

JULY 2023

IN THE KNOW

Newsletter of EIU's Division of Student Affairs

VPSA VOICE

One year ago, we began the process of developing the Student Affairs Strategic Plan. Over several months, we identified and clarified our goals. Thank you to all who contributed to the development of the plan and are actively working toward achieving our five priorities. It is truly a team effort! The plan is available at <https://www.eiu.edu/stuaff/strategic.php> and our progress will be updated online.

Thank you to Dr. Tanya Willard, Director of New Student and Family Programs and her team for a successful, newly redesigned student orientation program for Summer 2023. This office coordinated over 20 orientation days with 898 students in attendance and approximately 1,185 guests. One guest commented that orientation "Definitely helped them feel both at peace and excited about sending their student here."

While there is still plenty of summer left, I encourage you to sign up for the Be Well Illinois Fall into Fitness challenge that will run from September 15 - September 25. Join me on team "EIU Panther Parade" under the Quad Challenge. You are welcome to sign up for the challenge option of your choice at bit.ly/FallintoFitness23. If you sign up by Aug. 15 you will receive a free t-shirt!

We have already begun welcoming some of our new GA's and will soon be welcoming other undergraduate student staff. I look forward to seeing our entire Student Affairs team come together to welcome our new Panthers and returning students! Please be sure to join us in welcoming students at the Welcome Community Picnic on Friday, Aug. 18th in the South Quad.

Take good care of yourself
in the heat and stay hydrated!



"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
SEP 3 2023
Doudna Fine Arts Center
Price Row Seat
\$10 06 26

NOW YOU KNOW...

CONGRATULATIONS



**Christina Coffey, University Union/
Textbook Rental- 15 Years of Service**



**James Brummer, University Housing &
Dining Services- 15 Years of Service**



**Karen Beason, University Union-
15 Years of Service**



**Anne Lewis, Office of the Vice President
for Student Affairs- 15 Years of Service**



**Kristin Hupp, University Housing & Dining
Services- 20 Years of Service**



**David Titus, University Housing & Dining
Services- 25 Years of Service**



**Amy Saunders, University Housing
& Dining Services and Rick
Tresner. Wedding-June 3**



**Chris Cougill, University Union-
25 Years of Service**

**Thank you
Kristin Hupp for
submitting these wedding
announcements.
To submit information to
In the Know,
click here.**



**Mike Farris and Sandra Davis,
University Housing & Dining
Services. Wedding-July 2**

GET TO KNOW...



University Housing & Dining Services Building Service Workers Frank Delgadillo, Carrie Hite, and Vicki Daniell (photo credit) sprang into action to save the South Quad American flag during the June 29 derecho. Teamwork at its best!

Thank you to Lori Hardwick, University Housing & Dining Services, for submitting this photo.



Back by popular demand!

Question of the Month

This month's question:

What local summer activity did you participate in?

Care to share vpsa@eiu.edu

Several Student Affairs staff members recently completed the National Council for Mental Wellness Mental Health First Aid for Adults Train the Trainer Certification. These individuals are now able to provide the 8 hour in-person; or the hybrid 2 hour virtual/5 hour in-person Mental Health First Aid Training to students, staff and faculty. Well done Michael Lusk, UPD, Monique Mays, Dean of Students Office, Sarah Daugherty, Campus Recreation, and Eric Davidson and Annabelle Escamilla, Health & Counseling Services.



Justin Richards He/Him/His



Student Affairs welcomes Assistant Director, Justin Richards, to New Student & Family Programs. Richards is not new to EIU, having previously earned both his graduate and undergraduate degrees as a Panther. Getting involved with clubs, mainly EIU Student Government, and campus-wide events were a favorite part of Richard's student life. Richards wanted to "start somewhere that felt like a good fit for me and would offer me opportunities for personal and professional skill-based growth." When asked what he enjoys most about his new position, Richards states "I love that it is completely different from what I have done in the past and I get to have new experiences, but still have the familiarity of EIU as a home." When Richards isn't traveling, reading, or playing board and card games, he is enjoying cooking and baking (he is even writing his first cookbook).

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.