



COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER - FALL 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

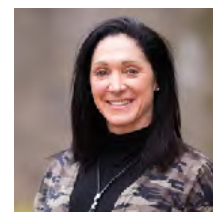
The Fall semester is off to a great start! I am so excited to welcome our new and returning students, and our faculty and staff to campus!

The College of Health and Sciences proudly continues to be the largest college at EU, with our dedication to fostering student learning and development at the core of all our endeavors. We believe in equipping our students with academic knowledge and real-world skills that prepare them for future success. Through innovative programs, hands-on experiences, and a dedicated faculty, we ensure that our students receive an education that goes beyond the classroom, making their personal and professional growth our utmost priority.

My hope for all is a year of personal growth where members of our community seize opportunities at Eastern to do amazing things on campus. I encourage everyone to meet new people, try new things, and ask for assistance when needed. Together, our contributions will make The College of Health and Sciences an even more welcoming and vibrant place than it already is!

Have a great rest of the semester!

Tracey Greenwood, PhD



DEPARTMENT NEWS

* NEW * SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCES

The former Department of Mathematics and Computer Science has expanded into its own School at Eastern. **Dr. Gregory Longo** was promoted to Assistant Dean for the School which includes the Math, Computer Science and Data Science departments. Dr. Longo, who was instrumental in bringing the Data Science programs to the University, has been at Eastern since 2018 and served as Associate Professor and Department Chair. His research has utilized a variety of statistical methods to explore individuals' religious and spiritual experiences.

SCHOOL OF NURSING - WELCOME TO NEW ASSOCIATE DEAN!

Dr. Kimberly Sharp

Dr. Sharp was born and raised in northern Ontario, Canada. Her teaching and research opportunities have included time in Africa, Israel, Belgium, Scotland, Malaysia, Thailand, and the US. Her particular areas of interest for teaching include occupational and public health, anthropology and nursing, and active learning and engagement for students.

Her extensive background as a CCNE on-site evaluator and team leader has enabled her to develop expertise in nursing accreditation benchmarking, and she regularly leads teams to review nursing programs across the country and overseas.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACULTY!



Dr. Katie Farina

*Associate Professor and
Program Director*

Prior to joining Eastern, Dr. Farina taught for ten years in the Department of Sociology, Criminology and Justice at Cabrini University where she served as coordinator of the master's program in criminology and criminal justice.

While her research interests vary, they focus on exploring criminological theory as it applies to a variety of issues such as school climate, gender, and pedagogy.

In the classroom, Dr. Farina emphasizes a student-first environment that aims to include all in an interactive conversation.



Dr. Vivian Smith

Associate Professor

Before joining Eastern, Dr. Smith taught and chaired the Sociology, Criminology, and Justice Department at Cabrini University.

Her research focuses on centering the lived experiences of women of color, understanding the collateral consequences of mass incarceration, and examining factors related to substance abuse, drug policy, gender, and crime. She currently serves as an executive member of the PA Delaware County Reentry Coalition.

Dr. Smith considers herself an advocate for her students and loves being in the classroom. She is a former member of the Virginia and Maryland Army National Guard.

CHS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BIOLOGY

Several Environmental Science and Biology faculty, students, and recent alumni were involved in writing the following peer-reviewed paper: *Tracking ground arthropod diversity in urban forests: Lessons learned from a new undergraduate long-term project*. 2024. **Brian Alfaro, Riley C. Porter, Tyler G. Foote, Mercedes J. Lohmann, Caroline Herring, Kaitlyn E. Blankley, Julianne N. Anemone, Kayla Madden, David W. Unander, and Rachael E. Alfaro.** *Urban Naturalist*. 74:1–10

SOCIAL WORK

The Social Work Department is celebrating its 50th year of BSW accreditation. Congratulations on this exciting milestone!

ASTRONOMY & PHYSICS

Dr. David Bradstreet was invited to present at the Digistar Users Group Annual Conference on October 8 in Salt Lake City. He presented his newly designed Fulldome Curriculum for the Digistar 7 planetarium remotely via Zoom. He was able to control the planetarium remotely to present the material to the attendees within the dome as well as those attending online. He presented the lessons entitled Boy Scout Astronomy Merit Badge, Synodic Period of Venus, Synodic Period of Mars, Galilean Moons and Precession Part Deux.

NURSING DEPARTMENT'S BLESSING OF THE HANDS CEREMONY

The Blessing of the Hands ceremony was held on September 25th. It's purpose is to connect the nurse with the reason why they have chosen this profession. It reminds them that their work has a profound impact on the lives of those they care for, and that as believers, they are reliant on the Lord for true physical and spiritual healing.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 20, 2024 @ 7:00PM COMPUTER SCIENCE CLUB ALUMNI PANEL

The Computer Science Club is hosting an alumni panel on **November 20 from 7pm-9pm in McInnis Hall**. The panel will provide the opportunity for students to ask questions about the industry and receive advice on how to best prepare for jobs and technical interviews.

NOVEMBER 20, 2024 @ 4:00PM CHEMICAL SCIENCES STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The Chemistry Department will be hosting their Student Research Symposium on **November 20 at 4pm in the Eagle Great Room**. Come show your support for the hard work these students are undertaking!

APRIL 11, 2025 CHS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The College of Health and Sciences will be hosting a Research Symposium for CHS students and faculty on **Friday, April 11, 2025 in McInnis Hall**. All are invited to attend and learn more about the amazing research and endeavors happening within CHS.

Do you have exciting news to share? An upcoming special event? New research or promotion?

**Email
chsdean@eastern.edu
and tell us all about it!**