

OCTOBER 2021

IN THE KNOW

Newsletter of EIU's Division of Student Affairs

VPSA Voice

"Close or Apart" – thrilled we could be closer together this year – "Panthers at Heart" – I officially Bleed Blue – EIU Homecoming 2021! After waiting for over a year, I've experienced my first in-person EIU Homecoming and it lived up to all the excitement. At Coronation, it was fun to see our very own Nathan Wehr, Director, Fraternity and Sorority Programs, crowned as Lord. He rocked it all week, including as a planner and MC of the Blue-B-Que. It was fantastic to see so many of you at the lunch on that beautiful fall day. There was a lot of energy and school spirit at the Pep Rally Friday night in McAfee that carried over to the parade Saturday morning. My President's Council colleagues and I passed out all 15 pounds of EIU blue saltwater taffy, and I felt great pride in representing EIU along the route. Greeting members of the Charleston community was a highlight! It was especially fun to experience Tent City with my husband and two of my three sons and welcome back our impressive alumni. Thank you to all who were involved in the planning and implementation of a successful Homecoming week. Go Panthers!

In collaboration with Homecoming, we dedicated the Doug DiBianco Community in McKinney Hall on October 21. This gender inclusive Living Learning Community provides our students with a supportive environment for all gender and sexual identities and their allies.

I look forward to celebrating the excellent work of our team members at the Student Affairs Celebration on November 17. See you there!

Namaste,

Anne G. Mahety



KNOW OUR SPIRIT!



Colleen Peterlich, University Union, pours wine for guests at the 50th Anniversary Dinner.



Catie Witt-Danner, University Housing & Dining, takes time to smile during the Homecoming 2.5k Race/Walk.



Crystal Brown, CEVO, and her son Jacob enjoy the Homecoming Parade.



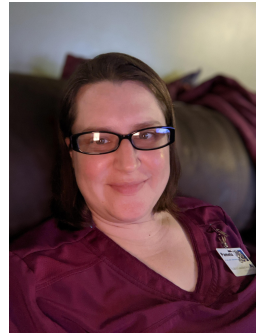
2021 Homecoming Lord, Nathan Wehr, Fraternity & Sorority Programs, emcees the Blue-B-Que.



Dr. Heather Webb, Student Accountability and Support, and her daughter Mia, Miss Junior Coles County, prepare to embark upon the parade.

NOW YOU KNOW

Pam Coleman recently joined Health and Counseling Services as an Administrative Nurse II. Pam loves caring for people and wants to make a difference. Born and raised in Charleston, Pam thinks the castle is awesome and is "so proud to tell people that I belong to the EIU team." Welcome, Pam.



Career Services welcomes Keli Walters. After hearing great things about EIU, Keli, a graduate of Lake Land College, decided it was time to join in all the fun. "I am looking forward to being able to assist the staff and students." Keli enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband Wyatt and 2-year-old son Kaiden. Welcome, Keli.



During the week of November 8, we will proudly join colleagues across the nation in celebrating the success of first-generation college students, staff, and alumni. A First-Gen College Celebration will be held on November 8, with additional events planned throughout the week. We wish to acknowledge individuals in our division who are recognized as Student Affairs First-Gen Friends: <https://www.eiu.edu/stuaff/firstgenerationfriends.php> If you identify as First-Gen, and are willing to be added to our website, please email Anne Lewis at alewis@eiu.edu.



OUR NEW NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH FLAG WILL BE RAISED ON THE WE ARE EIU FLAGPOLE ON NOVEMBER 1 IN HONOR OF THIS HERITAGE MONTH.

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



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.