

JUNE 2022

IN THE KNOW

Newsletter of EIU's Division of Student Affairs

VP SA VOICE



Summer brings a different pace on campus, but for those who are involved with summer camps and conferences, it is a busy time with new guests arriving on campus weekly, as highlighted in the article about Matt Boyer. Thanks to all who support these efforts and help create a positive experience for campers, who through this experience, may consider attending EIU in the future!

June is a celebration of Pride Month, held in June to honor the anniversary of the Stonewall Inn uprising and to recognize the impact and contributions of our LGBTQ+ community. EIU also recognized the Juneteenth federal holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans.

For those who have lighter work loads in the summer, I hope you are using some vacation time. My family had the opportunity to experience the national parks in Utah, and I happily wore my EIU gear while hiking. I hope you know I am available to you. Please don't hesitate to schedule a time through my assistant, Anne Lewis, to meet. I wish you a wonderful Independence Day holiday.

Namaste,

Anne G. Mahety

GET TO KNOW...

University Housing & Dining-Conference Services

Matt Boyer, Assistant Director for Residential Life & Conference Services, loves watching the excitement campers experience while being on a college campus. Beginning with the IHSA Girls State Track Meet, just days after EIU's Commencement, and ending in the beginning of August with the last high school marching band camp checking out, Conference Services will have helped play host to thousands of youth and their leaders.



Ensuring that all the amenities needed to run a successful camp are in place, our Conference Services team, which includes 26 undergraduate Conference Assistants, works with camp clients to secure spaces on campus, helps with check-in for campers, assists with providing living spaces, coordinates meal and snack times with Panther Dining, provides campus tours, and helps to meet any other need that arises. Boyer and his team have one priority -- to help provide guests with a fantastic camp experience at EIU.

Conference Services is a long-standing tradition at EIU, a tradition that plays a critical role in the University's recruitment of prospective students. This summer, EIU will host approximately 7,500 guests, roughly 75% of pre-pandemic camp enrollment. Some camps have a storied history at EIU; EIU Music Camps and the Civil Air Patrol Camp (Johnson Flight) have been returning to Eastern for more than 55 years. Other camps are newer to campus; Eastern will host the Evanston Township HS Band Camp for the first time this summer. Some camps are especially large; Smith Walbridge Clinic, a marching band leadership camp, will bring more than 900 guests to campus in July.

Every guest who attends a camp is a prospective student. Many are experiencing a college campus for the first time... their first time living with a roommate in a residence hall, first time eating in a college dining center, first time having access to a Student Recreation Center, and more. Departments across campus collaborate closely with the Conference Services team to ensure that guests enjoy a fun, enriching experience. Kelly Miller, Director of Admissions, noted, "Camps play a critical part in our enrollment funnel. We hear from a large number of prospective students that they lived the EIU experience at a summer camp and can see themselves as a Panther." The Office of Admissions hosts a booth in the residential dining centers during camp season, providing viewbooks to guests and collecting inquiry (interest) cards. Data indicates that these efforts are successful. Mark Hudson, Executive Director of Housing and Dining Services, noted, "There is a 9% higher admission yield rate for those who come to a summer camp over those who don't."

Boyer, a Panther since attending EIU in 1992, was first a graduate assistant for Conference Services and Housing from 1997-1999 before being hired as the Resident Director of Thomas Hall in 1999. Boyer took over the Conference Services operations three years later and has spent the last 20 years helping campers have an impactful and memorable camp experience. Boyer shared, "It is wonderful just knowing that I could be making a difference for the University and inspiring more youth to consider coming to EIU for college."

Welcome

DJ Fox- Director, MLK, Jr University Union
Jessica Milburn- Associate Director, Counseling Clinic
Monique Mays- Student Standards Specialist,
Office of Student Accountability & Support

Question of the Month

Last month's question: In your opinion, what is the perfect summer temperature?


Beth Gillespie- The perfect summer temperature is fall. 😊

Catie Witt- I think 88 degrees is perfect summer weather!

Eric Davidson- 72-78 degrees F with humidity in the low 30's, preferably in the North Woods of Minnesota or Wisconsin, underneath a mix of soft and hardwood trees beside a clearwater lake filled with smallmouth bass, northern pike, and walleye.

This month's question: What is your favorite summer leisure activity?

Care to share? vpsa@eiu.edu



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

R.A.D. SELF-DEFENSE TRAINING

The EIU Police Department is teaching self-defense through the Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) system.

All R.A.D. seminars contain both safety discussions and self-defense techniques. You will learn risk reduction strategies, safety awareness, safety tips, basic stances and hands-on defense training.

Instruction will be divided into three sessions. Participants are expected to attend all three sessions

Date: July 5th thru July 7th
Time: 4:00 pm. to 7:00 pm.
Location: TBD

Sign up by sending an email to police@eiu.edu

THANK YOU
Lindsay Wilson
for serving as the
Interim Assistant
Director of the
Counseling Clinic
since 2015.

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.