

## **Graduate School Advisory Council**

Friday, February 18th, 2022

11AM – Rath Loft & Online via Zoom

**A. Next Meeting: March 4<sup>th</sup> in Rath Loft @ 11am & Online via Zoom**

**I. Dr. Tanya Willard- Coordinator, Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity (Stevenson Hall Lower Level, [lgbtqa@eiu.edu](mailto:lgbtqa@eiu.edu), (217-581-7117))**

**A. Language Matters**

1. *Trans folks routinely report: being misgendered, being deadnamed, language that excludes them (instead try y'all, guys gals and nonbinary pals, friends, humans, colleagues, gentlethems, etc.), Inaction from bystanders (either saying nothing or saying too much)*

**B. Why Pronouns Matter:** *They are identifiers; a pronoun is an acknowledgement of an individual, so it is important to recognize a person as they see themselves. In his blog, Bodies, Michael Spinola notes that, "A trans person's chosen pronouns are about connecting on a personal level. When you respect them, you hear them, and you use those pronouns."*

**C. How to ask for Pronouns:** *Just Ask: "What are your pronouns?" DON'T ASSUME! Don't expect that if you ask once, you are set forever because they can change. Try to incorporate your pronouns into introductions and explain to those around you your purpose in asking.*

**D. Common Pronouns:** *see handout and slides for a list of neo-pronouns!*

**E. Why this matters:** *Jeffery Marsh on tiktok!!*

**F. What you can do:** *Share your pronouns on your email signature (include a link that explains why it is important), When someone shares their pronouns or preferred name you should use them, know the locations of all-gender restrooms near your workspace and go with them if needed (34 on campus see map), and inclusive language!*

**G. Resources and Want to learn more?**

1. *PFlag and Pride Youth Group the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month*
2. *GSD Center open M-F 10am-5pm*
3. *Up Center in Champaign, IL*

4. *Safe Zone Training: Go online to sign up for 2hrs dedicated to a training on appropriate language, privilege, the coming out process, and empathy building for the LGBTQA+ community. Go online to sign up! (Other classes: Trans 101, Asexual Bisexual and Pansexual classes, queer and faith classes, queer students of color classes)*

## **II. Executive Reports**

### **A. President- Brooke Gibson**

1. *Welcome Dr. Tanya Willard!*
2. *GSAC has a Scholarship Opportunity! Deadline is March 4<sup>th</sup>!*
  - a) *There is a prompt that you will answer to earn a scholarship for Eastern!*
  - b) *There are 2, \$250 scholarships for each of the 4 colleges that will be going out. (1 will go to an in-person student and 1 will go to an online student in each of the colleges)*
3. *T-shirts for GSAC!*
  - a) *Long sleeve t-shirts with a special, chosen saying from one of our GSAC members will be for sale soon!*
  - b) *“You know you’re in grad school in a pandemic when...” think of something funny or catchy to finish that sentence, win the vote, and get your t-shirt for FREE!*
4. *Spring break is coming- take time for yourselves!*



### **B. Graduate Student Dean –Faisal Tariq**

1. *GSAC Spotlight Video*
  - a) *We are looking to spotlight Graduate students that are doing awesome things in their departments possibly each week! You can nominate anyone from your departments!*
  - b) *NEXT MEETING: everyone try to bring one name from your department that you think should be spotlighted!*
2. *Online Student Survey: sent out an email about counseling services to grad students of the online population! More info will be on D2L.*

### **C. VP of Administrative Activities -Natalie Roberson**



1. *February is Black History Month!*
  - a) *See info graphic about the rest of the events for February!*
2. *“Believe in yourself. You are braver than you think, more talented than you know, and capable of more than you imagine.”- Roy T. Bennett*

**D. VP of Programming- Anders Voss**

1. *More in-person events are coming!*
2. *Game night possible next Saturday, Escape room night, off-campus volunteering, and a spring mixer are coming!*

**E. VP of Public Relations- Justin Richards- no updates**

**F. VP of Diversity and Inclusion- Dahlia Martinez- no updates**

1. *Tips for inclusivity in presentations! (Subtitles, paper print outs, vocally explaining videos)*

**G. Graduate Student Liaison- Austin Eichhorn**

1. *March 8th 5:00-7:00 – Grad School Q&A*
  - a) *Sign up in order to help undergraduate students learn more about grad school and get a free meal!*  
<https://www.eiu.edu/graduate/machform/view.php?id=20>
2. *Keep using the D2L to share information with other graduate students!*

**III. Department Updates**

**A. Updates from your department? Updates from students in your program? Upcoming events?**

1. *CSA: 1st years got thesis advisor; 2<sup>nd</sup> years are defending their thesis!*
2. *Counseling: Interviews coming up! 1<sup>st</sup> years in prac and 2<sup>nd</sup> years finishing internship*
3. *Political Science: Interviewed all candidates for a new faculty member!*
4. *Communication Studies: 50th Annual Miss Black EIU, Sat. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Tickets are \$7 pre-ordered or \$10 at the door.*
5. *School Psychology: Book Drive! From now through March 18<sup>th</sup>, drop off books for children in school at either the Charleston Carnegie Public Library or the EIU Booth Library.*
6. *Sustainability: Earth Week is coming in April!*
7. *Aging Studies: Advocating for better student insurance and cultural competency!*
8. *Human Services: Event to come and observe undergrad work and projects!*
9. *Business: Possible PH.D. panel coming*

10. *Education: Got to present research in Chicago!*

**B. Vote for next PowerPoint theme**

1. *Music or Painting?*

a) *Music!*

