

A NOTE FROM THE PROVOST

"Innovation" at EU: Core Value #7



In this edition of Pathways, we continue with a review of the EU "core values" rolled out by our President at the annual Fall assembly. As a reminder, these seven values are:

E1 - Excellence

A - Authenticity

S - Stewardship

T - Thoughtfulness

E² - Enthusiasm

R - Relationships

N - iNnovation

As we turn to *Innovation*, we come to the final but not least important of Eastern's core values. This value is unique among the others. Whereas the first six values fit naturally into a "Christian" or "biblical" perspective on faithful living, Christians have often considered "innovation" to be a threat to the faith. The fear, I believe, is that innovation might signal a "new theology" that departs from the gospel once delivered.

While theological innovation is a very important theme to discuss, my primary concern in this issue of Pathways is not

theology but rather innovation as it applies to other areas of our service to students. Are our academic programs as excellent, convenient, and affordable as they can possibly be? Do we deliver truly transformative student experiences, especially but not only for our residential students? Do our extraand co-curricular programs meet expectations? Is it easy for students to navigate through our non-academic processes, as, for example, in our IT, registration, billing, housing, and advising services? Does the internet work? Are the right areas well-lighted at night? Is the food excellent and accessible? The list of questions could go on and on.

If EU is going to be excellent (core value #1), we MUST ask these kinds of questions everyday, in part because we're never perfect and in part because, in an always changing world and institution, we could fall behind without realizing it. Human beings tend to default to the comfortable status quo. We like to do things as "we've always done them" and as "they've always worked." Sometimes, that's a good thing. Sometimes, it's not. One of the reasons that EU has had a difficult time over the last decade is precisely because our innovations have been too few, or ineffective, or too slow for a fast higher education context. Innovation is a key for our future. That's why it's one of our core values.

The importance of innovation must be balanced with and informed by other core values. Any innovations we pursue should be affordable (Stewardship!), informed by facts (Thoughtfulness!), and sensitive to the needs of both employees and student customers (Relationships!). Innovation is not an end for its own sake but rather a tool or process that helps our community grow stronger and more equipped for the mission of faith, reason, and justice.

As near as I can tell, if we're going to secure a more stable foundation for this mission, we'll need to pursue some pretty obvious innovations that we have so far left on the proverbial table. These include new and improved curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programs, and also new facilities and staffing resources. Many of these innovations are "synergistic," in that they only work, or only work well, when they are fully adopted by everyone rather than by a few programs and offices. Eastern will be its best when we're all pushing together in the same or at least compatible directions.

Meanwhile, there are many possible innovations still to be noticed and pursued. I don't know what they might be. As we press on with what obviously needs to be done, let's not lose sight of the constant flow of opportunities to get 1% better everyday.

Yours, in pursuit of innovative change, Kent

JUNE SHOUT OUT

Shout Out to...

Megan Zinsli!

Megan started at Eastern a year ago as a GPS Enrollment Counselor and recently moved into a Sr Enrollment Counselor position, adding military recruitment to her role! In just a two month period, she has completely revamped the military recruitment process. She is extremely hands-on with students, speaking to them about what they want to do with their lives and how EU can help them. She walks every military student through their specific process, whether it is using their VA benefits or qualifying for our Hero Grant. And she has taken time out of her regular work day to attend training, work on policies and procedures that need updating, and attend events that benefit military students.

Megan has a huge heart for these students and has already been talking to leadership about different verbiage to be included in our communication flow, making their experiences better. With all that, she is still managing a full recruitment pipeline!

Thank you Megan!



VERSE OF THE MONTH

...and He has filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills —to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic crafts.

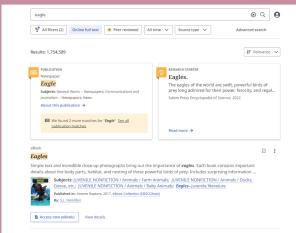
(Exodus 35: 31-32)

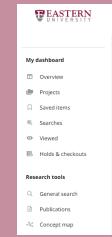
LIBRARY NEWS

We will be presenting at the Fall Faculty Workshop

....please attend to learn more about the website and other services we offer!







The new library <u>website</u> has an interface for **Eagle Search**, our discovery tool that brings multiple resources into one result list. Use the search bar at the top of the website, and you'll be able to see the updated look and feel for the results. Filtering tools are now underneath the search bar, able to be minimized on the fly for a cleaner appearance, and icons for downloading, citing, sharing, and more are easily accessible and identifiable.

A new feature called "My dashboard" now takes up the right. Tied to your Eastern login, you can now create project folders to save your work, instantly see your searches and recently viewed items, and keep track of any e-books you've downloaded from Eagle Search. You can also look at our complete A to Z Journal List under "Publications" and use the Concept Map feature to visualize your search terms in an expanded graph.

If you have any questions about the website or Eagle Search, reach out to Chelsea Post, Systems Librarian.

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS



If you happened to be in Fowler on a Friday morning this summer, you would have noticed a bevy of activity! Prospective students and their families (often totaling 50-60 people) fill Fowler Great Room to learn about Eastern, then take a tour and have lunch.

Thank you to the entire Admissions team, who are doing an amazing job this year with recruitment!

SPOTLIGHT

We shine the spotlight on...

Colton Domblesky!

Admissions Counselor

A recent graduate of Eastern, Colton Domblesky has studied three different disciplines in the span of seven years: Veterinary Science, Education, and Criminal Justice. He also helped Drs. John Fantuzzo and K-lee Johnson launch the first official cohort of Eastern's Prison Education Program. The community at Eastern has always been special to Colton, and he didn't feel ready to leave it yet. One of the first times he felt Eastern's community was upon meeting his Admissions Counselor, who strongly influenced Colton's decision to attend. When he was looking for a job and saw that the Undergraduate Admissions Office was hiring, Colton remembered his own admissions process. He decided that he wanted to be



that first source of community for prospective students and help them feel how strong Eastern's is!

Colton has an older sister and six-year-old niece and lives 25 miles east of Lancaster City with his father, aunt, dog, and cat. He is the cook in his household and loves to grill in the summer. He also loves plants and has at least twelve in his bedroom alone! Practicing photograpy since the age of fifteen, Colton plans to launch a side business soon. A fun fact about Colton: he has never broken a bone!

Thank you for your dedication to the Eastern team, Colton!

Brian Minster!

Senior Associate Registrar

The Registrar's Office is pleased to welcome Brian Minster, who joined the team in May as the Senior Associate Registrar. Brian brings a wealth of knowledge and experience and is already making a big impact. The Registrar's Office is thrilled to have him!

Brian loves spending time with his family and is also an avid runner; he tries to run at least one half-marathon each year! When Brian is not spending time with his family (see photo to the right) or running, he enjoys reading fiction novels.



Welcome to Eastern, Brian!

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS

Biology Newsletter (2021-2022) <u>Library</u>
<u>Connections</u>
(Warner Library)

NEWS @ THE HUB (Reg/FA/StuAccts) Nursing
Connections
(Summer 2022)

MARKETING

Spring Magazine:



Our Spring 22 Magazine hit mailboxes in June. With the theme of MULTIPLY, this issue contains inspiring articles about Eastern's enrollment growth, the new Vision, Mission, and Values, Alumni of the Year award winners, a Student Corner, Dean's Reflection, Beaker comic strip, and more.

EU Program Videos:



We're continuing to create student testimonial videos to promote Eastern's wide array of programs. Check out this recent promo for the Youth Ministry department!

TRANSIT ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN:



We recently launched a fresh transit campaign with Septa & Patco. The summer-fall transit campaign includes about 600 interior train posters, station posters, and in-train videos that are designed to meet people in their daily commuting journey.

Check out more sample ads