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Special Edition

Chuck Burke named Alumnus of the Year

By Megan Johnson



Chuck Burke, '98 journalism grad, returns to EIU to receive the 2012 alumnus of the year award.

Chuck Burke has been named the 2012 alumnus of the year by the Eastern Illinois University journalism department.

Burke, a senior editor/designer and chief typographer at the Chicago Tribune, graduated from EIU in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in journalism.

"In spring 2011 he hosted a half-day workshop in the Tribune newsroom for our Advanced Publication Design class," said James Tidwell, journalism department chairman, listing just one of the reasons Burke was chosen.

Burke will be honored at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 12, during a luncheon given during homecoming weekend.

Before joining the Tribune, Burke worked in California at the San Jose Mercury News, The Times in northwest Indiana and the Southtown Star of the Chicago's south suburbs.

He was also the editor-in-chief of The Daily Eastern News for fall semester of 1998.

Recipients of the alumni award are EIU graduates who have majored in journalism along with having significant experience in the different student media during their collegiate days.

The recipient should also have attained professional experience and have a positive reputation in his or her field. They also have continued to support in the journalism department or student media programs following graduation.

"Without question Chuck Burke meets all the criteria," Tidwell said.

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His legacy is unbelievable



Doug Lawhead at a Cardinals game. Photo courtesy of Marcia Lawhead from Doug Lawhead's Facebook page.

Community mourns the death of Lawhead

By Mike Wolbers

Doug Lawhead, a computer specialist, photojournalism professor in the journalism department, and a 1997 graduate of Eastern, died Thursday, Aug. 23.

While at the Java Beanery & Bakery in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, Lawhead, 59, suffered an apparent heart attack. He was given CPR by another staff member until paramedics arrived.

Before coming to Eastern, Lawhead worked at the *Robinson Daily News* as a reporter and photographer and at the *Mattoon Journal Gazette* and *Charleston Times-Courier*.

Lawhead taught at Eastern for 15 years in the journalism department while serving as the Apple Ambassador of the EIU Apple Users Group.

Lawhead graduated from Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Ill., and Eastern in 1997 with a Board of Governors bachelor's degree and in 2001 with his master's degree in technology.

James Tidwell, chairman of the journalism department, said Lawhead came to the journalism department at

the right time.

Tidwell and Lawhead knew each other for 25 years.

"We were having trouble with (technical) support," Tidwell said. "At one point, the journalism students actually signed a petition and presented it to (the dean) at the time."

The petition asked the journalism department to fix the computer glitches that occurred after the department moved back to Buzzard Hall, Tidwell said.

As a photojournalist and a computer expert, Lawhead was the best of both worlds, Tidwell said.

"Being a photographer (and) journalist, Doug was perfect," Tidwell said. "And if you had a problem with a computer, he could find the solution."

Booth Library publications editor and journalism instructor Beth Heldebrandt began working at the *Mattoon Journal Gazette* and *Charleston Times-Courier* the same day as Lawhead in January 1990. Heldebrandt worked as a night editor while Lawhead was a photographer.

"He was always a very energetic guy and was easy to get along with," she

said.

Lawhead is survived by his wife, Marcia, and their two sons.

Marcia Lawhead works at Eastern as the secretary to Rob Miller, Eastern's general counsel.



Journalism professor Sally Renaud consoles Kristy Mellendorf, '08, at Lawhead's memorial service.

Photo by Zach White

IPA/EIU journalism camp wins AEJMC Knight Multicultural Recruitment Award

The two-week residential journalism camp at Eastern Illinois University was this year's recipient of the Robert P. Knight Multicultural Recruitment Award, sponsored by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

The Illinois Press Foundation/Eastern Illinois University High School Journalism Workshop has been introducing young people to the world of journalism for nearly 20 years and has served more than 350 students. The workshop was chosen to receive the Knight Award for its dedication to providing an authentic journalism experience for a diverse population, as well as for its longevity.

The award was presented Aug. 10 at AEJMC's national conference in Chicago.

Nominated by Sally Renaud, associate professor of journalism and director from 2008-2012, the two-week Dow Jones Newspaper Fund workshop was founded in 1993 by Eastern Illinois journalism faculty members Dave Reed, Minabere Ibelema and Glenn Robinson.

Reed, now retired, was the director until 2004, and Joe Gisondi, associate professor of journalism, directed it until 2007.

Financial support for the workshop comes from the Illinois Press Founda-



Minabere Ibelema, Sally Renaud, Dave Reed and James Tidwell were on hand Aug. 10 in Chicago to receive, on behalf of the annual IPF/EIU High School Journalism Workshop, the Knight Award.

tion, the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, the McCormick Foundation and the newspapers where the students intern.

Reed's concept was that working journalists should do all the teaching because he believed students would understand what journalism is all about if they get to know the professionals in

such a personal way.

Those journalists — many who come back every year — have included Lisa Green, business editor at the *Journal Gazette* of Fort Wayne, Ind, who has been with the workshop since the very beginning, and Ted Gregory, Pulitzer-Prize winning reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*, who works with students on how to write indepth stories.

"For two weeks dozens of professional journalists shepherd students through the work they do and love, and it rubs off on these 18 young people,"

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EIU alum Nora Maberry-Daniels works with 2012 campers De Robinson and Danielle Banks on their page designs during one of the production days of the annual workshop. The students produce three newspapers during the workshop.



Saying thank you to journalism alums!

By Sally Renaud
with gratitude

We can't thank you enough!

Before I came to teach at Eastern, I had heard stories about the devotion and spirit of its alumni. I had heard about wild trips to conventions, intense critiques over beer, and lifelong friendships that started within the confines of the newsroom.

These stories, and the people who were featured in them, were legendary.

So I could not be more pleased when I came to Eastern in 2004 to discover that not only were these amazing alumni passionate about one another and their time at Eastern, they also were welcoming to anyone else who embraced these passions.

I discovered that Newsers and Warblers from different generations met, encouraged and mentored each other, and the Eastern bond became stronger with each Homecoming or Homecoming North.

Their devotion to DT, to Reed and to JR extended to us newcomers.

And how do I know?

Because each year we ask for volunteers to come back and help educate the next generation of journalists at our annual high school summer workshop—and you do.

For the past 19 years you have



Alums Marco Santana, Geneva Slupski, Lisa Green and Heather Cygan take a brief rest in front of a familiar banner in the Student Publications newsroom this summer while volunteering at the annual workshop.

come back to Charleston to share your journalism adventures with teenagers who are immersing themselves in the world of journalism. Alums from different eras come together to work with the students on reporting, photography and design.

You nurture them through their insecurities and you champion their

strengths. And you help them produce journalism. Real newspapers.

So, although it is not enough, please accept this heartfelt thank you, extended to all alums in the past 19 years who have made their way back to Charleston, to the newsroom, to give back.

We can't wait to see you next year!

Journalism workshop Continued from page 3

Renaud said.

Students get to tour the state Capitol with reporters who cover the state Legislature. They also spend time with staff from a live daily newscast from Eastern Illinois. Since Eastern has its own printing press, students also get to see the printing process in action.

In recent years, each workshop has published three newspapers and a multimedia package, and students get a chance to intern at a variety of professional newspapers.

"When these students see their creations coming off the press, when they practice what they have learned at their

internships, they know their work has paid off, and their smiles and celebrations are justified. They have learned what all of us know: Journalism is exciting and rewarding," Renaud said.

Renaud said workshop staff members are always proud of the students and what they produce during the two weeks on campus.

"They know nothing about journalism when they come to us, and afterward they consider themselves journalists," she said.

This is the 25th anniversary of the Robert P. Knight Multicultural Recruitment Award, which is sponsored by the

AEJMC Scholastic Journalism Division.

The award recognizes any individual or organization that has made significant contributions to promoting diversity in high school or middle school media programs

It is named after Knight, a professor at the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

"This is especially meaningful to me because Dr. Knight was a professor who made a difference in my life," Renaud said. "He loved high school journalism."

Annual homecoming events to honor journalism publications

By Emily McInerney

Each year, the journalism department holds a chili bash Homecoming event.

But this year the event is really special as the university is honoring student publications and those alumni who have worked on the publications.

As part of the Homecoming celebration, Chuck Burke will be named alumnus of the year at a luncheon in his honor on Oct. 12. See Page 1.

Publications alumni will be honored throughout the weekend and at the chili bash.

This year, the chili bash will be directly after the football game in the Seventh Street Underground in the Martin

Luther King Jr. University Union from 5-9 p.m. There will be regular chili and chicken chili, as well as beverages provided by the journalism department.

All journalism alumni are invited back to see professors and staff and to meet current students. All student publications students and journalism majors and minors are welcome.

Journalism office manager Beth Kastl has helped the department plan its festivities since 2006 and says it "gives current students a chance to mingle (with alums)."

The main reason the department holds the event is for everyone to socialize and have fun. Everyone within the journalism community has a chance to come together and reminisce

while meeting new people.

"The journalism department is like a family," Kastl explained. "[The faculty members] genuinely care about their students, advisees, and each other; it makes us who we are."

Bringing alumni back to campus gives students an opportunity to make connections and gain better chances of getting internships and jobs to further their careers. Networking opportunities with alumni who are now professionals in the field are helpful.

For those who cannot come back to campus, the department goes to them each February for "Homecoming North" near Chicago.

"Everything we do is for the students, past and present" Kastl said.

Homecoming Schedule

Friday, Oct. 12

Journalism Alumni Hall of Fame Luncheon to honor Alumnus of the Year Chuck Burke, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Seventh Street Underground, MLK Union

Welcome Reception includes touring *The Daily Eastern News* newsroom and the renovations in Buzzard, 5:30 to 7 p.m.,

Student Publications Reunion, honoring *The Daily Eastern News*, *Warbler*, *Fresh* and *The Vehicle*, includes appetizers and host bar, paid for by the EIU Alumni Association

T-shirts are \$12 and a portion of the proceeds will support Student Publications!

Saturday, Oct. 13

Doughnuts and coffee in Student Publications newsroom. Visit with students, faculty and alumni and take a tour 8:30 - 10 a.m.

2.5K Race/Walk, Entry fee, \$10. Registration from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m., Start: 9 a.m. with McDonald's providing a gift pack, food and drinks to all racers and prizes for top male and female finisher in three categories and prizes for the best full-body costume worn by a participant.

Parade, 9:30 a.m. featuring more than 100 campus/community entries, beginning at the intersection of Seventh Street and Lincoln Avenue and ending at the tailgate area of O'Brien Stadium.

Billy's Backyard Tailgate, 10:30 a.m. O'Brien Field Tailgate area, includes EIU Alumni Receptions, Alumni Tent City, Kids Corner, Free Food and Inflatable Games

Homecoming Game with EIU Panthers vs. Jacksonville State University Gamecocks, kickoff 1:30 p.m. O'Brien Field

Chili Bash, Seventh Street Underground (Rathskeller), 5 to 8 p.m. (or immediately following the game) all journalism alums and students are welcome to join journalism faculty and staff at the chili bash.

Student earns rewarding award

By Merritt Whitley

Victoria Zeal, '12, made history by being the first undergrad student from Eastern to be chosen to present her research to the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication convention.

Zeal's paper was titled "Connecting With Audience Through Social Media: An Analysis Of Social Media Use In Broadcast Stations in the U.S."

Zeal said she spent a year and half working on her research paper. She said she was inspired to start researching social media when she started filling out job applications.

"A lot of job applications asked about experience with social media," Zeal said. "A lot of the job descriptions I was looking at included posting social media. I wanted to see how news organizations, specifically broadcast stations were using social media."

Zeal said she also wanted to find out more about the ways professionals think social media should be used.

Eunseong Kim, an associate journalism professor, presented Zeal's work at the convention in Chicago.

She said this was a big honor for Zeal and that being accepted as an undergrad is extremely rare. Most of the participants chosen to present at these conventions have graduated or are working on their Ph.D.s.

Zeal said her experience overall was very wonderful and she wishes she could pursue her research more.

"It was great; I wish I could do more with the paper, and there is so much more research that can still be done," Zeal said.

Zeal said if she were to

offer advice to students it would be to work hard on the thesis, and not become intimidated by it. She said the hard work pays off and the experience will be rewarding in the end.



Zeal and her husband at graduate breakfast 2012

The DEN takes home 13 ICPA awards

By Candice Mulholland

The writers at The Daily Eastern News have a lot to be proud of. Not only is Eastern Illinois University one of the smallest universities to have a daily paper, but lately the DEN staff is receiving a lot of recognition for its hard work.

The DEN is a daily paper run entirely by students. Journalism faculty members serve as advisers, but the staff consists solely of students, led by editor-in-chief Elizabeth Edwards.

The paper has a large staff that includes some paid positions and many members that are part time or contribute their efforts on a temporary basis.

One way for the students dedicating their time to receive acknowledgement for their efforts is through the Illinois College Press Association awards.

This past year the DEN received 13 different ICPA awards, including one first-place award going to Alex McNamee in the sports feature story category.

The paper also won the second place "best of show" award at the national college media convention in Orlando with the October 2011 homecoming edition.

Editorial adviser Lola Burnham said, "These students work really hard and put in a lot of hours."

"Many of them don't get paid and it's nice for them to get recognition from other people. These awards are judged by professionals."

Warbler honored with Pacemaker nomination

By Emily McInerney

The Pacemaker Award is given by the Associated Collegiate Press for excellence in college media. Student Publications at Eastern over the years has won a few, from the newspaper to its online publication.

And now, for the first time ever, the Warbler yearbook has been nominated for the honor.

The Warbler is nominated in the "less than 300 pages" division for 2011 book, "Capture."

"It's just a huge honor," said current Warbler editor Danny Damiani, who was the "Capture" book's photo editor.

When the staff found out about its nomination, Damiani said, "It was insane. We sat there kind of shocked."

Kristin Jording, a 2012 graduate, was editor of the book. Her staff includ-

ed designers Brittney Ferris, '11, and Colleen Harrigan, '12; writers Cyndi Francois, '11, Barbara Harrington, '11, Beth Steele, '12; photographers Shea Lazansky and Kim Foster, and copy editor Emily Steele, '11. Graduate Kyle Pruden was the webmaster.

The staff will find out if it wins the award at the national college media convention in early November in Chicago.

Janice Collins to leave for U of I

By Tim Deters

After four years at Eastern, assistant professor of journalism, Janice Collins has accepted a teaching position at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Collins will begin at the College of Media at UIUC as assistant professor of journalism in January.

"It was a job offer that came out of nowhere," she said, but Collins is excited about her transition to a new university.

The biggest advantage of her transition will be her ability to conduct more research on topics she is passionate about, mainly women's and African-American studies.

"I'm just stepping it up, like I tell my students," Collins said.

James Tidwell, journalism department chair, joked that the news of Collins' move to the University of Illinois was something he accepted begrudgingly.

"When she told me, I was hoping she would change her mind; but she didn't," he said with a grin. "I hate to see her go."

Collins has advised the broadcasting students since she came to Eastern and has taught various journalism and broadcasting courses.

"She has really raised the level of our broadcasting program a great deal," Tidwell said. "I just hope we can find a replacement that will be close to as good as she has been."

A large part of her teaching style has been incorporating the voices and knowledge of her students, she said.

Vicky Kane, a junior communications studies major, had Collins for a broadcast writing course last year and said she greatly appreciated the time Collins takes to speak with and understand her students.

"A lot of teachers don't want to have that personal connection with their students," she said, but Collins was al-



Janice Collins pauses in her office to smile for the camera. Collins will begin teaching at the U of I in January. Photo by Megan Johnson.

ways willing to take the time to connect with her students.

Also, Kane was very impressed by Collins' energy and passion.

"She has a lot of energy," she said. "She is very passionate about what she does, which makes you excited about it and you want to dive right into it."

Tidwell also said Collins' passion has been very beneficial to the journalism department.

"She's a real go-getter and has a lot of energy, so she has added a lot to the department," he said.

Collins said she is going to miss

Eastern and the talents of her students.

"I love to see the excitement in students' eyes," she said. "I think that I have had some of the best students in the world."

Kane recalled on the last day of her class with Collins, how both she and Collins teared up.

"Someone that great tearing up because she is so proud of you and your accomplishments and the type of person that she has seen you grow to be, no words can describe how good it feels," Kane said.

And though Collins is excited for her transition, she believes she will always have a connection with Eastern.

"I look at it as a bridge, not a disconnect," she said.

"She has really raised the level of our broadcasting program" James Tidwell

WEIU keeps on winning Emmys

By Samantha Devermann

The clock strikes 5 p.m. in Buzzard Hall and the students of News Watch frantically scramble to get in their positions to produce their live news show.

The producer, Kelly Runyon, sits down in her chair and everyone knows it's time. The anchors are in place, the microphone checks are being done, and the video is all loaded and ready.

"Tonight, on the award winning NewsWatch...," says Nick Patrick, one of the anchors.

Eastern Illinois University's student-produced TV newscast has been nominated for a 2012 Regional Emmy Award. WEIU-TV News Watch has won an Emmy Award for best college TV newscast in the Midwest for the last three years.

Savanna Tomei, a sophomore journalism major, is in her second semester at WEIU-TV. Her favorite part of her day at News Watch is when the show goes live at 5:30 to 16 counties.

"Live TV is the feeling of when you're in the control room or the studio, and it's the suspense, the electricity in the air. It's a rush," Tomei said.

"It just makes you feel good that you know that you're part of an organization that not only gives people the information that they want and need,

and we get recognized by something like the EMMYS. It just means we are really doing our job," Tomei explained.

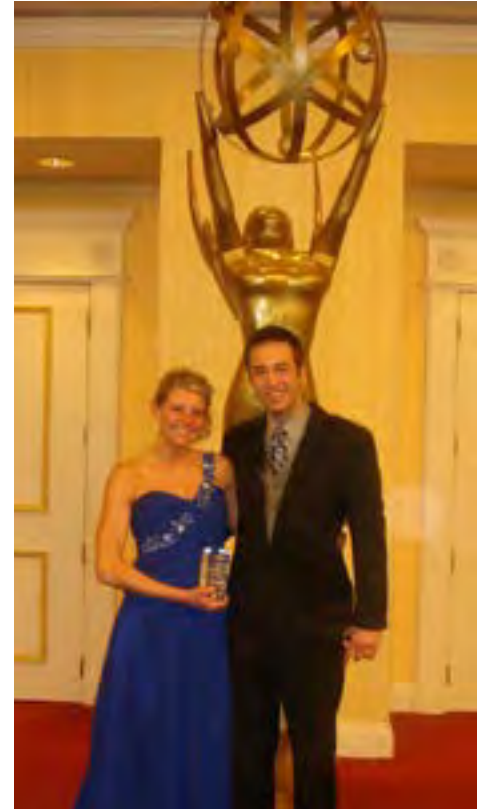
"The most rewarding thing is that we're learning, and the whole thing is a learning process. We're learning on the same programs and the same format that we'll use in the work force, but being able to still be learning and making mistakes is priceless."

WEIU News Watch is a student-run broadcast. The show airs live from 5:30 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. More than 20 students volunteer at NewsWatch, from freshmen to post-graduates.

Pablo Rodriguez is a veteran member of the news team. He is a senior communication studies major. His plans after WEIU include film school.

"I feel like WEIU has prepared me for what I want to do with the rest of my life," Rodriguez said. He says he will never forget the times he's had here at NewsWatch, and all of the friends he's made.

In addition to being nominated for an Emmy Award, NewsWatch is also a finalist for a 2012 Pinnacle Award. The Pinnacle Award will be handed out November 1 in Chicago by the College Media Association.



Katie Glaze '10 and Ché Frederick '09 at the Emmy Awards in 2011 in St. Louis.

Tidwell in Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis

James Tidwell, chairman of the journalism department, has been undergoing tests at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

Tidwell has now been released from the hospital. He is resting and awaiting surgery at home.

While he is normally the Homecoming events host for returning alumni, Tidwell has said he will make a brief appearance at Homecoming.

From his hospital room, he commented, "It is too early to tell when I will be out of here. I am finally able to eat a real meal and I feel better, but tests show that I will be having more surgery soon and the infection is being treated and will have to be much im-

proved."

Tidwell felt unwell and was undergoing tests as an outpatient when his symptoms got worse and he was admitted to Sarah Bush.

Preliminary tests led doctors to decide to transport him by ambulance to Barnes where the equipment and expertise could be called upon to determine what was causing Tidwell to lose weight and feel weak.

Five units of blood while at Sarah Bush helped immensely, but more work was required, so he was moved to St. Louis.

The outpouring of cards, email, phone calls and gifts has truly stunned him, he said, and it has demonstrated

how social media can get the word out quickly and allow people to respond quickly.

He has heard from alumni, old friends, many students and faculty colleagues and while he will be home for Homecoming, he will have to wait to see what's next.

Alumni are welcome to send cards and well wishes to Tidwell through the Journalism department at the address below and we will ensure delivery to him.

Eastern Illinois University
Journalism Department
600 Lincoln Ave
Charleston, IL 61920
Attn: James Tidwell
