



Photo by Thomas Price

# CoLA Lowdown

## A NOTE

### *From the Dean*

We've passed the 10<sup>th</sup> day census moment and CoLA continues to impress with the data we're generating regarding retention and recruitment of our majors.

- Overall Fall-Spring retention number for CoLA: 76%--76% in spring 2024 (note: previous "overall" figures include the SSI population);
- Overall Fall-Spring retention number for CoLA, minus SSI: 90.4%--88.6% in spring 2024;
- Fall-Spring Retention for SSI students only: 69.4%--spring 2024 was 67%;
- Overall number of CoLA majors: 810—it was 778 at this time last year.

It's true that our overall retention number is considerably lower than last year, but when you drill down a little further, our retention for the undecided, conditionally admitted students (SSI) is up from last spring, so that tells me that the hard work everyone is putting in to make that population decide to stay at SIU is working. Among our CoLA majors, our retention is outstanding, even as CoLA's majors are also steadily growing in number, generally.

One possible reason for our success with the SSI students (formerly EXP) is the dedication of our peer mentors. Trained as Student Success Coaches, these extraordinary students connect with any student in CoLA who wants to interact with them, and they are also assigned a group of SSI students specifically to meet with and provide whatever support or information an undecided student might need. They interact with this population so regularly I've asked them to put together some kind of panel that would share their "lessons learned" and other thoughts as to how we may all continue to provide support to these students (event TBD, but watch for a date announcement). If you know or see one of these students, please thank them for the work they're doing for CoLA:

- Hannah Elkebir
- Tobias Gillespie
- Eris Golden
- Noemi Gomez
- King Haynes
- Brogan Long
- Jessica Orange
- Alyssa Poker
- Kayden Shaw
- Sophia Slupski
- Rhi Taylor
- D'Nyia Williams

Thank You!

## **College Calendars**

[CoLA Events Calendar](#)

[CoLA Faculty & Staff Calendar](#)

## **College Committees**

The CoLA Committees webpage lists all the committee meeting minutes.

## College

# Meetings

**Directors** meetings take place the second Thursday of every month at 3pm, Dean's Conference room, Faner 2408.

**Undergraduate Program Coordinators** meetings take place the fourth Tuesday of every month at 3pm, Dean's Conference room, Faner 2408.

**College Advisory Committee** meeting will take place Wednesday, January 29, at 2pm, Faner 2406.

**CoLA Student Advisory Council** meeting will take place Monday, February 3, at 12pm, Faner 2408.

## Upcoming

# Deadlines

February 24: Sabbatical reports

March 1: DRA nominations

March 3: TT Annual Review Letters for untenured faculty due

March 31: A/P performance evaluations

April 4: TT workload assignments due

April 18: NTT workload assignments due

May 1: NTT Annual Review

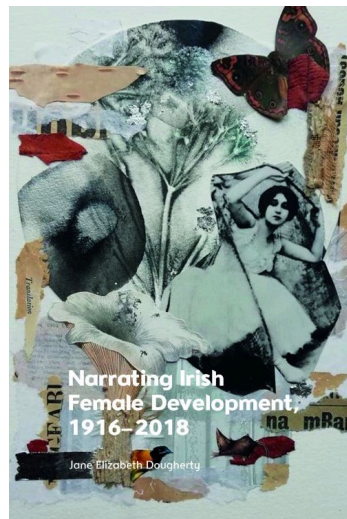
May 15: GA performance evaluations

# Share Your News

Do you have news to add to an upcoming CoLA Lowdown? Submit [this form](#) to share news, events, awards, and more with the rest of the College.

## Recent Accomplishments

### Faculty



**Dr. Jane Elizabeth Dougherty**, Associate Professor in the School of Literature, Writing & Digital Humanities and affiliate of Africana & Multicultural Studies, recent book, *Narrating Irish Female Development 1916-2018*, was published by [Edinburgh University Press](http://www.edinburghuniversitypress.com).



The Center for Dewey Studies wins American Philosophical Association Grant. The [American Philosophical Association](http://www.americanphilosophicalassociation.org) has awarded a grant to the Center for Dewey Studies in support of our planned conference in October 2025: John Dewey's Experience and Nature: A Centennial Celebration. This award from the APA's "small grants" program will allow us to recruit and fund several top-rate keynote speakers for the event, who will travel to Carbondale along with an international group of scholars. A call for papers and announcement of invited speakers is forthcoming on the [Center for Dewey Studies website](http://www.cdwstudies.org).

## Important Information

The College of Liberal Arts is pleased to announce that the **CoLA Faculty Incentive Programs** are now active and accepting applications. New applications for incentive funds are due to Benjamin Bricker ([brickeb@siu.edu](mailto:brickeb@siu.edu)) by Monday, March 3, 2025. Each of the six programs has a specific target and focus, as described briefly below. The attached documents provide more detailed information on each Incentive program, and we encourage all faculty to read them and consider applying.

- The [Faculty Summer Research Incentive Program](#) is open to all Assistant and Full Professors. Up to two \$5,000 awards will be made under this program to support research and creative activities of faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor or Professor.
- The [Associate Professor Summer Research Incentive Program](#) is open to all Associate Professors. Up to two \$5,000 awards will be made under this program to support the research and creative activities of faculty at the rank of Associate Professor.
- The [Interdisciplinary Research/Teaching Incentive Program](#) will provide financial support for CoLA faculty to engage in interdisciplinary or collaborative research, teaching, or creative activity projects. Up to two \$3,000 awards will be made through this fund.
- The [Inclusive Excellence Incentive Program](#) provides financial support for faculty members engaging in teaching, research, or creative activity projects focused on inclusive excellence intended to honor the challenging task of creating a world-class liberal arts college on a heritage of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Up to two \$3,000 awards will be made through this fund.
- The [Pedagogy Exploration Incentive Program](#) provides support for faculty members of any rank to promote innovative pedagogical offerings within new or existing courses, including but not limited to: new modes of content delivery, use of new or innovative technology, the use of new experiential learning opportunities for students, and the development of new interdisciplinary courses. Up to five awards of \$1,000 each will be made for use over the next fiscal year.
- The [Grant Writing Incentive Program](#) provides funds to support and motivate selected faculty members who are engaging in or planning to engage in the grant writing process. Up to two awards of \$2,000 will be made.

**The National Funding Foundation** is offering the **Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop** - Virtual Online Program on March 10, 2025. Interested development professionals, administrators, researchers, faculty, and graduate students should register as soon as possible, as demand means that seats will fill up quickly. All participants will receive the National Funding Foundation's Certificate in Professional Grant Proposal Writing. For more information, call (626) 385-8211 or visit the National Funding Foundation [website](#).

**Speakers for Rend Lake College Diversity Week, Spring 2025:** RLC is hosting their Spring 2025 Diversity Week during the week of March 24<sup>th</sup> and they are

looking for faculty or graduate students who would be interested in giving a talk. These presentations are scheduled for 50 minutes, and they try to have one talk per day. The topic is decided by the speaker, and often connects to their research or teaching interests. Tuesday-Friday are still available. These are paid talks. Contact Rachel Wolters ([rachelw@siu.edu](mailto:rachelw@siu.edu)) if interested.

## *Upcoming Events*



# 2025 BLACK HISTORY MONTH AFRICAN AMERICANS AND LABOR



## Friday, 31st Jan

**BSFC Meet & Greet**

5-7:30 pm

Student Center Bowling Alley

## Saturday, 1st Feb

**Labor of Love Art Exhibit -**

**Alumna DeSande R**

February & March

Sharp Museum - SIUC

## Monday, 3rd Feb

**Kickoff - History of Black History**

5-7 pm

Guyon Auditorium - Morris Library

## Tuesday, 4th Feb

**Resume Writing Workshop**

Noon-1:30 pm

Morris Library Rm 139

## Wednesday, 5th Feb

**Etiquette Dinner**

4:30-7 pm

Old Main Lounge -  
2nd Flr Student Center

## Thursday, 6th Feb

**Lunch & Learn -**

**Cultural Compression**

11:30 am-12 pm

Student Services Bldg Rm 150/160

## Light of Truth Screening -

**Documentary**

5:30-7:30 pm

Guyon Auditorium - Morris Library

## Friday, 7th Feb

**Beauty In Black - Laboring For The**

**Right To Own Our Beauty**

2-4:30 pm

Student Services Bldg Rm 150/160

## Friday, 7th Feb

**African American Museum of Soul**

**Soul Food Dinner - \$15/order**

4-6 pm carry out

Elks Lodge - 220 W

Jackson, Carbondale, IL

7-8 pm dine in

## Saturday, 8th Feb

**Black Business Expo 2025 -**

**Black Chamber of Commerce**

10 am

Civic Center - 200 S. IL Ave,

Carbondale, IL

## Monday, 10th Feb

**Career Development - Teaching**

**Students Best Practices For**

**Researching The Workforce**

Noon-1:30 pm

Morris Library Rm 139

## Tuesday, 11th Feb

**Video: Countering The Conspiracy To**

**Destroy Black Boys**

4-6 pm

Guyon Auditorium

## Thursday, 13th Feb

**Financial Literacy**

5:30-7:30 pm

Student Services Bldg Rm 150/160

## Friday, 14th Feb

**Day of Remembrance: Black Lives**

**Matter**

9 am-1 pm

Student Services Bldg Rm 170

## Monday, 17th Feb

**Legacy: African Americans Making**

**History Through Lineage**

Noon-1 pm EST

Virtual

## Tuesday, 18th Feb

**Blacks In Medicine**

2-4 pm

Student Services Bldg Rm 150/160

## Wednesday, 19th Feb

**Mental Health Access, Treatment,**

**and Success Rates Amongst The**

**Black Community**

4-6 pm

Student Services Bldg Rm 150/160

## Sunday, 23rd Feb

**Variety Show**

4:30-7 pm

Ballroom D

## Monday, 24th Feb

**Being Black and Queer**

3-7 pm

Guyon Auditorium - Morris Library

## Tuesday, 25th Feb

**Planned Giving Seminar**

Noon-1:30 pm Virtual

## Wednesday, 26th Feb

**Media Day - Fireside Discussing DEI**

Noon-1:30 pm

Guyon Auditorium - Morris Library

## Friday, 28th Feb

**Perseverance: Black Women In**

**Leadership**

11 am-12:30 pm

Morris Library Guyon Auditorium

For disability accommodations call 618/453-5738



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ANTI-RACISM,  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

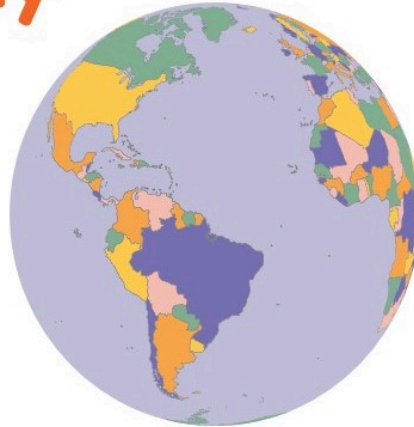


SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
BLACK RESOURCE CENTER

49th Annual Southern Illinois University

# World Languages and Cultures Day

February 3rd, 2025



World Languages and Cultures Day 2025 Volunteers: CoLA and the School of Languages and Linguistics will be hosting the 49<sup>th</sup> annual WLD on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Student Center. This brings around 1,000 local high school students to SIU, and they attend sessions led by faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students. We are still in need of **15 more volunteers** to help welcome and guide students during the Welcome Session, and between breakout sessions. If available, [please sign-up here](#). Your help is greatly appreciated in welcoming students to campus.



CoLA LLC Event



# Donuts in the Dorms

8:30-10:00am  
Schneider Hall Conference Room

**Monday, January 13th**

**Monday, February 3rd**

**Monday, March 3rd**

**Monday, April 7th**

Free Donuts! This is an opportunity to  
check-in with your R&R Coordinators  
and Academic Advisors.

# CoLA Board Game Night



**Location: Cambria Room, Student Center  
(1st Floor) from 5:00-7:00pm**

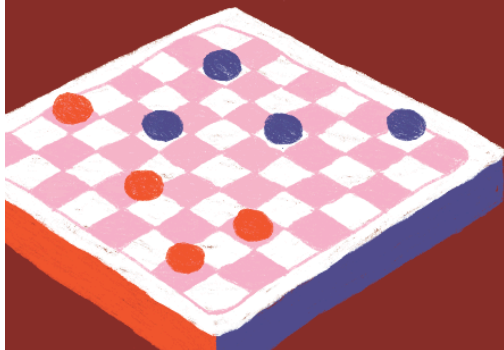
***CoLA LLC, RSOs, and any CoLA  
majors are invited to a board game  
night on Tuesday, February 11th***

***PARTICIPATING RSOS INCLUDE: SLING  
CLUB, CLASSICS CLUB,  
ANTHROPOLOGY CLUB, SALUKI  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND SIGMA TAU  
DELTA***

**A raffle will be held for free  
student tickets to attend the  
Sean Astin talk during  
SalukiCon (Saturday, February  
15th)**



- *Snacks Provided*
- *You may bring your own board games.*



**Register Here!**



**JOIN  
US!**

**COLA  
LLC**



**LUNCH WITH  
RACHEL AND RITA**

*(Your CoLA Recruitment and Retention  
Coordinators)*

- Gather together for lunch with other CoLA LLC students.
- Ask us Questions!
- Learn about resources and events on-campus.

*Trueblood Dining  
Hall 12:00-1:00pm*

Monday, January 27th  
Tuesday, February 25th  
Monday, March 24th  
Tuesday, April 15th



