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Faculty and Staff honored at Eastern's service awards luncheon

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Physical Education's Adult Fitness Program co-hosts annual winter dinner

This year's Adult Fitness/METS Annual Winter Dinner was held on Friday, Dec. 6, 2002, at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ballroom. The event is sponsored by the Adult Fitness program of the Physical Education Department at EIU, and the Monitored Exercise and Testing Services (METS) department at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center. Approximately 90 people attended the event, which featured keynote speaker Kyle Packer. Packer, of Effingham, has cerebral palsy and gave an outstanding presentation about his adventures climbing Mount Everest, climbing in the City of Rocks, white water rafting, and more. Packer showed a nine minute video of his climb, and displayed souvenirs from his travels, including the basket that he was carried in during parts of the climb.

Focus on Faculty

Gloria Leitschuh to conduct research on cross-cultural diagnostics and counseling during sabbatical

Dr. Gloria Leitschuh from the Department of Counseling and Student Development (CSD) will leave for sabbatical in January, 2003. She will conduct research, interview other mental health professionals, university professors, and psychologists, and will teach at The Maastricht Center for Transatlantic Studies in Maastricht, Netherlands.

"As part of the Department of Counseling and Student Development’s continued efforts to promote and support cultural awareness and diversity, I am conducting a cross-cultural analysis of psychological diagnostic criteria at the Maastricht Center for Transatlantic Studies in the Netherlands. I will also be conducting discussion groups and individual interviews with mental health professionals, and psychologists to discuss the use of diagnostics and how they differ according to culture. So far, I have three psychologists from Germany, and two from Spain committed to this aspect of the project."

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More...
Students assist local school with Family Reading Night

Students from the Eastern Illinois University Student Reading Council assisted faculty and staff at Carl Sandburg Elementary school in Charleston during "Family Reading Night." The EIU Student Reading Council sponsored the event, which was held the evening of November 21, 2002.

Students at Sandburg School and their families participated in games and activities centered around reading. In all, 358 people attended the event, and 25 students from the Student Reading Council provided assistance. The theme of the event was, "Reading Counts Around the World.

More . . .

Project WOW open house showcases students' work

Teams of Elementary School and teacher education students displayed their findings about the at the Lewis and Clark Expedition at the Project WOW Open House, which was held on December 12 in Buzzard Hall, on the campus of Eastern Illinois University. The event was well attended.

This semester, Project WOW teams explored the journey of Lewis and Clark in commemoration of the bicentennial of the expedition. Earlier in the semester, teams of third grade students (from Carl Sandberg Elementary School in Charleston) and students from the College of Education and Professional Studies at Eastern Illinois University traveled on a fact-finding mission to the St. Louis Museum of Westward Expansion and Cahokia Mounds. Children and EIU facilitators were divided into teams, and each team was equipped with a digital camera, a Macintosh iBook. Digital video cameras, and GPSs were also available for use. The teams created web pages based on their findings. Teams also utilized the Internet and children's books as resources for information on Lewis and Clark’s expedition. Results of this project were also pressed into a CD and distributed to all participants.

More . . .
Tech Bytes

Professor develops innovative web site to mentor former students

Technology-Based Induction Process Support (TIPS) is a web site for graduates of the Department of Special Education at Eastern Illinois University in their first through fourth years of teaching. TIPS was developed by Dr. Becky Cook, Special Education instructor. "I was getting a lot of calls from former students, asking for help with various issues they were having. It wasn't that I minded their calls, but it made me realize that there needs to be more of a bridge between college and the real world."

More . . .

School and University Partnerships to produce video on teaching and technology which will showcase Illinois educators

The Office of School and University Partnerships is planning development of a video that raises awareness of the possibilities for creative and effective integration of technology in teaching. The general approach will be to showcase educators who integrate technology, both showing examples of that use and depicting clips of interviews with teachers. The finished video will be distributed in electronic format to be viewed on any computer. The video compels educators to assimilate technology into their teaching by introducing a number of approaches through which they might harness technology tools to increase their effectiveness in working with students.

More . . .
Student Connections

Student rolls up sleeves to help impoverished nation

Even after combating an unsanitary water problem in Haiti, Frances Nelms, a senior early childhood education major, can't wait to return to the impoverished nation.

Each December and May, members of the Haiti Connection, a volunteer group dedicated to remedying the water issue, travel to Haiti where families cannot rely on running water. While in Haiti, Nelms and other group members worked with Haitians to provide families with individual water filters and show them how to use the systems. Without the filters, or "buckets for life," families may struggle with untreated illnesses and disease. "The experience was very monumental because you're making such an impact on others' lives," Nelms said. "It creates such an awareness because you see people who aren't able to eat every day, when our biggest choices are hamburgers or pizza."

More . . .

Student Teacher writes of rewarding experience at Danville's Edison Elementary School

October 17, 2002 - It's that time of year again, when the leaves start turning spectacular shades of orange, red, and yellow, when high schools anticipate their homecoming football games in either victories or defeats, and the time of year when the 5th grade of Edison Elementary School in Danville holds their annual "Taste of the Colonies".

Being a student teacher at Edison under the direction of Lyle Holycross has more advantages than your usual student teaching experience. Sherri Kistler (1st grade student teacher) and I both got to experience this wonderful event organized by Lyle Holycross and Jennifer Skowronsni (other 5th grade teacher). This was to be their 13th "Taste of the Colonies".

More . . .

Special Education Department holds annual Honors Convocation
The Annual Honors Convocation for the Department of Special Education was held on Saturday, December 14, 2002 in Buzzard Auditorium. Approximately 300 were in attendance, including the awardees, their family and friends, and faculty members from the Department of Special Education. Award recipients are chosen by the faculty of the Department of Special Education based on their scholarship, leadership, and service. Among others honored are the Fall 2002 graduating class from the Department of Special Education and student officers from Sigma Rho Epsilon, a Special Education Honorary Society and Student Council for Exceptional Children.

Alumni News

Eastern Alumnus receives Disney's American Teacher Award

Barb McLaughlin, Eastern Alumnus and Special Education Teacher at Chebanse Elementary in Chebanse, IL, was selected as an honoree for Disney's American Teacher Award for the 2002-03 academic year. This prestigious award honors outstanding representatives of the teaching profession who construct creative learning environments in which students and teachers explore, imagine and engage in a variety of thought-provoking experiences. McLaughlin was honored in the Pre-Kindergarten through 12th Grade: Special Needs and Gifted Education (K-3rd Grade students with varying exceptionalities) category.

Focus on Department

Instructional Technology Center (ITC)

The Instructional Technology Center (ITC) provides technological support and resources for the College of Education & Professional Studies and the university community at large. Although services are primarily designed for practicing and pre-service educators, they are also beneficial to others.

The ITC was established in the early 1970’s as part of the Instructional Systems
A student works on a PC in the ITC PC Lab

Etc.

William Fischer (Student Teaching), Kevin Hussey (PE), Lynda Kayser (CSD), Gail Lockart (EC/ELE/MLE) were awarded one-term sabbatical assignments for the 2003-2004 academic year.

Marylin Lisowski (EC/ELE/MLE) will co-lead an Educational Experience in the Galapagos Islands during the holidays.

Julie Dietz (Health Studies) was awarded a two-term sabbatical assignment for the 2003-2004 academic year.

Grace Nunn (EC/ELE/MLE) represented the College of Education and Professional Studies at Fall Commencement on December 14.

Dr. Linda Reven (EC/ELE/MLE), Dr. Noelle Greathouse (EC/ELE/MLE), and April Flood (EC/ELE/MLE) sponsored a Kappa Delta Pi initiation banquet for honors students.
PT3 Grant to fund trip to NECC Conference

One of the largest educational technology conferences is the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC), and it will be held this summer (June 17-19) in San Antonio, TX. More than 10,000 educators from across the globe will converge in the San Antonio Convention Center to explore the opportunities and innovations of education in the 21st century.

In order to support efforts to integrate technology into our teacher preparation program, the EIU PT3 grant will provide funding to eight (8) P-16 teams to attend this conference. The team would include an EIU faculty member and a full time P-12 teacher who will host EIU students during the 2002-2003 school year. The deadline to submit a proposal is April 15. For more information, please visit http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/Travelgrant.html.

Return to CEPS Newsletter
On April 3rd and 4th, 2003, the Midwest Association of Teacher Educator's Annual Conference will be held in Terre Haute, Indiana. The title of the conference is, "The Highly Qualified Teacher Leaves No Child Behind: Promoting Best Practice Through Professional Development"

The faculty of the College of Education and Professional Studies is invited to participate through presentations and attendance. "This is an opportunity that allows for widespread networking and sharing of information that is highly relevant to current needs and issues in education." said Ed Pultorak, one of the event's organizers.

For more information, email Nan Carli ay Ncarlieiu@aol.com or Ed Pultorak pultorak@siu.edu.
Educational Technology conferences planned for the 2002-2003 academic year

IL-TCE 2002
Illinois Computing Educators (ICE) presents the Illinois Technology Conference for Educators. The conference will be held February 25 through 26, 2003 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois. The conference has been designed to meet the needs and interests of administrators, teachers, technology coordinators, curriculum specialists, special education instructors, media specialists, business managers, and support/clerical staff. For more information, visit http://www.il-tce.org/reg/home.asp.

ROE #11 Technology Conference

SITE Conference 2003
The Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education will hold its 14th annual conference (SITE 2003) from March 24 through 29, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. SITE represents individual teacher educators and affiliated organizations of teacher educators in all disciplines, who are interested in the creation and dissemination of knowledge about the use of information technology in teacher education and faculty/staff development. For more information, visit http://www.aace.org/conf/site/.

Tech Fair
The PT3 Office has announced the date of its annual Technology Fair on the evening of April 2, 2003, in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ball Room. Students and teachers who participated in PT3 grant funded activities will be displaying the results of their efforts.

For more conference information, visit the EdTech Conference Planner at http://www.theconferencalendar.com provided by T.H.E. Journal. This site provides you with the ability to choose educational technology conferences based on location, target audience, attendees by job responsibility and conference size.

Return to CEPS Newsletter
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“The scholarships will allow students to attend the university who otherwise might not be able to. This is a gift that will continue to give,” said EIU Interim President Lou Hencken.

Austin said she had originally considered willing the land to the university, but decided to transfer ownership now so that she will get a chance to see the scholarship benefit students. Hencken said scholarship recipients will be asked to write thank you notes to Austin and tell her about themselves.

EIU Foundation President Shirley Moore said the university will be able to harvest scholarships that will help many students, thanks to Austin’s generous gift of her farmland. Eastern is still considering possible ways to use the land.

Austin graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 1934, and now lives in Yorkville, IL. She said her parents were really wanted her and her siblings to receive a good education so they could accomplish their goals in life. Austin said her husband was also a great believer in higher education. “I felt this was a way to perpetuate that love of education,” she said of the Moler-Austin Scholarship.

Austin started her education as a child at a small country school in Coles County. She then received a county scholarship to attend high school at Eastern Illinois State Teachers College. She later majored in English and minored in Latin at Eastern Illinois University. Austin’s teaching career spanned 20 years, and included teaching in Browns, Rossville, Yorkville and Harvey. Austin said the education that she received at Eastern served her well during her career. After leaving the field of education, Austin focused on raising and showing saddle-bred horses for several years. She has been a volunteer advocate for Kendall County senior citizens for 40 years, and helped establish a senior citizens center there.

Return to CEPS Newsletter
Eastern Illinois University held its Years of Service Awards Luncheon on Thursday December 5, 2002 in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ball Room. This gathering honors employees of the university for their continuous years of service. The following faculty and staff from the College of Education and Professional Studies were honored:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th># of Years</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Ankenbrand</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
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<td>Terri Biggs</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Health Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mahmood Butt</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Secondary Education &amp; Foundations</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Calhoun III</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
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<td>Nanette Carli</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Student Teaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Clayton</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marietta Deming</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Health Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia Eads</td>
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<td>Physical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Eberly</td>
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<td>Counseling &amp; Student Development</td>
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<td>William Fischer</td>
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<td>Student Teaching</td>
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<td>Rosemary Harris</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Dean's Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Hart</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Grants and Contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Higelmire</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Recreation Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peggy Holmes-Layman</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Recreation Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat Holycross</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dean's Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Larsson</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Traffic Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Lasley</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marylin Lisowski</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle Level Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jill Owen</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Pommier</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Recreation Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Powell</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Counseling &amp; Student Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Reid</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>School and University Partnerships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim Varner</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Special Education</td>
</tr>
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Guests enjoyed listening to John Faust play Christmas music on the piano during social hour. After that, a buffet-style dinner was served, followed by a program featuring Packer and a skit by graduate students of the program (featuring a re-worked version of "YMCA," performed as "W-A-L-K"). Several special guests were present at the event, including administrators, the Monitored Exercise and Testing Services (METS) department at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, and the parents of several of the graduate students.

METS is located at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, in Mattoon, IL. "We have a good relationship with the METS program because our graduate students spend a semester observing and participating in the cardiac rehabilitation and stress testing programs at the hospital as part of their graduate program," said Stacey Ruholl, Associate Director of the Adult Fitness Program. Under the supervision of a nurse, a Phase III Cardiac Rehab group exercises in the morning with members of the Adult Fitness Program.

For more information about the Adult Fitness Program, call the EIU Adult Fitness office at 581-7579.

Return to CEPS Newsletter

Dr. Gloria Leitschuh from the Department of Counseling and Student Development (CSD) will leave for sabbatical in January, 2003. She will conduct research, interview other mental health professionals, university professors, and psychologists, and will teach at The Maastricht Center for Transatlantic Studies in Maastricht, Netherlands.

"As part of the Department of Counseling and Student Development’s continued efforts to promote and support cultural awareness and diversity, I am conducting a cross-cultural analysis of psychological diagnostic criteria at the Maastricht Center for Transatlantic Studies in the Netherlands. I will also be conducting discussion groups and individual interviews with mental health professionals, and psychologists to discuss the use of diagnostics and how they differ according to culture. So far, I have three psychologists from Germany, and two from Spain committed to this aspect of the project."

"I am very excited about this project," said Leitschuh, who is in the process of finalizing her travel arrangements and brushing up on her Spanish. "This endeavor is part of my ongoing research in the area of multicultural counseling. I recently published two articles, "Culturally Focused Diagnostic Training: Applications in Counselor Education" (in the Eastern Education Journal), and "Collaborative Efforts for Engaging African-American and Euro-American Clients with Substance Abuse Counselors in Group Dialogue" (ICA Quarterly). Through a grant from the College of Education and Professional Studies here at Eastern, I am currently working on a national survey of clients regarding their response to counselors’ cross-cultural competencies."

Dr. Leitschuh stated that, according to Holcomb-McCoy & Myers, very few counselor-training programs infuse cultural content in core counseling courses, "Sue and Sue (1999) state that counselors in training should be familiar with intergenerational boundaries, acculturation level of the client and extended family, specific cultural gender role patterns, and cultural responses to life events. Care must be taken to measure client behaviors in a cultural context. I hope that the completion of this sabbatical will provide a format for alleviating current deficiencies by providing CSD students with first hand accounts of experiential learning obtained during interviews with European professionals, the sharing of international diagnostic information with EIU students and faculty, and the possible recruitment of international students to EIU and the CSD department.

While Dr. Leitschuh is looking forward to her time in Europe, she is appreciative of her friends and family at home. "I received a lot of support from people on campus - it's been incredible," said Leitschuh, "Our Department Chair, Dr. Richard Roberts, has always been very supportive of cross-cultural issues and of his staff going on sabbaticals. He realizes it's an important part of our professional development, and that the information we bring back to the college is important. Sue Songer from the International Student Office has also been very helpful, along with colleagues of mine who have gone on sabbatical before me. French Fraker in particular, has been very helpful because he went to Maastricht a year ago, and he had a lot of information for me." However, said Leitschuh, support did not come only from the campus community, "People around town have also been very helpful. And my 91-year-old grandmother has been translating my e-mails for me!"

Form more information on The Maastricht Center for Transatlantic Studies, visit http://www.cmsu.edu/mcts

Return to CEPS Newsletter
Faculty News

At the recently-concluded annual meeting of the Midwest Philosophy of Education (MPES), November 7 & 8, 2002, Dr. Olivet I. W. Jagusah, who is already a serving board member of the association, was elected the Vice-President of the society for the 2002-2004 period.

Judy Barford will be teaching a distance learning course from the Netherlands for Eastern, and be a guest professor while visiting in the Netherlands.

Dr. Merribeth Bruning and a colleague, Dr. Hema Ramanathan have had an article accepted for the JISTE (Journal of International Society for Teacher Education) entitled Reflection on Teaching Oral English Skills in India.

Dr. Marylin Lisowski presented at the National Biology Teachers Association Annual Convention in Cincinnati.

Scott A.G. M. Crawford, Physical Education, had five entries published in Great Athletes: Revised Edition. The series was edited by R. Kent Rasmussen and published by the Salem Press. The biographies were Laszlo Papp, boxing; Merlene Ottey, track and field; Laura Wilkinson, diving; and Tony Stewart/Wendell Scott, stock car racing. Crawford also had seven entries published in the Scribner's Encyclopedia of American Lives. This series, edited by Arnold Markoe, examined sport and society. The biographies looked at the sport of horse racing, Eddie Arcaro, Angel Cordero Jr., and Lafitt Pincay Jr.; and auto racing, Jeff Gordon, Bill France Sr., Dan Gurney, and Al Unser Sr.

Dr. Gail Lockart and Linda Loy, Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle Level Education, recently presented a session at the National Middle School Association annual conference held this year in Portland, Oregon, from October 31 to November 2. The session showcased the use of an integrated curriculum approach using adolescent literature.


Dr. Grace Nunn recently attended a conference on attracting and retaining minority faculty and students at the "People of Color Conference" in Lincoln, Nebraska.

William Russell, Physical Education, has had the manuscript, "Social Physique Anxiety, Body Dissatisfaction, and Self-Esteem in College Females of Differing Exercise Frequency, Perceived Weight Discrepancy, and Race" accepted for publication in the Journal of Sport Behavior (Volume 26:3, 2003).

Dr. Judy Barbour is currently collecting data for her HECA Grant targeting how to meet the needs of minority transfer students. In addition, she attended a conference on recruiting and retaining minority faculty.

Dr. Gail Lockart was also appointed to a state committee to discuss middle level education.

Dr. Veronica Stephen will present at the national Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) meeting in Jacksonville, FL in February, 2003.

In November of 2002, Judy Barford presented at the National Council for the Social Studies annual conference in Phoenix, AZ. The presentation topic was "Technology Competencies for Elementary Social Studies Teachers."

April Flood, Denise Reid, and Merribeth Bruning are each first authors for three separate presentations at the annual SITE Conference in March, 2003.
**Dr. Merribeth Bruning** recently attended an American Council on Educaiton (ACE) conference, Chairing the Academic Department. The conference was held in San Antonio, TX.

The Eastern Branch of ACEI has been chosen to present a multicultural education student session for the Association of Childhood Education International Annual Study Conference in Phoenix, AZ in April of 2003. Four to six students will be participating. The faculty sponsor is **Judy Barford**.

**Dr. Tess Bennett** recently attended conferences in San Diego and technology workshops on campus. She now has her own web page with links to several pertinent sites for Early Childhood.

**Judy Barford** has been accepted to present "Innovations in Collaboration: A School-Univesity Model to Enhance History Teaching, K-16," in June, 2003, at a joint conference in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the American Historical Association, the Organizations of American Historians, and the National Council for the Social Studies.

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Issue Contributors:
The Editor gratefully acknowledges the creative contributions of the following people:
Dr. Merribeth Bruning, Early Childhood, Elementary, & Middle Level Education
Dr. Becky Cook, Special Education
Eastern Illinois University Foundation Office
Stacey Ruholl, Physical Education
The Daily Eastern News
Rita Brotherton, Student Teaching
Dr. Gloria Leitschuh, Counseling and Student Development
Pam Storm, Carl Sandburg School
Mary Bower, College of Education and Professional Studies
Melissa Carr, School & University Partnerships
Tom Grissom, College of Education and Professional Studies
Jace Hills, School & University Partnerships
Tim Hyder, School & University Partnerships
Nancy Lurkins, School & University Partnerships
Julie Lockett, School & University Partnerships
Dr. Brian Reid, School & University Partnerships
Dr. Charles Rohn, College of Education and Professional Studies
Pat Fewell, ITC

Return to CEPS Newsletter
Students assist local school with Family Reading Night

Students from the Eastern Illinois University Student Reading Council assisted faculty and staff at Carl Sandburg Elementary school in Charleston during "Family Reading Night." The EIU Student Reading Council sponsored the event, which was held the evening of November 21, 2002.

Students at Sandburg School and their families participated in games and activities centered around reading. In all, 358 people attended the event, and 25 students from the Student Reading Council provided assistance. The theme of the event was, "Reading Counts Around the World."

The evening's activities encouraged children to read, and many of the prizes awarded that night were books. For example, students who read five books were given a free book. The book walk, which was one of the most popular activities of the event, allowed children to bring 1-3 books from home to use as "tickets" to participate. As each child won, he or she was able to choose a different book to keep. "My son really enjoyed the bookwalk. He was so excited about the books he was able to bring home that night," said one mother who attended the event with her first-grader. Another activity involved students reading to a teacher and receiving a certificate to go to a "fish pond" (which was set up in the gymnasium), and fish for a prize.

Other activities engaged students in learning by having them conduct research. One activity had students use iBooks to search for world facts on the World Book CD encyclopedia. Students were given 5 minutes to find a fact, and prizes were awarded when students presented their fact to the volunteers. Students were also awarded prizes for reading a Reading Counts book and answering questions about it on computers in the Media Center.

Families were also given the opportunity to donate a birthday book to the library by making a donation of $10 - $15. Students were able to select the book, and the book will have the student's picture, name, and birthday on it.

"The kids had a lot of fun, and I thought the event was really successful," said Jen DeCola, a Senior Elementary Education major who volunteered for the event, "I especially liked the fact that so many parents came and participated with their children."

For more information on the EIU Student Reading Center, visit
http://www.eiu.edu/~reading/

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Pam Storm, Media Specialist at Carl Sandburg School, dressed as Ms. Frizzle from *Magic School Bus*. 
Project WOW open house showcases students' work

Teams of Elementary School and teacher education students displayed their findings about the Lewis and Clark Expedition at the Project WOW Open House, which was held on December 12 in Buzzard Hall, on the campus of Eastern Illinois University. The event was well attended.

This semester, Project WOW teams explored the journey of Lewis and Clark in commemoration of the bicentennial of the expedition. Earlier in the semester, teams of third grade students (from Carl Sandberg Elementary School in Charleston) and students from the College of Education and Professional Studies at Eastern Illinois University traveled on a fact-finding mission to the St. Louis Museum of Westward Expansion and Cahokia Mounds. Children and EIU facilitators were divided into teams, and each team was equipped with a digital camera, a Macintosh iBook, Digital video cameras, and GPSs were also available for use. The teams created web pages based on their findings. Teams also utilized the Internet and children's books as resources for information on Lewis and Clark’s expedition. Results of this project were also pressed into a CD and distributed to all participants.

Parents and friends of the elementary school participants (along with the general public) were able to view team web pages, and team booths, and a digital video of the fact-finding mission to St. Louis. Participants and guests were also able to watch a Lewis and Clark PBS video. Refreshments were served, and Maura Shepherd provided fiddle music.

Project WOW is a collaborative school-university project between Eastern Illinois University Department of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle Level Education and Carl Sandburg Elementary School. The EIU course, Social Studies Methods for the Elementary and Middle Level School (ELE3340/001), has been redesigned as a site-based methods course with a commitment to technology integration. Pre-service teachers enrolled in ELE3340/001 (Judy Barford, instructor) along with children of the third grade classes of Lou Conwell and Kathy Miller at Carl Sandburg School, coordinate their efforts throughout the semester to research value-based curriculum with optimum technology support. Support for the project continues from the Charleston School district and a PT3 mini-grant from the College of Education and Professional Studies at EIU.

For more information on Project WOW, and to see the children's work, visit [http://www.eiu.edu/~wow/](http://www.eiu.edu/~wow/)
Project WOW Open House

(Left): Hunter, a third-grader from Carl Sandburg Elementary School, proudly displays her work. (Right): Hunter's work, done in Kidspiration.

Return to CEPS Newsletter
Professor develops innovative web site to mentor former students

Technology-Based Induction Process Support (TIPS) is a web site for graduates of the Department of Special Education at Eastern Illinois University in their first through fourth years of teaching. TIPS was developed by Dr. Becky Cook, Special Education instructor. "I was getting a lot of calls from former students, asking for help with various issues they were having. It wasn't that I minded their calls, but it made me realize that there needs to be more of a bridge between college and the real world."

In talking to former students of hers, Dr. Cook discovered that half of them did not have a formal mentoring program in the school districts they were teaching in. In 2000, Dr. Cook decided to develop TIPS, "With technical assistance from Tom Grissom, we were able to get the site up and running in 2001."

"The purpose of this project is to share problems encountered in the first years of teaching with anonymity and gain confidence by providing support to other colleagues also in their first years of teaching," Cook said. Teachers participating in this project may submit requests if they are experiencing a problem with a specific student, professional, or family. In addition to supporting one another, at least 20 experienced professionals in special education, parents of children with disabilities, and school administrators provide suggestions for the novice teachers through the use of the web site.

"I have found this site to be very helpful and user-friendly - it's been a great resource for me," said Amanda Gentry, an Early Childhood Special Education teacher in her third year of teaching in Charleston.

TIPS can be accessed at http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cfrjc/. Novice teachers initiate their participation in TIPS by completing an on-line survey. Results from the survey are used by Dr. Cook to assess the needs of the teachers who are participating. "Through the survey, I found that, of the former students who teach in districts that do not have formal mentoring programs in place, 30% of them did not have anyone mentoring them at all. In doing the math, I found that the same number of novice teachers are utilizing the TIPS site, so a need is definitely being met."

However, TIPS is not limited to those former students who do not have mentors. It is open to any graduate of EIU's Special Education program who is in his or her first four years of teaching.

TIPS contains a Problems/Solutions Section where teachers can submit a description of a situation they're encountering, and potential solutions are then posted by other professionals. The problems and solutions are then archived for future reference. Issues posted range from dealing with Auditory hypersensitivity in a 5-year-old with autism to assisting with inclusion of school age students, to relating positively to the janitorial staff. There is also a Resources Section (which references other web sites relating to adaptation, disabilities, lesson plans, specific school subjects, paraeducators, stress management, and general information).

Another popular section of the site is the Ideas Section, where novice teachers can submit ideas, and learn new ones, such as tips for easy paint clean up, teaching through videotapes, and creating space in the classroom. Tips also maintains a listing of Professional Development Opportunities for Special Education teachers.

For more information on TIPS, contact Rebecca Cook at cfrjc@eiu.edu.

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School and University Partnerships to produce video on teaching and technology which will showcase Illinois educators

The Office of School and University Partnerships is planning development of a video that raises awareness of the possibilities for creative and effective integration of technology in teaching. The general approach will be to showcase educators who integrate technology, both showing examples of that use and depicting clips of interviews with teachers. The finished video will be distributed in electronic format to be viewed on any computer. The video compels educators to assimilate technology into their teaching by introducing a number of approaches through which they might harness technology tools to increase their effectiveness in working with students.

The program will accomplish its purpose by showcasing area educators who already integrate technology into their teaching and providing a link between those applications and state standards. Viewers will see educators and students actually using various technological applications, along with testimony elicited from interviews with P-16 educators and their students. The combination of technology in action and testimony will be fast paced and inviting, showing viewers that they do not have to be technology experts to access technological tools in their teaching.

The video will be available in an interactive DVD version as well as a video CD version. It will feature segments showcasing different applications of technology in teaching, appropriate for educators from P-16. Segments will demonstrate the benefits of the technology and its role as more than an enhancement, becoming fully integrated into the curriculum. Testimony from students will attest to the value of the technology, and interview segments from faculty will both reinforce student testimony and assert the accessibility of technological tools by those not already comfortable with the ever changing technological landscape. These segments will be organized to provide an overview of the relationship of technology used to appropriate state standards.

To make this video the best it can be, the Office of School and University Partnerships is asking teachers and administrators to submit suggestions, creative technology ideas, and/or the names of teachers they know who have creatively integrated technology into the classroom. To submit information, or to receive more information, Jim Kestner at 217-581-6671, or e-mail cfjlk@eiu.edu.
Student rolls up sleeves to help impoverished nation

With contributions by Leslie O’Neil
STAFF WRITER - The Daily Eastern News

Even after combating an unsanitary water problem in Haiti, Frances Nelms, a senior early childhood education major, can’t wait to return to the impoverished nation.

Each December and May, members of the Haiti Connection, a volunteer group dedicated to remedying the water issue, travel to Haiti where families cannot rely on running water. While in Haiti, Nelms and other group members worked with Haitians to provide families with individual water filters and show them how to use the systems. Without the filters, or “buckets for life,” families may struggle with untreatable illnesses and disease. “The experience was very monumental because you’re making such an impact on others’ lives,” Nelms said. “It creates such an awareness because you see people who aren’t able to eat every day, when our biggest choices are hamburgers or pizza.”

Nelms said that although there was a language barrier (Creole is the main language in Haiti), everyone they met in Haiti greeted them with open arms, and the people were very hospitable and excited to see them. “What really impressed me was the fact that, although Haiti is the poorest nation in the western hemisphere, everyone was smiling. The kids were playing and having fun. It's really a strong nation.”

One of Nelms' favorite experiences in Haiti also involved the attitude of the people she was volunteering to help, "We were working to water saplings as part of a reforestation project in Grosmorne, and we (Nelms and other volunteers from EIU) were carrying buckets of water up a hill. All of a sudden, about 40 Haitian kids came running up, and wanted to help us. They were so eager and excited. They were so appreciative of us being there, helping their country, and they wanted to show their appreciation and pride for their nation by helping us. It just amazed me."

Holly Walters, volunteer chair and minister at the Newman Center, said Nelms, who is chairperson of the group, constantly gives her all. “Fran is always willing to help out when needed,” Walters said. “She doesn’t expect recognition; she just helps from her heart.”

Nelms has held her position as the chair of the Haiti Connection since last May, when the group took its most recent trip to Haiti. “We needed a chair immediately when we were down there,” said Ann Schwingel, a junior accounting major and treasurer for the group. "She was kind of appointed and just assumed the role while we were down there." Although Nelms' appointment was an unplanned one, Schwingel complimented her chairperson’s success at the position. “She’s done a really good job with the Haiti Connection,” Schwingel said. “She’s always on top of things and is really effective in tying everything together and letting the members know what's going on.”

Her dedication to the group has not prevented Nelms from becoming involved in a number of other things. In addition to being involved with the Haiti Connection, Nelms has also participated in Alternative Spring Break, a program which allows college students to volunteer for charitable organizations during spring break. Through Alternative Spring Break, Nelms has volunteered for a group that provides low-income families with homes and home improvements. Nelms also supports the Fair Trade coalition at Eastern, and is currently helping to plan a symposium that will educate and create awareness about globalization issues. The event is entitled, "Towards a Globalization of Solidarity," and will be held in February, 2003. “She just gives of herself all the time,” Walters said. “I’ve never even heard her complain. She’s always looking to give.”

Nelms' activism will have an influence on her work in the classroom. "In the future, when I teach my students, I
hope to create an awareness that everyone in the world does not have an American lifestyle - that the new car, and new house, and all the other status symbols do not matter to them - what's important to them is food and shelter."

Nelms will begin student teaching in Hanover Park, Illinois next semester, and will graduate in May, but she hopes to find time to travel to Haiti again in the spring. Nelms then hopes to serve with Americorps starting in the Fall of 2003.

Nelms attended her last Haiti Connection meeting December 10. "I’m going to miss her,’ Schwingel said. “I think the person who succeeds her (as chairperson) is going to have a hard person to follow. She did such a good job."

"I’m really sad about leaving it,” Nelms said. “I would encourage people to join and dedicate part of their time making an impact and creating change."

For more information on Haiti Connection, contact Roy Lanham at Newman Center at 348-0188, or e-mail Frances Nelms at frantastic80@hotmail.com.

Frances Nelms, a senior early-childhood education major, sits with a group of young children she met on her trip to Haiti with the Haiti Connection at the Newman Catholic Center last summer. Participants helped their sister community in Haiti have clean water.
Student Teacher writes of rewarding experience at Danville's Edison Elementary School

By Marlissa Brewer
Student Teacher, Edison Elementary School
Danville, IL

October 17, 2002 - It’s that time of year again, when the leaves start turning spectacular shades of orange, red, and yellow, when high schools anticipate their homecoming football games in either victories or defeats, and the time of year when the 5th grade of Edison Elementary School in Danville holds their annual "Taste of the Colonies".

Being a student teacher at Edison under the direction of Lyle Holycross has more advantages than your usual student teaching experience. Sherri Kistler (1st grade student teacher) and I both got to experience this wonderful event organized by Lyle Holycross and Jennifer Skowronski (other 5th grade teacher). This was to be their 13th "Taste of the Colonies".

With a lot of work, 5th grade students got to experience first hand how colonial cooking was done. Students, with the help of parents, got to prepare their own feast of corn fritters, white-chocolate bread pudding, apple gingerbread, cornbread, fried potatoes (30 lbs), fry bread, and turkey (6 of them), all prepared outside on open fires. They also pressed apples to make their own apple cider. The rest of the school was allowed to sample the fry bread and apple cider. Then, 5th grade students, parents, teachers, Edison’s principal Mr. Mark Neil, and about one hundred people from the Danville Community sat down to enjoy the feast.

Students also witnessed a revolutionary war re-enactor (who shot his muzzleneck!), a flax woman, a spinner, and a colonial storyteller. Students also got to dip candles and make their own Indian corn dolls. For entertainment, the 5th grade students contra danced. Mrs. Grant, the music teacher, choreographed the dance weeks in advance. Ms. Susan Biggs, a historical interpreter, made kettle corn and explained about colonial life. She was a very big help putting things together.

It was such a big event that the local radio station came to interview students. Mr. Neil also helped out as much as possible while running the rest of the school. Since this is his first year at Edison, I’m sure he was impressed by everything that went on, especially since it is the only school in Danville that gets to hold such a spectacular event.

The day was brisk, but six blazing cooking fires kept everyone warm. The students and everyone went home smelling of smoke, tired and grateful for modern conveniences.

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Special Education Department holds annual Honors Convocation

The Annual Honors Convocation for the Department of Special Education was held on Saturday, December 14, 2002 in Buzzard Auditorium. Approximately 300 were in attendance, including the awardees, their family and friends, and faculty members from the Department of Special Education. Award recipients are chosen by the faculty of the Department of Special Education based on their scholarship, leadership, and service. Among others honored are the Fall 2002 graduating class from the Department of Special Education and student officers from Sigma Rho Epsilon, a Special Education Honorary Society and Student Council for Exceptional Children.

- Graduate students receiving awards were Georgia A. Burtard, Tina M. Jannazzo, Daniel L. Lawrence, Elizabeth A. McConchie, Marilyn J. Theobald, Jennifer D. Walker and Amy M. Wood.
- Awardees from the Junior class were Kennedy B. Allen, Nathaniel T. Brill, Tanya M. Duniphan, Amy E. Fuerst, Jennifer M. Nation, Natalie A. Olson, Melissa A. Sender and Margaret L. White.
- Awardees from the Sophomore class were Kathryn A. Book, Sheila A. Flood, Sarah J. Giebel, Valerie L. Johnson, Thomas L. Leslie, Mary R. Payne, Stacy J. Tomshack, and Leslie M. Warren.

These students are also eligible for award nominations from the Department of Special Education throughout the 2003 calendar year.


Sigma Rho Epsilon and Student Council for Exceptional Children are an integral part of student service to both the Department and Profession of Special Education. Student Council for Exceptional Children is a professional organization for students, and a subsidiary to the Council for Exceptional Children. These officers were:

**Spring 2002**
- President: Michelle A. Luetje-Sieks
- Vice President: Teresa R. Schumacher
- Secretary: Margaret M. Danner
- Treasurer: Kelly P. Schultz
- Publicity: Sian E. Zorns
- Membership: Stephany A. Avros
- Newsletter: Sarah B. Beverlin
Several Eastern Students were also involved in the State of Illinois Council for Exceptional Children, including:

President: Zuica Donev
Treasurer: Mary E. Hession
Vice President: Michelle A. Luetje-Sieks

Sigma Rho Epsilon is an honorary organization for students preparing to work with individuals with exceptional needs. Their officers included:

Spring 2002
President: Erin M. Bohnhoff
Vice President: Membership: Mary C. Skaggs
Vice President Program: Heidi M. Rankin
Secretary: Melissa M. Studzinski
Treasurer: Geralyn J. Mikrut
Service: Jennifer L. Gibson
Publicity: Erin R. Blakesley
Historian: Kelli Lynn Rutger

Fall 2002
President: Thomas W. Sabey
Vice President Membership: Katherine E. Linder
Vice President Program: Dana L. Pekkarinen
Secretary: Danielle R. Rozycki
Treasurer: Amy N. Martins
Service: Melissa M. Studzinski
Publicity: Jennifer A. Pisani
Historian: Christine A. Mellema

Additional Awards included the 2002 Telefund Award and the 8th Annual Stephen Wayne Kennard Scholarship. Telefund Awards are made possible through contributions from EIU alumni, faculty, and staff. The Kennard Scholarship was endowed by Mrs. Carl Fallen, with matching funds provided by AMOCO Corporation. It is named for Stephen Wayne Kennard, brother of Mrs. Fallen and Michael Kennard, and son of Ike and Joann Kennard. Telefund monies were awarded to Linda M. Cramer, Nicole R. Kopmann, Michelle A. Luetje-Sieks, Sandra S. Maxwell and Marilyn J. Theobald. Kennard Scholarship awardees were Geralyn J. Mikrut and Kelli L. Rutger (Fall 2002) and Amy N. Martins and Thomas W. Sabey (Spring 2003).
Barb McLaughlin, Eastern Alumnus and Special Education Teacher at Chebanse Elementary in Chebanse, IL, was selected as an honoree for Disney's American Teacher Award for the 2002-03 academic year. This prestigious award honors outstanding representatives of the teaching profession who construct creative learning environments in which students and teachers explore, imagine and engage in a variety of thought-provoking experiences. McLaughlin was honored in the Pre-Kindergarten through 12th Grade: Special Needs and Gifted Education (K-3rd Grade students with varying exceptionalities) category.

"Barbara approaches each student in a unique and personal way in order to ensure that she connects with them and that they are truly able to take ownership of what they learn. She creates experiences for her classes that allow them to learn about their worlds and also about expressing themselves. One lesson involved visiting a wetland to observe wildlife as part of an ecosystem. Another focused on her students writing a letter to the Department of Transportation to share their opinions about building on Native American burial grounds. Barbara aims to give her students a sense of ownership by allowing them a voice in the subject matter and by structuring the lessons so they are relevant to her students' lives," said her biography in Disney's website.

"My classroom is unique in the sense that the students are very diverse in their levels of cognitive, physical, social, perceptual, and language development. One of my deep-seated beliefs is that all children can and will learn, given the opportunity. I help them to achieve this by creating situations in which they can be successful and then building upon that success with more successful experiences," said McLaughlin.

McLaughlin is a 1971 graduate of Eastern Illinois University. She is recipient of a First of America Competitive Educational Grant for motivating students to write, and of a Target Scholarship for advanced education. McLaughlin co-developed and taught Recycling: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and is a Summer literacy tutor for elementary & middle school students. In her spare time, McLaughlin is a Special Olympics volunteer, a girl's Little League softball team coach, 4-H Leader and Youth Advisory Council member, and is active in her church.

The honorees were selected from more than 185,000 nominations submitted by students, parents, educators and community members representing all regions of the country. The Walt Disney Company will award $10,000 to each honoree, with their respective schools receiving $5,000. In addition to an awards ceremony and monetary contributions, Honorees will participate in a unique professional development program focused on innovative approaches to teaching and learning and leadership development provided by The Center for Collaborative Education out of Boston. The teachers and their principals will attend a workshop in October 2003 at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla., where they will learn how to share their creative teaching practices, and also develop an action plan focused on improving professional collaboration and teacher learning in their schools during the 2003-2004 school year. They will then work with Disney Worldwide Outreach and The Center for Collaborative Education for the next two years.

"Our nation's teachers and their creativity are an integral component in making a positive impact on our nation's future," said Michael D. Eisner, chairman and CEO, The Walt Disney Company. "Disney's American Teacher Awards is one way to recognize those whose dedication and devotion educate and help shape our nation's children. It is our honor to honor them."

Disney's American Teacher Awards is part of DisneyHand, worldwide outreach for The Walt Disney Company, whose mission is dedicated to making the dreams of families and children a reality through public service initiatives, community outreach and volunteerism in areas including learning, compassion, the arts and the environment. For more information on Disney's American Teacher Award visit http://disney.go.com/disneylearning/ata/index.html. To view Barb McLaughlin's biography on Disney's website, go to http://disney.go.com/disneylearning/ata/bio/2002/mclaughlin.html

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The Instructional Technology Center (ITC) provides technological support and resources for the College of Education & Professional Studies and the university community at large. Although services are primarily designed for practicing and pre-service educators, they are also beneficial to others.

The ITC was established in the early 1970’s as part of the Instructional Systems Technology program, and was originally named the "Instructional Materials Center."

In addition to its services, the ITC provides a facility for students, faculty, and graduates of the programs to and work on high-tech or low-tech projects (ranging from a bulletin board to a multimedia presentation). Individuals who use the facility pay only for the supplies they take with them - such as paper, lamination, or overhead transparencies. The facility provides scissors, glue sticks, markers, and colored pencils for individuals to use. Since the remodeling of Buzzard Building, the ITC has increased the amount of space it has available for students to work on projects for class work.

The ITC also functions as an “open” computer lab, providing 60 open hours for students to use the facility. There are two areas that serve as labs - room 1440, and room 1430. Classes are never held in room 1430, and the computers in this room are available at all times, where the availability of the lab in 1440 is based on class schedule. The labs are equipped with a total of 8 scanners.

The Instructional Technology Center manages checkout equipment and mobile computing equipment for classroom presentations. The ITC has available 5 mobile presentation carts, 7 digital still cameras, 5 mini-DV video cameras, VHS cameras, two mobile Gateway wireless computer carts (16 units each) for faculty checkout.

Since its inception, a faculty member has served as Director of the ITC and a Civil Service employee of the university serves as support staff, in addition to student employees. Dr. Patricia Fewell is the current director of the ITC. She is a full professor and holds tenure in the Secondary Education and Foundation Department. Dr. Fewell has taught classes for Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Department, Educational Administration and Secondary Education. Dr. Fewell holds a doctorate from Illinois State University. She is completing her 16th year at Eastern Illinois University.

Terry Hyder is the staff person in the area. She has been with the ITC for seven years. Terry works with faculty members to facilitate equipment arrival in their classroom as well as the general operation of the ITC.

The Instructional Technology Center also performs a “low tech” proficiency for students in methods classes. Students must demonstrate that they can operate overhead projectors, slide projectors, video tape machines, and opaque projectors, as well as create transparencies and operate the Ellison die press machines. Approximately 13 classes per semester go through the proficiency, with roughly 325 students in these classes.

For more information about the ITC please visit http://www.eiu.edu/~itccep5/
A student utilizes the laminator in the ITC.