SIUE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES CLASS OF 2017

The Southern Illinois University Edwardsville East St. Louis Charter High School (CHS) honored the graduating class of 2017 at its commencement ceremony held Friday, May 19. Keynote speaker and SIUE associate chancellor and chief diversity officer, Dr. Venessa Brown, focused on “Reflecting on the Past, Celebrating the Present and Embracing the Future: A look at the Person in the Mirror.”

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SIUE’S LEE NAMED 2017 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EMERGING EXPLORER

Dr. Danielle Lee, a visiting assistant professor in the College of Arts and Sciences’ (CAS) Department of Biological Sciences, has been named among 14 “world-changers” by the National Geographic Society. Lee is a mammologist, who studies animal behavior. National Geographic’s designation supports her research on the “behavior and biology of wild rodents, such as landmine sniffing African Giant Pouched Rats, to better understand how we can use them to save lives.” She has conducted this research in Tanzania.

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SIUE Student-Athletes Continue to Excel Academically

For 11 straight years, 22 consecutive semesters, SIUE student-athletes have finished with a departmental grade point average of better than 3.0. They finished the 2017 spring semester with a 3.281 GPA, marking the second-highest semester GPA in school history. There were 34 student-athletes who finished the spring semester with a perfect 4.0 GPA, while 94 student-athletes (46 men and 48 women) earned Dean's List honors with a GPA better than 3.5. 

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Community Gathers To Remember Former SIUE Student

Car enthusiasts have gathered for a memorial cruise since Taylor Clark’s death in 2015, and according to organizer and friend Luke Skalisius, hundreds have cars have showed up each year in support. This year, Skalisius counted over 100 vehicles that met for the cruise to drive to Grafton, where everyone met to hang out for the rest of the afternoon.

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University Housing Stocks Local Food Pantry

SIUE’s Housing residents collected 1,506 pounds of surplus food to benefit people in Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, and the surrounding area during the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) Red Storm Chapter’s second annual food drive for the Glen Ed Pantry. The NRHH is a leadership based honorary comprised of exemplary residential students who value service and recognition. The NRHH Red Storm Chapter has been active at SIUE since 2006.

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SIUE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY ESTABLISHES PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERIENTIAL ROTATION IN HAITI

SIUE’s School of Pharmacy (SOP) has established a public health experiential rotation in Haiti that will begin Spring 2018. According to Dr. Kelly Gable, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and coordinator of global partnerships, through the new rotation, two fourth-year students will spend one week in Haiti, actively participating in the medical mission. They will also spend four weeks working on health education programming at two local shelters in St. Louis. The public health focus of the learning experience includes reduction in infectious disease transmission, substance use and harm reduction, and preventative primary healthcare. [Click Here To Learn More]

SIUE CONSTRUCTORS CLUB LENDS HELPING HANDS ACROSS THE AREA

In addition to continued support with Habitat for Humanity projects, four members of the club participated in the East Side Heart and Home Family Center’s Blitz Build on Saturday, May 13 in East St. Louis. They volunteered to assist with the construction of a four bedroom, approximately 1,200 sq. ft. house. [Click Here To Read More]

COUGAR BAJA TEAM CRUISES THROUGH PITTSBURG, KANSAS, NEXT STOP PEORIA

SIUE’s Cougar Baja team showed off its latest off-road vehicle during a Baja SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) competition held May 25-28 in Pittsburg, Kan. The SIUE Cougar Baja team is in its 11th year and continues to make adjustments and learn from past competitions to come back with a better, lighter, faster and more competitive vehicle. [Click Here To Read More]
JUNE is Caribbean American Heritage Month and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA) Pride Month.

OTHER DIVERSITY & INCLUSION OBSERVANCES IN JUNE INCLUDE:

- **Shavout (May 31st-June 1st)**
  Celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments

- **Pentecost (Sunday, June 4th)**
  Commemoration and celebration of the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the early church

- **Flag Day (Wednesday, June 14th)**
  Celebrates the history and symbolism of the American flag

- **Juneteenth (Monday, June 19th)**
  Commemorates the end of slavery in the U.S.

- **Eid-al-Fitr (Monday-Wednesday, June 26th-28th)**
  Marks the end of Ramadan and the beginning of the Islamic month of Shawwal

- **LGBTQIA Pride Day (Monday, June 26th)**
  Celebrates the Stonewall Riots on June 28th, 1969 which is widely recognized as the most important event in beginning the fight for LGBTQIA rights in the U.S.
The Caribbean region encompasses countries in and around the Caribbean Sea. There are 13 sovereign states and 14 dependent territories tied to the U.K., France, Netherlands, and the U.S. In 2014, almost 4 million immigrants from the Caribbean resided in the U.S. The total Caribbean population and those of Caribbean descent in the U.S. may be as high as 22 million. Caribbean immigrants may be Black, White, Latino, East Indian, Chinese, Arab, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, etc, thus it is difficult to make broad generalizations of such a unique group.

This year the Caribbean Heritage Month celebrates 11 years of recognition!

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LGBTQIA pride has been celebrated during the month of June to honor the Stonewall Riots of 1969. Presidential Proclamations officially declaring a Pride Month began with President Bill Clinton in 2000. President Barack Obama issued proclamations from 2009-2016.

Safe Zone's mission at SIUE is to develop a campus community of allies and provide support to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students, faculty, and staff with the ultimate goal of developing SIUE as a safe and welcoming place for LGBT people. Come out and support SIUE Safe Zone as they participate in the annual St. Louis PrideFest!

Click Here For More PrideFest2017 Information!
The Multicultural Center on campus will be closed until August. If you would like to use the MCC during the summer, please contact the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion.

Keep in touch with the Multicultural Center!
Check out news & events on our social media websites:

https://www.facebook.com/siueMCC/
@siuemulticulturalcenter
@siuemcc

See something missing from this newsletter, that you feel should be acknowledged by the SIUE community to celebrate diversity & inclusion?

We want to hear from you!
Please contact the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion at siueidi@siue.edu or call (618) 650-5382

The Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion wishes you safe travels this summer!

HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY SUMMER!