

SEPTEMBER 2023

# IN THE KNOW

Newsletter of EIU's Division of Student Affairs

## VPSA VOICE

We kicked off the month with our Student Affairs social at the Doudna's 15 anniversary celebration on September 9 at the Cirque Night Out with the Boston Circus Guild. It was an energetic and fun show to watch with wonderful colleagues!

"Panther Royale" Homecoming 2023 week begins today with many events for our employees including Family Fun Night on October 3, the free Blue-B-Que luncheon on October 4 from 11 - 1 in the Doudna concourse, and the Friday night Block Party Pep Rally at O'Brien Stadium. Please consider bringing a canned good donation to Blue-B-Que to support the EIU Food Pantry. Demand is extremely high with a 193% increase in the number of student visits from Fall 2022. October 1 marks the second anniversary of the pantry created to support the needs of our students (and employees) experiencing food insecurity. A shout out to Crystal Brown, the Office of Leadership & Engagement team, and all the volunteers who keep the pantry stocked and staffed to serve those in need.

September 15 - October 15 is designated for Latino Heritage Month 2023, *Be Proud of Your Past, Embrace Your Future*, <https://www.eiu.edu/oiae/LatinoHeritageMonth.php>. This beautiful image, included on the Latino Heritage Month schedule, is a mural located in the Latino Hub, also known as Rincón Latino, in Coleman Hall 1150. This is a designated space to learn more about Latinx cultures and is open to all. Check it out!



In October we celebrate all who work in Careers in Student Affairs and those who may be considering working in the field. It is also a perfect time to nominate your Student Affairs colleagues online for one of the Student Affairs awards: [Nomination Form](#). Don't wait - October 20 is the deadline. Thank you!

Namaste,

# NOW YOU KNOW...



Steve and Anne Flaherty, Teri Waterman, Mark Hudson, Anne and Arbie Lewis, Christina Coffey, Miranda Webster, and Whitlee Moran attended the Student Affairs Social held September 9 at the Doudna.

Here are plenty of opportunities for staff to participate in our Homecoming!



**Monday, October 2**

**Homecoming Royalty Coronation | 7:00 PM**  
Grand Ballroom, MLK, Jr. University Union

**Tuesday, October 3**

**Family Fun Night | 5:00-7:00 PM**  
Grand Ballroom, MLK, Jr. University Union

**Wednesday, October 4**

**Faculty/Staff Blue-B-Que Luncheon | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM**  
Doudna Fine Arts Center Concourse

**Thursday, October 5**

**Casino Royale | 7:00-9:00 PM**  
Grand Ballroom MLK, Jr. University Union

**Friday, October 6**

**Block Party Pep Rally | 7:00-10:00 PM**  
O'Brien Stadium Parking Lot

**Saturday, October 7**

**Rotary Pancake Breakfast | 6:30-10:00 AM**  
Dirty's Parking Lot  
**25th Annual Homecoming 2.5 K Fun Run/Walk | 9:00 AM**  
**Homecoming Parade | 9:30**  
**Tailgate and Alumni Tent City | 11:00 AM-1:30 PM**  
**Football Game EIU Panthers vs. Tennessee-Martin | 2:00 PM**

REGISTRATION CLOSING OCTOBER 17

## ARE YOU READY?

FRIDAY, OCT. 20

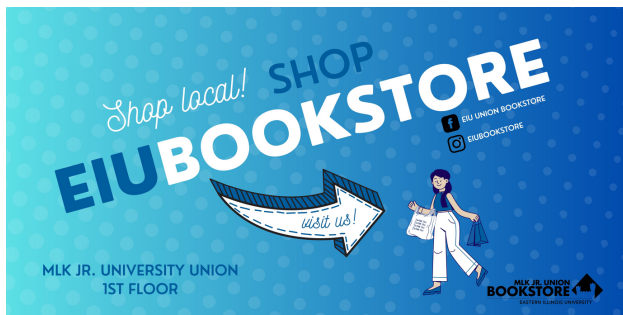


Keynote address 8:45 am, CST:  
**Identifying and Dismantling barriers to effective Equity and Inclusion work in Higher Education**



Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tamba-Kuli Bailey  
Associate professor of Counseling Psychology and Counseling Programs at the University of North Dakota

**Register Here**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**November 15**  
**Student Affairs Awards Celebration**

# NEED TO KNOW...

## Question of the Month

vpsa@eiu.edu

**This month's question: What teacher (grade school on up) made the biggest impact in your life, and why?**

**Sarah Daugherty-** I loved all my English teachers in high school, but Mrs. Lawson was my favorite. She challenged me to choose big topics and made me a better writer. And in college, hands down, Dr. David Raybin. I love classic literature, but I found a new appreciation for Shakespeare's sonnets and Dante's Inferno.

**Next month's question: What advice would you give to your younger self?**



**Nominations Due Before  
October 20, 2023**

**NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS**

Click Here for [Nomination Form](#)

Recipients of the following awards will receive \$250 towards an approved professional development opportunity: Newcomer of the Year Award, Rising Star Award, and Unsung Hero Award.

Have you nominated a colleague yet? There is still time!



## CONGRATULATIONS

### Jenny Sipes

Thank you for your many years of service in Student Affairs! We wish you well with your new role in the Sandra & Jack Pine Honors College.

# Bravo!

## Julia Awalt

Congratulations on your Presidential Distinguished Service Award.



Julia with her nominators, Mark Hudson and Dr. Mona Davenport, and her son, Joshua Awalt.



Thank you to all the Student Affairs employees that volunteered on Beautification Day. Sarah Jacobs, Brad Sandefer, Jeremy Alexander, Brian Gough, and Gary Uteg, University Housing & Dining Services, working together in the Old Main garden.

# IN THE KNOW...

## EIU'S DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

**EIU.EDU/STUAFF**



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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.