



Eastern International College

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HAPPY STUDENTS AND FACULTY AT FEBRUARY'S POP UP CAREER FAIR PHOTO CREDIT: AMEENA ATHAB

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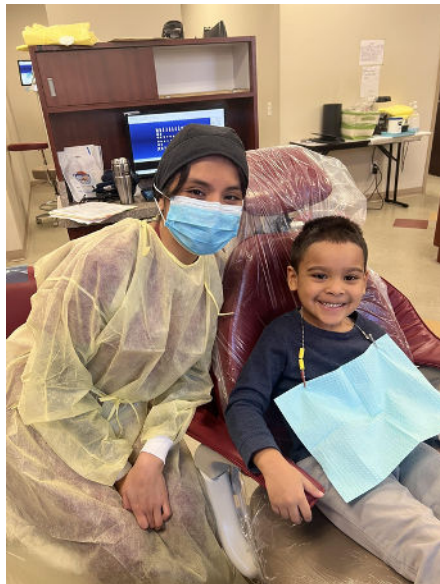
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CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMPILED BY AMEENA ATHAB AND LIZ REILLY

February 15, 2022 saw the 7th annual Give Kids a Smile Day at EIC's Dental Clinic. This event allows Dental Hygiene student sand faculty to educate local families about oral health and deliver some preventative services like exams, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride and sealant treatments. Lastly, the kids received some goodie bags with oral health supplies to take home.



ALL SMILES IN THE DENTAL HYGIENE CLINIC!

PHOTO CREDIT: AMEENA ATHAB



ACCREDITATION UPDATES

MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITATION: THE BASICS

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) is a global institutional accreditor recognized by the United States Secretary of Education since 1952. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) promotes educational excellence through innovation across diverse institutions.

HOW DOES A SCHOOL BECOME ACCREDITED BY MIDDLE STATES?

Institutions must achieve and sustain compliance with the Commission's Standards for Accreditation, Requirements of Affiliation, policies and procedures, and applicable federal requirements. Accrediting agencies such as MSCHE, have developed evaluation criteria and conduct peer evaluations to assess whether or not those criteria are met. Institutions and/or programs that request an accreditor's evaluation and that meet an accreditor's criteria are then "accredited".

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITATION FOR STUDENTS?

Middle States Accreditation benefits the student by verifying the standard of a school's education so you know you are getting a quality education in your chosen field.

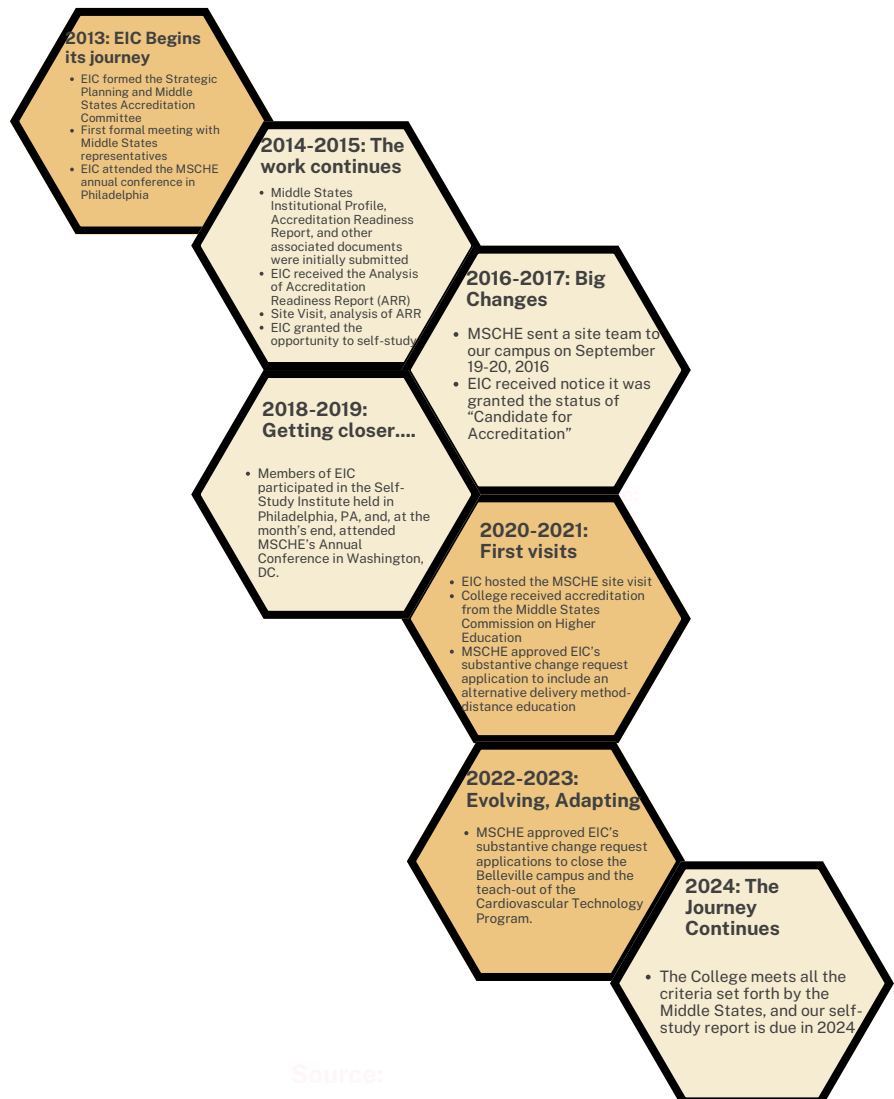


SCAN HERE TO
LEARN MORE:

[MSCHE.org/accreditation](https://msche.org/accreditation)



EIC'S JOURNEY TO MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITATION



Source:



DMS ALUMNA MERON KASSE JOTE CONNECTS WITH CURRENT STUDENTS DURING FEBRUARY'S HEART2HEART SCANNING EVENT
PHOTO CREDIT: AMEENA ATHAB



DMS STUDENTS AND DR. SHAHIDA QURESHI (CHAIR) ENJOYED THEIR TIME AT THE HEART2HEART EVENT
PHOTO CREDIT: AMEENA ATHAB

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY NEWS

COMPILED BY DR. SHAHIDA QURESHI AND AMEENA ATHAB



The DMS program celebrated February by giving love and care to friends and family with the Heart2Heart event. Heart2Heart connected credentialed and experienced DMS alumni with community volunteers to provide free echocardiography scans to volunteers.

On February 21, 22, and 26, DMS students met and networked with DMS alums. Special thanks to the DMS Department for showing their support and Dr. Alaa Mohsen for providing pizza for all three days!

Following the social hour, the guests arrived for scanning. The students met with guests and alums in the DMS labs. Alumni scanned the guests as they gave expert tips to the students observing.

The event, spearheaded by Melina Pareja of DMS externships and Kristine Watco of Student Services, connected alums and current DMS students in a unique way. Exit surveys of students showed a very positive reception: Respondents enjoyed the tips on externships, SPI prep, and building a career in the profession. Each alum took extra time to speak with and answer questions for students before and after scanning our volunteers in a live demo of proper technique.



DMS RESOURCE: REAL TALK SONOGRAPHY VIDEO SERIES FROM ARDMS

The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) has compiled a video series called “Real Talk Sonography” made by Medical Sonographers for students and fellow professionals. From the ARDMS webpage:

“We interviewed over 20 sonographers, skipping the small talk in favor of real talk. We asked questions about their profession and its impact on their lives. What started out as a single video quickly developed into several as we watched the interviews and realized that the stories, insights and emotions displayed could never adequately be shared in 3 minutes.”

If you would like to learn more about his unique project, please scan the QR code below to go to the YouTube playlist for Real Talk Sonography:

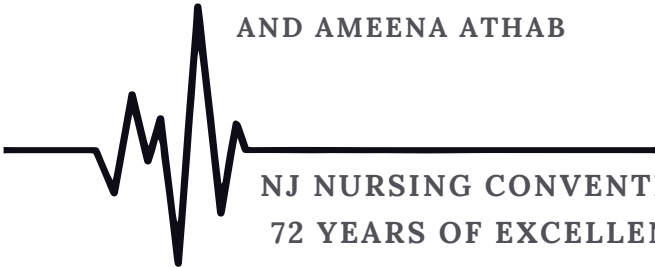




THE "NIGHTINGALES" HARD AT WORK, SPRING SEMESTER 2024
PHOTO CREDIT: DR. SUZANNE MULLINGS

NURSING NEWS

COMPILED BY DR. SUZANNE MULLINGS
AND AMEENA ATHAB



NJ NURSING CONVENTION: 72 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

The nursing students attended the New Jersey Nursing Student 72nd Annual Convention in Atlantic City, NJ. This year's theme was Nursing: Bridging the Generational Gap.

Each year, the New Jersey Nursing Students, Inc. (NJNS) Board of Directors put together a two-day convention that features various leadership and career development opportunities. Over nursing students from all over New Jersey attend for opportunities to listen to renowned nursing leaders during breakout focus sessions.

The students met and networked with students, faculty members, and nursing leaders from across New Jersey. The focus sessions enhanced their academic and clinical skills. The convention featured an exhibit hall and social events, like the First Night Party! Attendees, especially graduating nursing students, were able to take advantage of the NCLEX review session.



BRITTANY DAVIS CAMPBELL (ADN), ASIA SMITH (ADN), PATRICIA SPEARS (ADN), BIENVENUE MISSAMOU (BSN), SUZANNE MULLINGS (DEAN, NURSING), KAI INGRAM (BSN), PETER CHONG (ADN)

PHOTO CREDIT: DR. SUZANNE MULLINGS

SUPPORTING STUDENTS: LEARNING COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

The Learning Community Initiative is in full swing for the Spring semester. The "Nightingales" held their first student-led session. The learning community is a small subgroup of students, belonging to the same cohort, brought together to gain a deeper understanding and integration of course material from each other and support each other towards academic progress. This group is student led with the support of the nursing faculty to examine student's opinions and provide detailed feedback. Students will share ideas, ask questions, complete assignments, and prepare for course level assessments. The sessions are held weekly, and participation is voluntary.

The students are excited about the initiative as a way to bridge the learning gap and as an effort to enhance their knowledge towards better student outcomes. This initiative is intended to promote student success, enhance socialization among peer groups and develop value study skills and habits that will be useful throughout the program.



PHOTO CREDIT: DR. SUZANNE MULLINGS

NURSING LEADERS OF TOMORROW: NJ NURSING STUDENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Congratulations to Bienvenue Missamou (BSN) (above) elected to the position of 2nd Vice President and Kai Ingram (BSN) (Above) elected to the position of Secretary for the 2023-2024 New Jersey Nursing Student (NJNS) Board of Directors



DENTAL HYGIENE NEWS

COMPILED BY TIFFANY JANAJREH,
RDH, MSDH
AND AMEENA ATHAB

In Eastern International College's ongoing commitment to fostering inclusivity and diversity within the school community, the College is thrilled to highlight the strides made by the Dental Hygiene Program in collaboration with the LGBTQ+ community and Hudson Pride.

At the heart of EIC's educational mission lies not only the pursuit of academic excellence but also the cultivation of a supportive and inclusive environment where every individual feels valued and respected. Additionally, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) focuses standards on fostering a humanistic culture (Standards 1-3) while providing graduates with fundamental principles and practice of behavioral science to support patient-centered care in a multicultural environment (Standards 2-16 and 2-17).²

To achieve this, dental hygiene students must work to develop their knowledge of culturally diverse groups to provide effective care. Diversity is no longer limited to race or ethnicity. Diversity is inclusive of mental ability, physical ability, age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation.¹

In "Oral Health: Advances and Challenges," the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research report, the LGBTQ+ community was identified as an underserved population that faces discriminatory experiences and social stigma, resulting in health inequities and barriers to accessing healthcare.³ In the course DH 402: Dental Hygiene Care for Culturally Diverse and Special Needs Patient Populations, an emphasis is placed on examining what is meant by culture, how culture intersects with health issues, and how public health efforts can benefit by understanding and working with cultural processes. Recognizing the unique needs and challenges faced by members of the LGBTQ+ community, the Dental Hygiene Program has embarked on a journey to ensure equitable access to dental hygiene care and promote oral health awareness among all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Over the past 3 years, the EIC Department of Dental Hygiene has actively engaged with the LGBTQ+ community by partnering with Hudson Pride to better understand the specific oral health concerns within the community. Through workshops, seminars, and open dialogues, EIC Dental Hygiene students and faculty have gained valuable insights into the barriers faced by LGBTQ+ individuals in accessing dental care, including discrimination, lack of culturally competent providers, and financial constraints.

Armed with this knowledge, the EIC Dental Hygiene program implemented the collaboration with Hudson Pride starting in 2021 to address these challenges and to work towards improving oral health outcomes among LGBTQ+ individuals. Part of this collaboration has included cultural competency training during DH 402 by inviting Hudson Pride to the College for an annual seminar. On Thursday, March 6th, 2024, Hudson Pride will be back on campus participating in DH 402 and providing the college with free HIV testing.

By actively engaging with the LGBTQ+ community, the Dental Hygiene Program not only seeks to improve oral health outcomes but also to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where all individuals feel empowered to prioritize their health and well-being.

As Eastern International College continues to expand its efforts in promoting diversity and inclusivity, we invite all members of our school community to join in on supporting these initiatives and fostering a culture of acceptance and respect for all.

References:

1. J. Haley. (2016, August 10). Caring for the LGBT Community. *Dimensions of Dental Hygiene*, pp. 70-73.
2. Commission on Dental Accreditation. (2024, March, 6). Accreditation Standards. CODA. <https://www.coda.ada.org/standards>.
3. C.M. Haley, D.V. Marci, H.L. Perez, S.B. Schwartz. (2022, August 6). LGBTQ+ and dental education: Analyzing the present and recommendations for the future. *Journal of Dental Education*, pp. 1191-1197



The Mark of Distinction

STUDENT AFFAIRS SPOTLIGHT

COMPILED BY LIZ REILLY

The beginning of 2024 has seen a flurry of activity in terms of the Student Services. Through the efforts of Dr. Julius Wangiwang, Dr. Hany Zaky, Dr. Ruhina Najem, Liz Reilly, and Melina Pareja, EIC is proud to announce that it is starting not only one but TWO student society chapters!

The first, Alpha Beta Kappa (ABK) is an Honors Society for private institutions in the US. From their website:

“Alpha Beta Kappa is the premier national honor society for America’s private postsecondary schools, institutes, colleges, universities, and distance learning institutions - serving many institutions for the past 40 years. Alpha Beta Kappa places Chapters in institutions which have demonstrated high standards over a period of many years in the education and training of women and men in the numerous fields, trades and occupations essential to modern society. There was no national society for private proprietary and nonprofit postsecondary institutions until the National Alpha Beta Kappa Honor Society was officially established.

It is the mark of distinction for an institution to be awarded a Chapter of Alpha Beta Kappa. That fact that an individual is elected to membership in this honor society sets her or him apart as an exemplar of personal integrity and excellence.”

Soon, students with exemplary academic achievements and community service records will be nominated for membership and inducted into the society. This is a great move for the professional development of its student body.

Memberships in honors societies connect students to networks of mentorship, development, resources, and even career building resources outside of their campus, thus providing them with expanded opportunities for professional and personal growth.



THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESS

The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) is an honor society dedicated to career growth and development for college students across the United States. NSLS has built a network of resources to connect students with professional across various fields, as well as development resources for leadership, career building, and more. From their website:

“The NSLS is the largest and only accredited leadership honor society in the US, delivering high-quality career resources and leadership development programs to more than 1.5 million members. Our guiding question is: “Are we helping the greatest number of people in the greatest possible way?” Let’s change the world together.

Our members gain access to a range of benefits, including scholarship opportunities and exclusive Speaker Broadcasts that connect them to activists, entrepreneurs, celebrities, thought leaders, and even former Presidents.”

Much like the start of our ABK chapter, our NSLS chapter will recognize students with high academic and personal achievement and support them on their paths to professional success in their chosen fields.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Please scan the codes below to visit
the websites of each society and
learn more about their missions:



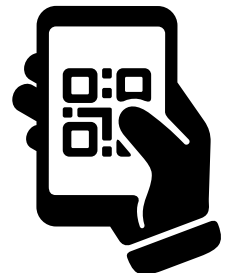
THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF
LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESS

nsls.org



The Mark of Distinction

abkhs.org



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMPILED BY LIZ REILLY

NEW LOOK FOR STUDENT LOUNGE

Kristine Watco, Student Services and Academic Support Coordinator, in partnership with Melina Pareja, DMS externship coordinator, have added significant new visuals to the EIC student lounge.

The Diversity Board is part of the ongoing effort by EIC to support the heritage and identity of its many different student populations: “Many cultures, One World.” writes Watco, Students Can share what country they’re from and pin it onto our world map. We’re looking forward to seeing the many cultures represented at our educational institution.”



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ REILLY

HEALTH FIRST: ANTI-VAPING CAMPAIGN

In light of ongoing research about the dangers of vaping, Student Services and DMS Externships have begun to spread awareness via strategically-placed posters throughout campus.

According to Johns Hopkins, vaping is less harmful than smoking, but it’s still not safe: “Research from The Johns Hopkins University on vape ingredients published in October 2021 reveals thousands of chemical ingredients in vape products, most of which are not yet identified” (2023).

To encourage the next generations of allied health professionals to be aware of the risks associated with vaping, this campaign will continue throughout campus.



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ REILLY

DIRECTOR'S CUTS

COMPILED BY LIZ REILLY

AI AND ASSESSMENT - CURRENT SCHOLARSHIP

Hany Zaky, Ed.D., Director of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness will facilitate a workshop at the 12th Annual Assessment Network of New York (ANNY) Conference April 15-16th in Syracuse, NY.

Dr. Zaky's workshop, titled "Assessment and Instructional Approaches in the Age of AI: Alternative Assessment to Foster Students Academic Performance" will cover (among other topics), Inclusive Assessment and Artificial Intelligence "AI", Creating Assessments using AI Tools to Support Student Success.



LOCAL EMPLOYERS COME THROUGH FOR CAREER SERVICES

On Wednesday February 14th, six local employers visited EIC campus for the "Pop-Up Party", our newly rebranded career fair. We hosted representatives from Care One in Oradell, St. Joseph's Health, Actalent Services, Saint Michael's Medical Center, and Boom Smiles Group.

52 Students from all three on-campus programs joined the fun, making connections and networking with our guests. CVT alumni Rita McIntyre and Hajah Swaray also showed their support. The event was considered a success by leadership and staff alike! Stay tuned for the next one....



EVERYONE HAD A BLAST, FROM ESTUDENTS TO EMPLOYERS,
ALONG WITH KRISTINE WATCO AND MELINA PAREJA
PHOTO CREDIT: AMEENA ATHAB

SPRINGING FORWARD TO A NEW SEMESTER: JANUARY ORIENTATION A SUCCESS!

On January 11th, 2024, EIC welcomed 99 new students in DMS and Nursing for our Spring 2024 Orientation. At the start of each semester, an orientation is held for all incoming students. This is a two-part event, with the morning session dedicated to informing students on the mission, history, and policies of the college. The morning session is a group effort from all administrative departments, led by Dr. Julius Wangiwang, President, Dr. Hany Zaky, Director of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, and Dr. Ruhina Najem, Dean of Academic Affairs. This event is catered with delicious refreshments from local vendors. After the morning session is over, students split off to their respective departments for programmatic orientation by their department Deans and Chairs.



EXCITED NEW STUDENTS SHOW OFF THEIR FREE SHIRTS WITH
DR. RUHINA NAJEM
PHOTO CREDIT: AMEENA ATHAB



RITA AND HAJAH, CVT PROGRAM ALUMNI,
JOINED THE POP-UP FUN!
PHOTO CREDIT: AMEENA ATHAB