From the desk of Dean Charles Rohn . . .

My Observations After One Semester

As the new Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies at Eastern Illinois University, I wanted to share some information on my perception of EIU’s efforts to meet Illinois’ needs for educational professionals. Prior to moving to higher education I spent 27 years serving K-12 schools as a teacher, principal, and superintendent. I am now in my fifth year in higher education, my first as Dean. This background provides me with a unique perspective of the educational system of Illinois and its needs. There are many positive things happening throughout both the teacher education and non-teacher education programs within our College. Due to the national attention on teacher education, I am going to focus my comments on that topic.

During my first semester as Dean, I have been very impressed with our faculty and their dedication to teacher education. They work very hard with their efforts, focused on providing practical, positive educational experiences for tomorrow’s educational professionals. Eastern’s foundation has always been teacher education. EIU is well known for the quality of its educational programs while also being one of the largest producers in Illinois of teachers, administrators, counselors, and other educational professionals. We value this tradition and are using it as a strong foundation to build upon. We are moving forward from this foundation with efforts to assure that opportunities provided for students are current and exemplary. I have been very impressed with our ability to build upon a positive foundation with innovative, practical improvements. We have made strong efforts throughout Eastern, Central, and Southern Illinois with programs to identify the needs of our educational partners in those areas. We are attempting to be aggressive in meeting these identified needs while maintaining the foundation of quality identified with EIU programs. This is being accomplished through efforts including: outreach efforts taking programs to underserved areas, increasing program offerings in critical high need areas, developing programs based upon alternative paths to certification, and implementing improvements to every program offered to students. The current financial situation makes expansion of programs a challenge, but we are working hard to find ways to be flexible, while being academically and fiscally responsible.

Educational institutions across Illinois and our nation are facing significant challenges. We in the College of Education and Professional Studies at EIU are dedicated to doing our best to help meet those challenges to assure all students, at
Additional farmland left to Eastern Illinois University

In the December issue of Connections, we reported that Identa Moler-Austin, former Charleston resident and alumnus of Eastern Illinois University, donated a 43.13 acre portion of her family's farmland to EIU. Last week, Moler transferred ownership of an additional 35 acres of farmland to EIU in a ceremony at the Neal Welcome Center.

Profits generated by the land will be used by EIU to fund the newly established Moler-Austin Scholarship Program. Scholarships will be awarded to Coles County students who want to become English teachers. 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. Austin said her parents and her husband were great believers in education, “I felt this was a way to perpetuate that love of education,” she said of the Moler-Austin Scholarship.

December Connections article regarding the Moler-Austin Scholarship

Faculty News

Dr. Barb Walker, Health Studies, conducted a presentation titled "The Virtues Of Health" during the Illinois Association For Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (IAHPERD) State Conference in St. Charles, Illinois, in November. The conference was organized by IAHPERD president Dr. Deb Wolf, Physical Education.

Scott A.G.M. Crawford, Physical Education, had the following book reviews published in the December 2002 issue of The International Journal of the History of Sport: "Figure Skating to Fancy Skating: Memoirs of the Life of Sonya Henie" by Michael Kirby; "Riot, Revelry, and Rout: Sport in Lowland Scotland Before 1860" by John Burnett; and, "Points Unknown: A Century of Great Exploration," edited by David Roberts.

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

Dr. Marylin Lisowski, Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle Level Education, led an ecological and educational expedition for teachers to Ecuador and the...
Galapagos Islands from December 14 through January 3.

**April Flood, Denise Reid, and Merribeth Bruning** are each first authors for three separate presentations at the annual SITE Conference in March, 2003.

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**.

**Judy Barford** has been accepted to present "Innovations in Collaboration: A School-University 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 Social Studies.

## Conferences and Workshops

### 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](http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/Travelgrant.html).

### PT3 Office offering student technology workshops for teacher education majors

The PT3 Office will be conducting student technology workshops again this semester. All workshops will be provided free of charge to teacher certification majors. Workshop topics include Using WebCT Communication and Discussion Tools, Scanning Photographs and Documents, Using WebCT Quiz and Assignment Tools, Creating Basic Web Pages, and Digital Camera Basics. The workshops will introduce basic skills for each topic. Participation certificates will be issued to pre-registered students in attendance. Registration is required because seating is limited. For
registration information, a complete list of topics, and to view the workshop schedule, please visit [http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/](http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/). For additional information, contact Julie Lockett at jalockett@eiu.edu. To register, please call Jennifer Smith at 581-8407 or e-mail jsmith@eiu.edu.

### 2003 Midwest Association of Teacher Educator's Annual Conference to be held April 3rd and 4th

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 at Ncarlieiu@aol.com or Ed Pultorak pultorak@siu.edu.

### PT3 Collaborative Exchange

If you have participated in a PT3 grant-funded activity, you are eligible to participate in a PT3 Collaborative Exchange. Participants visit the campus of other PT3 offices, share ideas and make recommendations. For more information, call the PT3 office at 217-581-8407, or visit [http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/](http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/)

### Beginning Teacher Induction Symposium

The 2003 Beginning Teacher Induction Symposium will be held August 8, in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ball Room. Novice teachers who are in their first four years of teaching as well as teacher mentors are eligible to participate in this event. Sessions on classroom management, differentiation in the classroom, mentor training, and other topics will be conducted throughout the day. If you are interested in presenting a topic, please contact Jennifer Smith at jsmith@eiu.edu.

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**Educational Technology Conferences**

Educational Technology conferences planned for the 2002-2003 academic year

**IL-TCE 2002**
**SITE Conference 2003**
**Educational Technology Fair**
**ROE #11 Technology Conference**

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**Tech Bytes**

Center for Academic Technology Support (CATS) offers WebCT Student Starter Kit Link

The CATS staff have create a link which contains information and step-by-step tutorials to help students learn more about WebCT. This resource was created to help faculty spend less time during class explaining and demonstrating the capabilities of WebCT to their distance education students.

To reach the link, students can go to [http://cats.eiu.edu](http://cats.eiu.edu). Click the Teaching/Learning Resources Link located at the top of the CATS homepage. On the Teaching/Learning Resources page, click the WebCT Student Starter Link.

For more information, contact CATS at 581-8396.

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**Alumni News**

Alumnus is cast member in latest 'Survivor' edition

Eastern Alumnus and Olney school administrator Butch Lockley is one of 16 contestants in the latest edition of the CBS television show "Survivor."

Lockley, a St. Louis native who received a Bachelor of Science degree from Greenville College and a Master of Science in Educational Administration from Eastern Illinois University, is middle school principal and district transportation/building grounds director in Olney.

This edition of the popular "Survivor" series took place around Brazil's Amazon River. Contestants live with very limited provisions in remote locations, and compete
for a $1 million prize, and bragging rights as the "Ultimate Survivor." The first episode of "Survivor: The Amazon" will air on CBS, February 13.

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**Etc.**

**Julie Dietz** (Health Studies) received an orange belt at Karate USA Martial Arts Family Center in Charleston on December 13, 2002. Her son Erick received his second degree brown belt in the same ceremony.

**Charles Rohn** (Dean, CEPS) and his wife Jan welcomed their first grandchildren, Benjamin and Megan into the world. The twins were born December 30, 2002.
**Issue Contributors:**
The Editor gratefully acknowledges the creative contributions of the following people:

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Dr. Brian Reid, School & University Partnerships
Dr. Charles Rohn, College of Education and Professional Studies

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Former Charleston resident and alumnus donates farmland that will yield scholarships

Former Charleston resident Identa Moler-Austin signed agreements on November 27, 2002, transferring ownership of a portion of her family’s farmland north of Charleston to Eastern Illinois University, and establishing a scholarship program for Coles County students who want to become English teachers. The university will use the land to fund the newly established Moler-Austin Scholarship. EIU received the portion of the 78.15-acre tract during a ceremony at the Neal Welcome Center in Charleston, and will receive the remainder of the property in January 2003.

“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 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.
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](http://www.il-tce.org/reg/home.asp).

**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/](http://www.aace.org/conf/site/).

**Educational Technology Fair**
The PT3 Office has announced the date of its annual Technology Fair. The event will be held 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. If you are not a PT3 grant recipient and wish to display your project, please visit [http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/techfair.htm](http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/techfair.htm). Projects to be displayed must be student-based (conducted mainly by K-12 students with the aid of teachers, mentors, and/or teacher education students). For more information, please visit [http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/techfair.htm](http://www.eiu.edu/~pt3/techfair.htm).

**ROE #11 Technology Conference**

For more conference information, visit the EdTech Conference Planner at [http://www.theconferencecalendar.com](http://www.theconferencecalendar.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.

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