SIUE received the 2021 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. SIUE joins a select group of 11 institutions that have earned the distinction for at least eight consecutive years.

**DISMANTLING INSTITUTIONAL RACISM THROUGH DIVERSE HIRING PRACTICES**

One way Dean Robin Hughes, PhD, is working to combat institutionalized racism in the U.S. and at SIUE is by hiring more faculty and staff members of color in the SEHHB. Through this effort, which includes seven new faculty and staff members of color since 2019, the SEHHB is not only becoming more diverse, but also more inclusive and equitable.

“Faculty of color support students’ growth and social well-being in myriad ways. They are role models. They increase students’ sense of belonging. They support student retention overall, and retention of students of color specifically.”

— ROBIN HUGHES, PHD
Dean

**HERNANDEZ COLLABORATES ON CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING AND LEADING STANDARDS**

Jennifer Hernandez, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, was a major contributor to the development of the Illinois State Board of Education’s (ISBE) Culturally Responsive Teaching and Leading (CRTL) Standards enacted earlier this year. She also worked with the ISBE to support K-12 teachers and college faculty in the transition to the new standards.

“The primary goal of implementing the CRTL Standards is to create a paradigm shift from teaching a Eurocentric curriculum that centers on whiteness and white supremacy into a socially just education that represents all people, and tells the stories of the marginalized people in our national and cultural history.”

— JENNIFER HERNANDEZ, PHD
Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning
RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

As part of SIUE’s commitment to end racism and promote social justice, the Racial and Social Justice Scholarship Endowment was awarded for the first time in fall 2021 to support students who demonstrate a dedication to anti-racism at SIUE and beyond.

Donate today
siuegive.com

BLACKTIVISM IN THE ACADEMY

Tune in to seasons one and two of the Dismantling Racism through Education, Advocacy and Mobilization (DREAM) Collective’s podcast, Blacktivism in the Academy. Created by SEHHB faculty, the podcast facilitates learning, activism and anti-racist action.

Listen now
Spotify, Stitcher and Apple Podcasts
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TELEPRACTICE SUPPORTS NEEDS OF STUDENTS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The COVID-19 pandemic may have disrupted normal life in many ways, but it hasn’t changed the needs of the graduate students and community members served by the SEHHB’s Speech-Language-Hearing Center. Last fall, the Center began offering both telepractice and in-person therapy sessions. This new capability broadens the Center’s outreach while providing graduate students with valuable clinical experience.

“The program, student clinicians and staff have far exceeded our expectations, and I am beyond amazed at our son’s improvement! He has so much fun and looks forward to his personalized telepractice sessions every week!”

— DAWN DEAN
Telepractice Client
Speech-Language-Hearing Center

Graduate student clinicians have acquired knowledge and skills to develop session plans, implement evidence-based practice with telepractice considerations, navigate Zoom efficiently, and co-treat and collaborate with clinical team members.

— LAUREN HEIMBUECHER, MS, CCC-SLP
Clinical Instructor
Speech-Language-Hearing Center

Donate today
Support the SEHHB clinics and their clients with financial need at siue.edu/give.
EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION STUDENTS EXCEL AMID CHALLENGES

For students in the SEHHB’s Educational Administration program, the shift to virtual teaching and learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic not only impacted their coursework at SIUE, but it also meant a significant change in their day jobs as educators. While not ideal in many cases, these educators persevered and continued to develop their expertise in using research to improve learning outcomes for their students.

“ It was difficult to meet the needs of my special education students virtually, but I embraced the challenge of learning new things. I always try to make the best of a situation, and I chose to use this time to expand upon my skills as an educator, mentor and leader.”
— REBECCA ARTIME
Master’s Candidate, Educational Administration
District Literacy Coach

“We are so impressed by the flexibility and perseverance of our aspiring administrators. They have been assisting their school administration as interns where needed while also innovating in their own classrooms.”
— ALISON REEVES, PHD
Interim Associate Dean
PARTNERSHIP WITH CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORTS STUDENT SUCCESS

The SIUE East St. Louis Charter High School (CHS) is a school-of-choice for families in East St. Louis School District 189. SEHHB provides fiscal oversight and operational facilitation and leadership for the school, whose mission is to prepare students who are career- and college-ready upon graduation.

Nate Williams, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, became the associate executive officer to CHS when he joined the SEHHB at the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year. Over the course of the school year, Williams played an active role at CHS by helping to launch Black Gentlemen Entering Manhood (GEM), an enrichment program for male students, and by supporting the school’s efforts to increase food security for its students and their families.

Black GEM holds weekly enrichment programming focused on positive attitudinal development and career readiness. It is our hope to build accountable, responsive and intentional gentlemen for tomorrow.

— NATE WILLIAMS, PHD
Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning
Associate Executive Officer, East St. Louis Charter High School
CHS GIVES STUDENTS RED CARPET TREATMENT

CHS rolled out the red carpet as students returned for the first day of the 2021-22 school year on August 16. After teaching and learning remotely or through a hybrid schedule since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, this event marked the return to fully in-person classes.

“I am glad to be back at school in person. I’ve attended Charter High School for the past three years and it has been awesome.”
— KAI BYRTH
Senior, SIUE East St. Louis Charter High School

PARTNERSHIP WITH CHARTER HIGH
ANONYMOUS DONOR ESTABLISHES TECHNOLOGY ENDOWMENT

When an anonymous donor learned CHS students were struggling with internet connectivity issues during at-home learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the donor generously established a sizable endowment to support the students’ technology needs. At a second semester kickoff event held in January, parents were brought to tears when their children received new Chromebooks with embedded wireless internet hotspots.

“This phenomenal opportunity to bless our CHS students with new computers was made possible because of an anonymous donor who heard that our students were struggling with unreliable internet due to the lack of bandwidth within the East St. Louis community.”
— GINA JEFFRIES, EDD
Director, SIUE East St. Louis Charter High School

Donate today
siue.edu/give-now/estl-charter-hs
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

STUDENT, FACULTY RESEARCH CONTINUES DESPITE PANDEMIC

SEHHB students and faculty have been making advances in research throughout the COVID-19 pandemic using strict safety protocols in the SEHHB’s labs, including wearing masks and sanitizing surfaces and equipment. One such lab, the Physical Activity Clinic, is used both for research projects and instructional exercise courses.

“My hope is to help women become more confident and knowledgeable in performing aerobic interval exercises as well as help them achieve a better understanding of their overall physical fitness level and cardiac health.”

— ALEXA AGNE
Master’s Candidate, Exercise Physiology

SEHHB BOOSTS SCHOLARSHIPS IN RESPONSE TO PANDEMIC

In light of the financial challenges many students are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SEHHB committed to providing even greater financial support to students through its annual scholarship program last spring. More than $26,000 was awarded to over 70 students, which is the highest dollar amount and most awards given in the SEHHB’s recent history.

Donate today
To contribute to or start a scholarship in the SEHHB, contact Divah Griffin, Director of Development, at digriff@siue.edu or 618-650-5043.
STUDENTS STUDY MENTAL HEALTH IMPACTS OF PANDEMIC

A team of student researchers used the Health Psychology Lab to study the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on college students’ health and academic performance. The students’ work was accepted for a poster presentation at the virtual 2021 Midwestern Psychological Association Conference.

Experiences like these are considered high-impact practices and are critical for students expanding their skills by taking information learned in the classroom and applying it.

— LAURA PAWLOW, PHD
Professor, Department of Psychology
Coordinator, Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Program

“I spent my undergraduate years at SIUE engaging in educational and practical research experiences that have provided great direction and preparation for graduate-level programs.”

— MADDIE JENKINS
Master’s Candidate, Clinical Psychology
BS Psychology ’21
ANNUAL ROLL OF DONORS

Our faculty, staff and students extend our sincerest appreciation to all of the individuals, corporations and organizations who invested in the SEHBB during fiscal year 2021.

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SEHHB BY THE NUMBERS

16 PODCASTS PRODUCED
Blacktivism in the Academy
SEHHB DREAM Collective

119 FAMILIES/CLIENTS SERVED
Speech-Language-Hearing Center and Attention and Behavior Clinic

1,365 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
Majors: 1,081 • Minors: 284

602 GRADUATE STUDENTS

380+ REGIONAL DISTRICT/SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY AGENCY PARTNERS

59 AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS
given to our students at Honors Day

Numbers based on 2020 data.