

# WELLSPRING

## College of Health and Sciences Newsletter

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### MS in Data Science Takes Off

At the request of the Provost, the MS in Data Science, originally slated for a Summer of 2021 start, has launched this fall, ahead of the original timeline. Greg Longo, Ph.D., with the assistance of Computer Science Professor Michael Morabito, Ph.D., rolled up his sleeves and tackled the task of creating a new model of instruction here at EU. The program is not only online, but also completely asynchronous, which can accommodate students from various time zones and differing work schedules. The quality of presentation and adaptability of this model to the student's circumstances is reflected in the positive enrollment numbers. The Fall 1 term included 91 new students and Fall 2 will add another 54 new students, with many more prospective students in the "pipeline." The program is already expanding the curriculum to include Tableau and Qlik (pronounced "click"). Congratulations, Greg, on this new and successful beginning.



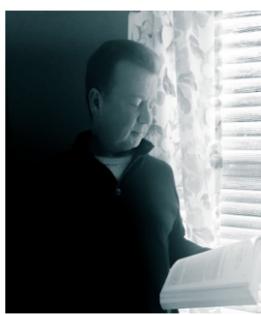
### New Faculty in CHS



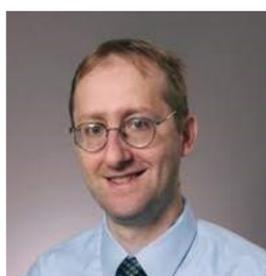
**Kevin Brown, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor & Department Chair of Social Work—Dr. Brown comes to us from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.*



**Patrizia Fitzgerald, Ph.D.**  
*Director of M.S. in Nursing, Associate Professor of Nursing—Dr. Fitzgerald comes to us from Penn State Harrisburg.*



**Paul Felker, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor of Social Work—Dr. Felker, who taught here from 2004-2015, returns to us from Bloomsburg University and Temple University.*



**Calin Marian, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor of Biology—Dr. Marian comes to us from the University of Central Arkansas.*



**Jarrett Henderson, Ph.D.**  
*Affiliate Professor of Counseling Psychology—Dr. Henderson has been an Adjunct Professor with EU since 2016 and is a Post-Doctoral Fellow with the Forensic Psychology & Neuropsychology Science; Neuropsychology & Rehabilitation Associates in Pennington, NJ.*



**Rebecca Reape, RN, CSN, MEd**  
*Affiliate Professor of Nursing—Ms. Reape, who has been an Adjunct Professor at EU since 2016, is the Certified School Nurse & District Coordinator for the Upper Dublin School District.*

### Further Certifications

**Dr. Cheryl Sparks**, Assistant Professor and Co-chair the Department of Marriage and Family Therapy became a trained facilitator with *Building Lasting Connections*, which is an attachment-based program for pre-marital couples and others to have healthy relationships and also *Created for Connections*, which is a workshop for couples in distress.

**Dr. Ruth Palmer**, Chair of the Counseling Psychology Department, received additional certification as a Certified Grief Counselor Specialist with the International Association of Trauma Professionals.

### Publications

**Mike Mtika** (August 2020) *Advances in Sociology Research*. "Sustaining Household Food Security in Agrarian Societies." Mike Mtika is a Professor and Chair of the Sociology Department.

**Shelita Jackson** (Spring 2021) *Social Work & Christianity*. "Faith, Resilience and Practice: The Relationship as the Medium for Connected Teaching." Shelita Jackson is a Lecturer in the Social Work Department.

### NEACJS President



**Sheri Van Horne, Ph.D.**, Director of the Criminal Justice program is the 2020-2021 President and Executive Board member of *The Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences*. This organization exists to promote the interests of criminal justice educators and agencies.

### Partnerships with PCOM and Temple

Eastern University has secured partnerships with the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and Temple University for admittance of Eastern University baccalaureate graduates into their graduate programs. At PCOM two seats are reserved for Eastern students who have an interest in osteopathic medicine. At Temple University all qualified Eastern students are guaranteed entrance for pre-pharmacy. We are also partnering with Temple University's 4+1 accelerated programs in cyber security, biotechnology, bioinformatics, bio-innovation, science writing, and forensic chemistry.

### PEP Progress, Praise God!

The Prison Education Program, under the direction of Dr. Kimberlee Johnson, has received the Second Chance Pell (SCP) Experimental Site Award. The U.S. Dept. of Education announced that Eastern University is included in the expansion of the SCP initiative to provide need-based Pell grants to people in state and federal prisons. We are now one of 130 colleges in the country with this opportunity.

In addition, the Middle States Commission on Higher Ed has approved the EU-SCI Chester prison location. Thanks to all who assisted with submitting a favorable application.

### Say "Hello!" To Tamalei Sharp

Tamalei is a first year student here at Eastern. She is from the Souderton area and is undecided in her major, but is leaning toward Psychology. As the Office Assistant in the CHS Dean's Office she will be supporting the Executive Assistant, Eulalia Lowry, with her graphic design and newsletter experience, as well as general office duties. Give her a friendly EU welcome if you see her in the course of your day.



### A Message from the Dean, Trish Reger

Can I dare say that six weeks into the semester, it appears that we are adjusting well to our new norm? It has not been easy and the journey is far from being over, but I am grateful for and proud of the hard work and perseverance demonstrated by the faculty, staff, and students across the university. However, despite this sense of optimism, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the very real anxieties unique to these times. Thus, now more than ever, we need to remain focused on what grounds us, as human beings, and what connects us as a community. Take time to care for yourself and to do the things that keep you focused and fresh. Make an effort to reach out to classmates and colleagues to let them know you care. Most importantly, keep in close conversation with our Heavenly Father. In Paul's letter to the Philippians (4:6-7) we are reminded, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ."