



CoLA Lowdown

A NOTE

From the Dean

Here we are beginning the fall 2023 semester in CoLA. Welcome back and welcome onboard to all of our new faculty. There is so much to celebrate as we embark on a new academic year. I am so very

College Calendars

[CoLA Events Calendar](#)

grateful for all the work that has gone into planning a successful new semester in CoLA—from scheduling, to course preparation, to advising, to the first day, and to the excitement we share with students. But this is just the beginning.

Look for all the curricular and co-curricular events we have coming up in CoLA and do your best to encourage students to participate (and participate yourself as you're able). What we do in the Liberal Arts is crucial to the whole student—not just a narrow subject, discipline, or vocation. Help convince your students why your course is so important to them. Do not assume they know. Help them to see the broader horizon as it relates to your course(s).

Research suggests that one of the best predictors of student retention is through faculty-to-student interaction. CoLA's retention numbers this year soar above SIU's numbers, indicating to me that faculty in CoLA excel at interacting with students. Let's keep that excellence going into this next academic year.

[CoLA Faculty & Staff Calendar](#)

College Committees

[CoLA Committees Webpage](#)

The CoLA Committees webpage lists all the committee meeting minutes.

College

Meetings

The first **Undergraduate Program Coordinators** meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 29 at 3pm, Dean's Conference room, Faner 2408. The rest of the semester's meetings will be on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 3pm, Dean's Conference room, Faner 2408.

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

Upcoming

Deadlines

Aug. 25: Syllabi for all courses
Sept. 15: Current CV's for new faculty
Sept. 15: Form 90s/100s
Oct. 2: Sabbatical reports
Oct. 6: P&T Dossiers
Oct. 20: Sabbatical requests

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. [Gretchen R. Dabbs](#), Professor of Anthropology, recently won her second [national championship in triathlon](#). Dr. Dabbs won the Athena class ultra-distance (140.6 miles) triathlon national championship at the Michigan Titanium triathlon on August 13, 2023. Dr. Dabbs previously won the 2022 national

championship in 2022 for the same distance. Dr. Dabbs trains with the SIU triathlon club.

Dr. Joshua Daniel, Associate Professor and Director of Writing Studies, in the School of Literature, Writing, and Digital Humanities, recently gave a Keynote presentation at New Mexico Highlands University on ChatGPT and Bard as part of his work on the future of the Humanities in Higher Education.

Dr. Leonard Gadzekpo, School of Africana and Multicultural Studies, Associate Professor, Cook Professor, exhibited his drawings and paintings at University of Warsaw American Studies Center and in Wroclaw City Hall in Poland, and had another exhibition in Oldenburg, Germany, and in Charleroi, Belgium. Along with conference presentations at University of Cape Town, University of Johannesburg, and University of South Africa, Pretoria, he also exhibited his artworks. In Botswana he gave two open talks and also exhibited his artworks.

Dr. Allison Hammer is a new faculty member in the School of Africana and Multicultural Studies, and new WGSS Coordinator. Their monograph, *Masculinity in Transition*, will be widely available from University of Minnesota Press on October 17. The book is the culmination of a decade of research and articles on masculinity and American culture of the 20th and 21st centuries. Hammer looks at “toxic masculinity” through a trans and queer lens to explore its historical root systems and cultural and political expressions. Through a broad archive of poetry, fiction, performance, film, and streaming media, Hammer shows how new ways of being masculine have been developed by artists and activists. Their archive suggests the fragility of the toxic norms in culture and politics. The book will transform and transgender critical masculinities studies and have a field-redefining impact on literary criticism, film and media studies, gender studies, trans studies, queer theory, political theory, and more.

Jean-Pierre Reed, Professor, School of Africana Studies & Multicultural Studies, and School of Anthropology, Political Science & Sociology, had a recent invited Talk “What can we learn from the civil rights movement? Theoretical teachings for the 21st century.” School of Social Sciences, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile. July 19th, 2023.

Dr. Anna Sicari, Assistant Professor, School of Writing, Literature, and Digital Humanities. *Our Body of Work: Embodied Administration and Teaching*, an edited volume that came out with Utah State University Press in 2022, received honorable mention by the Council of Writing Program Administrators. CWPA is the national association of college writing program administrators and they announced this award at their annual conference in July. The text is also currently

nominated for the Conference on College Composition and Communication's Best Book Award. CCCCs is the world's largest professional organization for researching and teaching composition.

With support from the CoLA Dean's office, the **Chinese program in the School of Languages and Linguistics** has received a grant from Taiwan's Ministry of Education to promote Chinese language and culture education on campus and in the region. The grant supports eight Salukis from a wide range of disciplines to travel to Taiwan to study the Chinese language and culture during Summer 2023. In addition to studying the Chinese language, they engaged with the local junior high school students to learn traditional Chinese instruments, experienced the Chinese dragon boat festival race, and learned local aboriginal culture, history, and ecosystem. Students interested in participating in the study abroad program in Taiwan can visit this [link](#).

Graduate Students

The work of four School of Literature, Writing, and Digital Humanities MFA students--**Lindsay Pierce, Dajonea Robinson, Mi Tran** and **Whitney Graham**—was represented by Lindsay Pierce at the [EVA London 2023 Conference](#), held from 10th–14th July 2023. The conference was organized by The Computer Arts Society. The presentation was titled "Social Memberships and Identity Representation in Text-to-Image AIs." A version of this material was first presented at the Digital Narrative Showcase in Morris Library in April 2023. [Video recording of the presentation](#) or [Print publication](#)

Important Information

HEROES *Higher Education Resources and Opportunities for Salukis In Need*

SALUKIS IN NEED



ASSISTANCE IS
AVAILABLE FOR YOU.



WHAT IS THE HEROES PROGRAM?

The HEROES program is for SIU students experiencing difficulties with housing insecurity, food insecurity, and other financial challenges, including access to healthcare, transportation, childcare, clothing, personal care items, and school necessities.

HEROES also provides individualized support, guidance, and advocacy to ensure all students receive wrap-around care and the resources to succeed at SIU.

We want to provide these services to you or anyone who needs them. Staff, faculty, families, or peers can refer students for assistance by submitting a SalukiCares report or contacting Jaime Clark, HEROES liaison. Students may also self-refer to the program.

The program aims to reduce insecurities and improve wellness, remove barriers to academic success, and empower individuals to invest in their futures. Services may include locating clothing, personal care items, school materials, housing options, and transportation; assistance with food, medical, financial, and housing assistance applications; access to medical care and counseling; and other services and resources that may be helpful with your unique situation.

We understand that college is a difficult time. We want to give you the opportunities and resources to pursue your goals without insecurity-related stress. Assistance is available to address any current need or to minimize potential future needs.

HEROES can provide students with the following:

- Housing Assistance
- Food Security
- Medical Care
- Counseling
- Transportation
- Clothing/Personal Items/School Supplies
- Financial Aid Applications
- Food/Medical/Housing Assistance Applications
- Other Resources & Services...

The HEROES Campus Liaison, Dr. Jaime Clark, can be contacted at 618/453-6341 or email heroes@siu.edu. For more information about HEROES, please visit the following website or scan the QR code: heroes.siu.edu



HEROES.SIU.EDU
WEBSITE

SIU SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CARBONDALE **STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

@SIUHealthCenter

SHC.SIU.EDU
618/453-3311

Upcoming Events

SIU
CARBONDALE

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
**COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS**

Breezeway Blast



***RAFFLE PRIZES
ICE CREAM TRUCK
DUNK TANK
BUNGEE RUN
DJ**

***ALL COLA STUDENTS WILL BE
REGISTERED FOR RAFFLE, MUST
BE PRESENT TO WIN**



**August 24
2-4pm
Faner Hall
Breezeway**



Research Brownbag on "Carbondale's Religious Diversity" Tuesday, August 29th at Noon, in the Student Center Mississippi Room. This brownbag is part of SIU's Diversity Week. Please bring a lunch. The presentation will be by Tobin Grant, Political Science.



COLA MEET & GREET

ALL FACULTY, STAFF, AND
GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE INVITED

- MEET OUR NEW COLA FACULTY
- OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM 10TH
DAY ENROLLMENT NUMBERS
- REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH
4:30-6:00PM
FANER ATRIUM/COURTYARD



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

BAGEL WEDNESDAY IS BACK!



7:45 AM to 10:30(ish)

Dean's Office Atrium, Faner Hall

Use the University Museum entrance at the north end of Faner Hall, then go to the second floor and follow the smell of coffee!





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