

OCTOBER 2022

# IN THE KNOW

Newsletter of EIU's Division of Student Affairs

## VPSA VOICE

Homecoming rocked as we "Brought the Beat Back" – the 2022 Homecoming Theme. It was wonderful to see so many of you at activities throughout the week and on the parade route. The addition of the Friday night Block Party with a band and food trucks was a fun new event. Thank you to Ceci Brinker for leading the Homecoming Committee. I would also like to extend a shout out to additional Student Affairs staff–Matt Boyer, Jordan Hellman, and Nathan Wehr–for serving on the committee.

For the first time, we celebrated Careers in Student Affairs Month (CSAM), a partnership with the Student Affairs Prep Program (SAPP) and the Department of Counseling and Higher Education, with departmental open houses throughout the month. I appreciate all the time and thoughtfulness our staff put into planning and hosting these events! The CSAM passports, created by Christy Kilgore (Director, Marketing and Communications), provided a nice incentive for student participation. Thanks to all who participated and shared resources with interested students!

In October, we have been celebrating Gender and Sexual Diversity (GSD) History Month. Check out the @lgbtqia\_edu Instagram account for events. Also, along with our colleagues in Academic Affairs, we celebrated Latino Heritage Month. This will culminate with the Día De Los Muertos Gala on November 5th. Don't miss out!

November is right around the corner and brings one of my favorite events – the Student Affairs Awards Celebration on November 16th. With great anticipation, I look forward to recognizing amazing colleagues in our Division.

Namaste!



*Coming Soon:*  
**Student Affairs  
Pets**  
**Destiny Carter**

# IN THE KNOW...

## Health Education Resource Center

After spending the last 2 years focused on EIU's Covid-19 testing and response, Emma Noble and the Health Education Resource Center (HERC) team are grateful to be back to a more normal schedule. Noble, Assistant Director of Health Education and Promotion, explained, "While all of our educational efforts took place during COVID, COVID care was first and foremost." Noble added, "All of the efforts we provide hopefully increase our students' self advocacy to be able to be in control of their own health and wellness."

One major event the HERC is promoting is our Flu Shot Clinic. In collaboration with the Coles County Health Department and the EIU Medical Clinic, students, employees, and retirees can receive their flu shots on campus tomorrow, October 26. The HERC helps to educate our EIU family on the importance of WHY to get a flu shot.

In the month of October, the HERC joined with EIU's Living Learning Communities to host bystander intervention events. Self defense, late night Bingo, and Title IX alcohol intervention events took place with a spooky Halloween theme. The LLCs offered more than \$250 in prizes at those events, and the Sexual Assault Counseling and Information Service (SACIS) set up tables at each event. The HERC began working with LLCs last spring by helping to host Safer Spring Break Bingo.


The HERC is staffed by interns as well as graduate assistants enrolled in the Public Health, Counseling, Communication Studies, and Nutrition programs. Trying to meet our students needs where they are in regard to their health experiences is the main goal. "When we are educating them, we try not to assume where they are on that spectrum," said Noble. "Every student is coming from a different standpoint."

Looking towards the spring semester, the HERC plans on collaborating with SACIS for National Eating Disorders Awareness Week in February and Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April.

**FREE FLU SHOTS!**

**Students, Employees & Retirees:**  
**1 - 5 pm, Wednesday, Oct. 26**  
**University Ballroom &  
Bridge Lounge, MLK Union**

Help protect yourself and your  
Panther community this flu season!

**HEALTH EDUCATION  
RESOURCE CENTER**   
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Please bring your Panther Card. If you are a retiree and do not have a Panther Card, please bring your insurance card.



# GET TO KNOW...

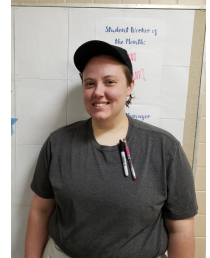


## **Jamie McDowell**

Student Affairs welcomes Jamie McDowell, University Housing & Dining Services, Food Service Sanitation Laborer. Jamie loves to meet new people and says she was "looking for something that would allow me to spend more time with family and friends as well as something new." Jamie further explained, "I enjoy hard work and feeling accomplished at the end of the day. I take pride in a job well done." When asked who her hero is, Jamie said her mother. Please join us in welcoming Jamie.

## **Maece Bresnahan**

Maece Bresnahan joined EIU in September, having previously worked at Taco Bell. Collecting different versions of Monopoly is a pastime of Maece's, and Julia Child is Maece's hero. Since Maece likes to bake bread, it is only fitting that Maece is a new Culinary Worker III with University Housing & Dining Services. Please join us in welcoming Maece.



## **Jenna Foreman**

Student Affairs welcomes Jenna Foreman to University Housing & Dining Services as a Culinary Worker III. Jenna is looking forward to "gaining more experience in this field and being closer to home." Jenna collects owls and enjoys working on cars. Jenna's hero is her dad. Please join us in welcoming Jenna.

## **Kimberly Schrock**

Kimberly Schrock has joined University Housing & Dining Services, Tower Dining, as a Culinary Worker III. Kimberly collects "weird found things" and spent four years in Las Vegas. The main reason Kimberly decided to join our EIU team is to learn. Kimberly's hero is her grandma and she sometimes answers to "Kimber." Please join us in welcoming Kimberly.



# CONGRATULATIONS



Keli Walters, Career Services, welcomed baby Sadie Rae, October 24.

Brandon Skinner, BSW Foreman, and Stephanie Bluhm, Culinary Worker III, both from University Housing & Dining Services, welcomed a baby girl to their family, Addison Loretta. Born October 10, 6 lbs. 2 oz. and 22 inches long, Addison is pictured with her parents and brother, Landon.



# DID YOU KNOW...



Catie Witt-Danner, University Housing & Dining Services, and Nathan Wehr, Fraternity & Sorority Life, scouted out the LA Family Farm Maze sponsored by EIU.



Jacob Mueller, Fraternity & Sorority Life, as well as Matt Boyer, CJ Gibson, and Téa Wheat, all from University Housing & Dining Services, grill during the Homecoming Week Blue-B-Que.



Kirsten Bays, Student Legal Service, Student Accountability & Support, sports her homecoming spirit.



Keli Walters, Diana Taylor, Bobbi Kingery, and John Marr pictured during the Career Services Open House held October 12.

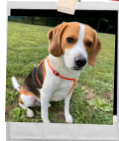


Esperanza Murillo and Emma Noble pictured during the Health Education Resource Center Open House held October 24.



# DID YOU KNOW...

Don't forget to submit your pet's photo  
for the December newsletter.



## STUDENT AFFAIRS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™



Click on our logo  
to fill out a photo  
release form.

## Question of the Month

**Last month's question: In honor of Careers in Student Affairs Month- What made you decide to work in Student Affairs?**

**Catie Witt-Danner-** I wanted to go into Student Affairs because of all the amazing mentors I had when I was an undergraduate student at EIU.

**Shoutout to Jeremy Alexander, Nathan Wehr, and Ceci Brinker!**

**Anne Flaherty-** My experience as a Resident Assistant while an undergraduate student was the catalyst for a professionally fulfilling career in Student Affairs!



Be sure to check out the corn maze sponsored by EIU. <https://www.lafamilyfarms.com/corn-maze>

## Congratulations

Jessica Milburn, Counseling Clinic, married Ray Cobert in a small backyard wedding at their home on September 24. Jessica is in the process of changing her name to Jessica Cobert.

## **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.