing on development, active citizenship, experiential learning, engagement, leadership, and preparation for a diverse, global society. Collaborating across campus, we ensure student success and retention and are dedicated to cultivating a sense of community on both our campus and beyond. We are committed to the health and well-being of our students and encourage them to lead balanced lives. We advocate for an inclusive environment where students feel safe and secure.

### **ANTIRACISM STATEMENT**

EIU stands in solidarity with all Black, Brown, Indigenous, and racialized members of our communities who are fighting for a more just and equitable society. We resolve to purposefully identify, discuss, and challenge issues of race, color, oppression, white privilege, and power, as well as the impact(s) they have on our community, its systems, and its people.

Racism is dehumanizing to everyone.

We strive to build a community in which all belong, while challenging ourselves to understand and correct inequities we discover. We must examine racism embedded in the very fabric of our society and demand action for positive change from systems of power.