

### **VPSA Voice**

The first annual Student Affairs Celebration and Awards, held on November 17, was a joyous occasion! Thank you to all who attended, who nominated colleagues, and to all our award winners. In the words of one member of the selection committee, "We have so many talented and amazing coworkers!" I wholeheartedly agree! As I shared that day, it is an honor and privilege to be able to work alongside each of you and serve as your vice president. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the members of the Student Affairs Recognition & Professional Development Committee for their work on creating the awards, selecting the recipients, and planning the meaningful awards ceremony.



This semester, we took the unprecedented step to offer two Mental Health Days for our students at the end of November. The standing ovation for our staff in the Counseling Clinic was very well deserved with shout outs to Interim Assistant Director Lindsay Wilson, full-time counselors Brad Coffey and Bernadette Mangialardi, part-time counselors Samantha Boomgarden and Robin Zazove, and Office Manager Patti Thornton. We are also grateful for this year's interns: Clayton Crozier, Jensyn Morrison, Tema Motsa, Doel Diaz, and Julie Walters. Similarly, the mental health and well-being of our Student Affairs team is a top priority for me. The pandemic has created ongoing stressors and challenges that have impacted each one of us. I hope you read the December 8th email from Human Resources reminding employees and their dependents of the Employee Assistance Program, including the ComPsych resource.

With the holidays upon us, I hope you will enjoy time with family and friends as well as time for rest and play! The end of the semester is a good time for most of us in Student Affairs to be away from campus. Please utilize your vacation and enjoy the President's extra gift days on December 29th and 30th.

With sincere gratitude, I thank you for your service to EIU and to our students. Wishing you a safe and healthy holiday break and a very Happy New Year! See you in 2022.

Namaste.

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## **KNOW US!**



Dr. Flaherty pictured with award winners.



Curtis Ayers, Greg Catron, Joshua Kuhn, Annie Wilson, and Crystal Brown.



John Marr, Bobbi Kingery, and Keli Walters.



Beth Dunahee, Sarah Daugherty, Beth Gillespie, and Nathan Wehr.



Student Affairs Awards Ceremony November 17, 2021



Heather Webb, Mackenzie Walker, Brittany Floyd, and Annie Wilson.



Sara Wilson, Jan Baker, Paula Bolen, Jess Taylor, Becky Ogle, Hannah Burich, Jenny Porter, and Pam Coleman.



## IN THE KNOW





# GLACUHO Awards Jeremy Alexander and Becca Maley

This fall, the Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers (GLACUHO) presented Jeremy Alexander with the GLACUHO Service Award and Beccah Maley with the Outstanding Research and Writing Award.

Alexander, Associate Director for Administration, University Housing & Dining Services, was awarded for his "outstanding

service to both his home institution and the regional association's executive board." To be eligible for this award, the member must have served a minimum of 10 years in their profession.

The Outstanding Research and Writing Award was presented to Maley, Living Learning Community Coordinator, for her thesis on "Student-Centered Learning Spaces During a Pandemic." This award recognizes the outstanding scholarship of graduate students and practitioners in the field of Residence Life and Student Affairs.

"We are so proud of these two," says Mark Hudson, Executive Director, University Housing & Dining Services. "Beccah is a great example of high quality students coming out of our College Student Affairs program and Jeremy is a tech wizard. He is doing for the regional organization what he does every day for EIU. These are great people getting appropriate, well-deserved recognition." Congratulations!!!



**Kelly Partenheimer** will be retiring from **Campus Scheduling** at the end of the year. Kelly has worked on the academic side as well, working for 17 years in Registration, Records, and the Office of the Registrar.

Her "favorite aspect of working at EIU is, our people." Kelly plans to travel and visit her family. Thank you for 13 years in Campus Scheduling, and we wish you well.



**Patti Thornton** has worked in the **Counseling Clinic** since 2008 and will be retiring this month.

Patti has most enjoyed working with our students. "It is rewarding to know that you were able to assist someone that might have otherwise left campus had they not had access to services."

Patti hopes to travel the USA in her motor home and spend time with her family. Thank you Patti, and we wish you well.

# NOW YOU KNOW

#### 2021 Student Affairs Award Winners

**GA** of the Year Sana Tate **Newcomer of the Year** Annie Wilson

**Unsung Hero** Brian gough

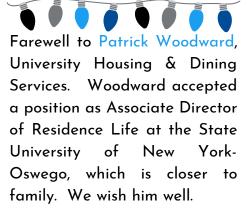
Friends of Student Affairs Michael Gillespie Sarah Jacobs

Rising Star

**Employee of the Year** Mark Hydson

**Outstanding Staff** John Marr & Mackenzie Walker **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion** Beth Gillespie

## Legacy Cathy Engelkes





### Next month....

MLK Jr. Day of Service, January 17 An opportunity for Americans to renew their own personal vows of citizenship through service to others. Click here for more information.



Winners of the Medical Clinic team building tower activity. Roger Osthoff, Kimberly Dowland, Bobbi Daniell, and Benjamin Merry.

# 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.

#### **EIU DIVERSITY & INCLUSION STATEMENT**

Eastern Illinois University is committed to fostering a learning community where all members feel welcomed and valued. The university provides equality of opportunity in all areas of campus life and we strive to recognize and appreciate the unique value of our students, faculty, and staff. Every member of campus has the right to learn and work in an environment free of discrimination and harassment, and beyond that, our goal is for all members of our community to develop a strong sense of belonging to Eastern Illinois University.

The Division of Student Affairs embraces and respects diversity in all forms and upholds these values through our programs and services.