

JANUARY 2023

IN THE KNOW

Newsletter of EIU's Division of Student Affairs

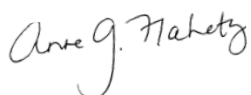
VPSA VOICE

Winter is here! Over the holiday break, the cold snap in Charleston caused several water pipes to burst on campus, resulting in significant flooding in some residence halls and dining centers. I extend my appreciation to the many Housing staff who sacrificed time over the Christmas holiday to address water clean-up efforts. The staff included Curtis Ayers, Janette Beals, Jim Brummer, Brian Gough, James Guymon, Lisa Harrison, Mark Hudson, Joshua Hunt, Jordan Jenkins, Jim Lay, Kirby Moses, Theresa Nelson, Cliff Senn, Everett Shores, Jimmie Smith, Kevin Toberman, Jedd Tolen, Steve Walker, Christy Wingler, and Mike Zuber. I also want to thank our UPD officers and Sergeants who responded. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

As we turn to February, I hope that you will take time to be engaged in the many opportunities offered during African American Heritage Month: Black Resilience. [Click here for programming details.](#) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging work is all of our work.

"You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Namaste,



GET CENTERED

Student Affairs Retreat
May 16, 2023

GET TO KNOW...



Ruben Gamboa he/him/his

Student Affairs welcomes Ruben Gamboa, University Housing & Dining Services, Food Service Area Supervisor in the University Food Court. Ruben, who says he "can be funny at times," enjoys collecting watches and colognes. When asked what attracted him to employment at EIU, Ruben explained that joining EIU "was a great opportunity and he is glad to be joining a good team." Please join us in welcoming Ruben.



Lee Ann Dial she/her/hers

Health & Counseling Services welcomes Lee Ann Dial to Student Affairs. Lee Ann will serve as a Medical Social Associate in the Counseling Clinic and explains "working at EIU is the opportunity of a lifetime." An EIU graduate, Lee Ann "loves the inclusivity of all the departments and how everyone is so welcoming and helpful. EIU feels like one big family." A fun fact about Lee Ann is that she has over 7000 followers on TikTok who followed because

she chronicled her grandson Whyatt's battle with cancer and their Whyatt's Warrior Foundation. Please join us in welcoming Lee Ann.

Grace Claywell she/her/hers

University Housing & Dining Services welcomes Grace Claywell as a new Office Support Associate in Taylor Dining. Grace has been "looking to be part of a team that helps people and positively impacts many lives." Grace shared, "What keeps me going is seeing others happy and proud of the work they're doing." Grace and her partner enjoy spending free time creating paintings and artwork for their Etsy shop, DoveAndCrowArt. Grace recognized her partner as her hero because "they face the world with so much compassion and understanding, and they have a way of making others feel like they matter." If Grace could eat one meal for the rest of her life, it would be chicken strips and fries! Please join us in welcoming Grace.



Farewells

Joseph Baumgart, MD, FACOG Health & Counseling Services

Thank you for your service in the Medical Clinic.
Congratulations on retirement.

Beccah Maley University Housing & Dining Services

Thank you for your contribution to the
Living Learning Communities.



IN THE KNOW...



George McClellan, University Housing & Dining Services, Beccah Maley, University Housing & Dining Services, Brittany Floyd, Student Accountability & Support, Emma Noble, Health & Counseling Services, Annabelle Heddell, Health & Counseling Services, and Jessica Cobert, Health & Counseling Services



Apologies to Ozzie and Sarah Jacobs. Ozzie was mistakenly left out of the Nov/Dec issue. Thank you for the submission!



Joseph Baumgart, Health & Counseling Services, Denise Adducci, Mark Hudson, Matt Boyer, Bradley Sandefer, and Catie Witt-Danner, all from University Housing & Dining Services

Student Affairs Social



Brian Gough, University Housing & Dining Services, Beccah Maley, University Housing & Dining Services, and Monique Mays, Student Accountability & Support

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.