

MARCH 3, 2025

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FDC HAPPENINGS

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*Group of individuals standing together with a sign in the front of them

Thank-An-Eagle

To help foster a sense of community and appreciation, The Faculty Development Center is excited to join with Student Government in hosting a university-wide event called Thank-An-Eagle, where EMU community members have a chance to thank an instructor, staff member, coach, GA, or mentor who has helped them during their time here at EMU.

Winter can be a challenging time of year for many, especially for college students and faculty. The cold weather, shorter days, and mid-semester workload can make it difficult to stay motivated and positive. For many instructors and mentors, an unsolicited "thank you" from a student is a highlight of their semester's experience. The instructor or staff member you thank receives a formal Thank-An-Eagle letter of recognition from the Faculty Development Center that includes the remarks, and will be recognized at a reception in April.

Click [here](#) to submit a nomination!

We hope you will nominate a deserving Eagle! Please share the nomination form with your students, and consider thanking your colleagues for all the hard work they do.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

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From the FDC & the
College of Education

THRIVING IN ACADEMIA

SUPPORTING FACULTY EXCELLENCE

This initiative aims to provide programming to address pivotal moments in academic career development, and to speak to challenges faced by faculty members today. Click [here](#) for more information.

PROGRAM 1

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU GOT TENURE! NOW WHAT?

The time after getting tenure can be disequilibrating for faculty. You've been working for years to get to a point, and now you are there. What comes next? How do you think about your career now that this big hurdle has been cleared?

WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 26, 2:30-3:45



FUTURE PROGRAMS:

Thursday, April 3, 2:00-3:15 - Professoring and Parenting

Parenting is important, but so is our job as professors. How do we manage to do both without feeling as if fulfilling one role diminishes our ability to fulfill the other?

Thursday, April 10 11:00-12:15 - Making the Most of a Research Leave

Lots of faculty members get research leaves, but not all of them are successful. How can a faculty member about to go on research leave set themselves up for a productive, and restorative, time (given that these goals may or may not be the same)?

upcoming EVENTS

CHECK OUT OUR UPCOMING
EVENTS WE ARE HOSTING AT
THE FDC! FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR TO
REGISTER, CLICK "READ
MORE".

RESEARCH WRITERS' COLLABORATIVE

- Tuesdays @ 11 AM - 1 PM on Zoom
- Open to Faculty, Lecturers, and Department Heads
- Opportunity for EMU faculty to support each other while achieving realistic writing goals

[Read More](#)

(ANOTHER) COOKING SESSION WITH THE FDC

- Thursday, March 27 @ 11:30 AM
- Join us for a fun cooking class with the FDC, Office of Campus and Community Writing, and Eagle Nutrition Services! In honor of National Something on a Stick Day, we'll be making creative food on a stick. Vegetarian options available. Limited to 24 participants, so register early!

[Register Here](#)

EMU UP: UNIVERSITY PREPARED

- Friday, March 7 @ 9 AM - 1 PM
- Open to Full-Time Faculty and Full-Time Lecturers
- Explore creative and innovative solutions to revise or create new programs in ways that are attractive to students

[Read More](#)

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR EMPOWERED TEACHING PROFESSIONALS

- March 14 & April 4 @ 11 AM - 2 PM
- Open to Faculty, Staff, Lecturers & Graduate Assistants
- Explore how to integrate healing-centered practices into your professional and personal life

[Read More](#)

OPENING DAY CELEBRATION

- Thursday, March 27 @ 2:30 - 5 PM
- Open to Everyone! Bring a friend!
- Come to the FDC and celebrate baseball's Opening Day! We will bring the food and the baseball coverage, and secretly mock Jeff for his obsession with the Mets...

Stay Tuned

upcoming APPLICATIONS

Scan the QR code
to access the links
in this issue



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2025 MINI-GRANTS TO SUPPORT STUDENT WELLNESS

- Application due March 14 @ 5 PM
- Open to Faculty, Lecturers, Students & Staff
- The Bruce K. Nelson Faculty Development Center and the Dean of Students Office, with support from the Department of Recreation and Intramurals (Rec/IM), Eagle Nutrition Services (ENS), and E|Dining, invites faculty to implement a wellness practice into the classroom. Faculty who receive this funding will get up to \$250 to introduce practices that support student wellness into their classroom or their student orgs during the summer/fall 2025 terms

[Read More](#)

SUMMER/FALL 2025 PROGRAM PROPOSALS

- Application due March 24 @ 5 PM
- Open to Faculty, Lecturers & Staff
- Each semester, we seek proposals for learning communities or seminars, or for a more involved series of workshops, or for hosting a significant one-time event (such as bringing in a prominent speaker). We are currently seeking applications for the upcoming summer/fall 2025 semesters. We award up to \$5000 per program. This funding can enable you to make a meaningful commitment of time and resources, enabling participants to learn together, develop new skills, collaborate, and innovate.

[Read More](#)

if you're considering ideas for either application, please feel free to email Jeff (jbernstei@emich.edu) if you'd like to kick the idea around!

Spotlights



Dr. Steven Backues and Patricia Woghiren

Department of Chemistry

In this partnership spotlight, Patricia Woghiren (L) and Dr. Steven Backues share their research partnership at Eastern Michigan University. They explore how mentorship, perseverance, and hands-on experience have shaped their journey together. Click [here](#) to read the full spotlight.

Make Someone's Day: Thank an Eagle

By Jack Booth

Hi there! My name is Jack, and I'm a current student at EMU. As a junior, I study Business Management with a minor in Spanish. Most would say, and I would agree, that while I have a deep drive for academic success and prioritize my studies, my most impactful work happens outside of the classroom. Some of my work happens in the Admissions Office as a Tour Guide and Student Coordinator where I connect prospective students and their families to EMU and the abundance of opportunities and people here to support them, as well as in the Honors College, where I build connections with Honors faculty and staff, and through the Presidential Scholar Association. I also currently serve as the Vice President of Student Government acting as a bridge between our team and the rest of campus to make dreams a reality (cheesy, but it's true).

If you haven't noticed, much of my career at EMU is built on the connections and knowledge that mentors have provided me. I spend much of my day connecting with EMU faculty and staff. For this reason, Student Government President Hamzah Dajani and I are excited to be partnering with the Faculty Development Center for Thank-An-Eagle this year! This event gives students and members of the EMU community the

opportunity to thank a faculty or staff member for the work they do and the impact they've made. It's important that we continue to show our mentors at EMU that they are an integral part of what makes this university so special. Any Eagles who have been recognized will be celebrated at an event this April, to which those who submit messages of thanks will also be invited.

But before we can celebrate our people, we need your participation! We will be collecting nominations across campus from now until March 17. All you have to do is submit a handy-dandy [Google Form](#) asking who you are nominating and a little about why you're nominating them.

While this form will be available online via email, Instagram (@emichfdc), the Eagle App, and more (as well as at the link above), the Faculty Development Center and Student Government team would love to see you in person for a chat about Thank-An-Eagle (and some free food)! We will be hosting an event on the ground floor of the

Submit a blog post!

We welcome blog posts from faculty, lecturers, staff, and students on teaching and learning topics. Email us at faculty_development@emich.edu with your blog post idea for the opportunity to be featured in future newsletters!

Student Center on March 4 from 3 PM to 5 PM; stop by during these times to say hi! We hope to see you there and to encourage you to submit a nomination or two while grabbing some food!

This is a great opportunity to express our gratitude to administrators, staff, faculty, and even students. As student leaders, Hamzah and I have immense respect for our university staff. The professors that we have studied under in our time here have always gone above and beyond the requirements of their job and poured into us as people. Many of us can remember a time when a staff or faculty member helped us adjust through difficult seasons of life, offered us valuable advice, or gave us a smile when we needed it most.

I've been lucky enough to have exceptional faculty and staff to nominate for each Thank-An-Eagle throughout my 3 years on campus. The first faculty member I nominated was Henry Hastings, who I had for Business Law and Ethics. He took a class that is often seen as dense and boring, and turned it into an exciting, story-filled adventure that strongly influenced my career choice. While I don't plan on going to law school, my role after graduation will look at laws and regulations in the financial industry- just like he taught us.

While he probably didn't need my recommendation to be considered a good professor or to know that he made a difference, I hope it made him feel good to know that his contribution to my education was valuable to my time at EMU and far beyond, plus it made me feel good knowing he knew that!

It doesn't stop there. Most of our time at EMU is spent out of class where staff make a world of difference in our campus jobs, serving as student organization advisors, and beyond. Thank-An-Eagle isn't limited to academic faculty and I hope that anyone reading this takes the time to nominate anyone who makes a difference in their experience at Eastern.

To students, the faculty and staff you nominate will be touched by this. To faculty and staff, please pass the form to your students and encourage them to take a moment or two to celebrate our vibrant community by nominating someone who makes their experience here whole. Make sure you let them know about the nomination event on March 4, too!

Student Government is thrilled about the opportunity to support the Faculty Development Center in this process, and we hope you'll find a part in making EMU a more meaningful place for all of us.

Click [here](#) to access the nomination form. Please share this form with your students!

About the Author



Jack Booth is in his third year at EMU in management and Spanish programs. On campus, he is a part of the Honors College, works in the Admissions Center, and serves as the Vice President of Student Government.