

Eastern International College

vol 7 Fall 2025



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NURSING DEPT ACEN ACCREDITATION UPDATE!

8 YEARS OF CONTINUING ACCREDITATION WITHOUT ANY CONDITIONS UNTIL 2031

The Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program has achieved a significant milestone, proudly maintaining its programmatic accreditation through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

On September 26, 2025, the Nursing Department successfully passed its recent ACEN review. The department was granted a full eight years of continuing accreditation without any conditions, extending this prestigious recognition until 2031.

This outcome is a testament to the quality of the faculty, the comprehensive curriculum, and the department's commitment to excellence in nursing education. ACEN accreditation signifies that the ADN program meets rigorous national standards designed to prepare competent and compassionate nurses for the healthcare field.



PRESIDENT'S HOLIDAY GREETING

Dear EIC Family,

As we celebrate this holiday season, I extend my warmest wishes to our students, faculty, staff, administrators, and their families. This time of year reminds us of the importance of connection, gratitude, and the support we offer one another as one community. May your holidays be filled with peace, joy, and meaningful moments with the people you cherish.

Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and the spirit of compassion you bring to our college every day.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a healthy, prosperous New Year.

Warm regards,
Dr. Julius Wangiwang
President
Eastern International College

DENTAL HYGIENE NEWS



DH COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES

Our Dental Hygiene Students had an amazing time giving back to the wonderful communities of Jersey City and Bayonne through our Student American Dental Hygienists' Association (SADHA) chapter! These outreaches proved both rewarding and motivating for our dental hygiene students. During four exciting outreach events: Faith and Victory Deliverance Church of God's Flea Market (September 13, 2025), National Back to Church Sunday (September 17-21, 2025), and the Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church's Health and Wellness Fair (September 27, 2025), and Outreach at Golden Door Charter School (October 6, 2025), we had the opportunity to educate the community on the importance of oral hygiene and its overall effects on the body.

We were able to share proper brushing and flossing techniques, discuss the importance of consistency in dental hygiene, and offer tailored product recommendations. It was a great honor to also be able to offer such thorough and affordable dental hygiene care to these community members. We loved answering questions, offering friendly advice, and helping everyone feel more confident about their smiles. The genuine gratitude expressed by participants reinforced our commitment to public health education and strengthened our pride in representing Eastern International College in these underserved communities.



FIRST SADHA MEETING OF THE SEMESTER!

The Dental Hygiene Department's Student American Dental Hygienists' Association (SADHA) chapter held its first meeting of the Fall 2025 semester, kicking off an exciting year ahead. SADHA is dedicated to enhancing the education and professional development of future dental hygienists while advocating for oral health awareness.

During the meeting, members discussed upcoming initiatives, volunteer opportunities, and events designed to enrich their studies and community engagement. The newly elected SADHA members include: Kelly Dela Cruz, Genesis Parrel, Diana Puran, Ashley-Lynn Floyd, Vanessa Saintiz, Ilara Rotem, Maria Arias, Janine Coan, Danielle Lombardo, Esther Asumadu, and Elizabeth Cardillo.

SADHA serves as a vital link between students and the professional world of dental hygiene. It provides a platform for students to network with industry experts, gain insights into the latest dental hygiene practices, and participate in mentorship programs. The organization also emphasizes the importance of community service, encouraging members to engage in outreach activities that promote oral health education and preventive care within local communities.



DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY NEWS

DMS RESOURCE: NAVIGATING THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Getting certified by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) involves a clear, step-by-step application process:

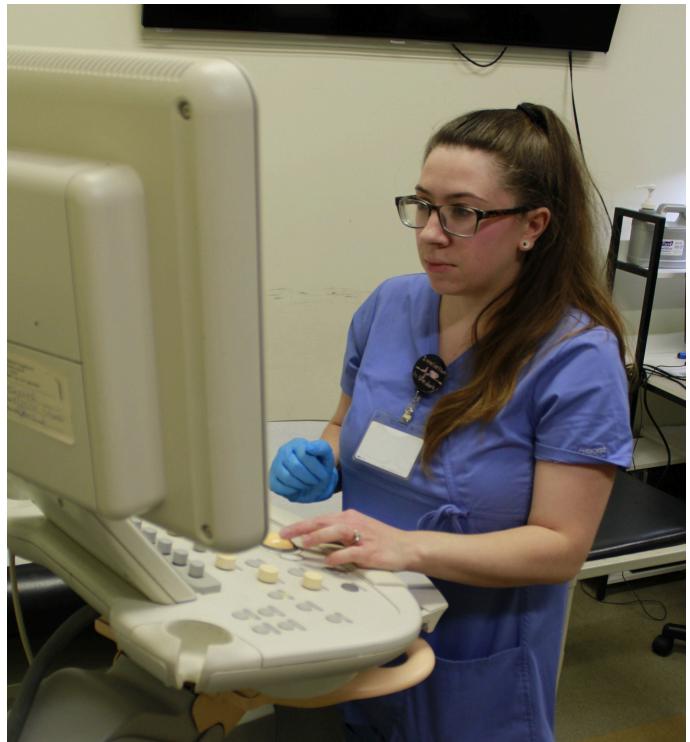
- Meet Prerequisites: Carefully review the detailed prerequisites for your desired credential, as you must select a specific pathway (combining education and clinical experience) when you apply. You can use the [Prerequisite Prep Tool](#) for guidance.
- Apply Online: Log in to MY ARDMS and select Apply Online. Complete the form, submit payment, and formally attest to reading and agreeing to the [ARDMS Application Agreement](#) and [Compliance Policies](#).
- Submit Documentation: Gather all necessary supporting documents (e.g., transcripts, clinical letters) and upload them to your account under the "My Resources" tab.
- Receive Your ECL: Once approved, you will receive an Examination Confirmation Letter (ECL) via email. This letter confirms your eligibility and the testing window, allowing you to [schedule your examination](#) with Pearson VUE.



DMS REMEDIATION: A LOOK INTO OUR SCANNING LABS!

Every Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m., Ultrasound Instructor Faiza Imtiaz, RDMS, CAB, OB/GYN, RVT, VT, conducts DMS Remediation sessions. These sessions provide students and alumni with a crucial opportunity to refine their ultrasound scanning skills.

Remediation hours are essential for students to stay sharp, boost their confidence, and develop the practical skills necessary for success in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography field. Alumni are also encouraged to attend to keep their scanning skills updated after graduation. These sessions create a supportive environment where both current students and alumni can excel in their sonography careers.



NURSING NEWS



NURSING DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES A 100% NCLEX PASS RATE FOR BOTH ADN AND BSN GRADUATES

The Nursing Department is proud to announce that for the 2025 cohorts, both ADN and BSN nursing graduates had a successful 100% NCLEX passing rate. We wish them much success as they embark their professional journeys as registered nurses in the healthcare field.



IMPORTANT CASTLEBRANCH REMINDER FROM THE NURSING DEPARTMENT:

Attention new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) students:

Please complete the requirements on the Castle Branch website for your Spring 2026 registration. You must finalize the Background Check and Drug Testing sections to ensure compliance and safety during your clinical training. Here are the instructions for Castle Branch Order Placement:

1) To create an account, go to login.castlebranch.com. Click 'Create Account' and follow the prompts to enter your personal information.

2) After creating your account, click 'Place Order' at the top of your dashboard. You will be prompted to enter the following package code specific to your organization:

Package Code For NY residents:

EB19 : Background Check - Drug Test - Compliance Tracker \$212.99

Package Code For NJ residents:

EB19bgdt : Background Check - Drug Test \$68.00

EB19im : Compliance Tracker \$29.99

Address these requirements promptly to avoid delays. For questions or assistance, contact Nursing Admin Assistant Carle Mclean at carle.mclean@eiccollege.edu.

STUDENT-FACULTY ENGAGEMENT THROUGH CHEW AND CHATS

On Thursday, October 30, 2025, the Nursing Department at Eastern International College hosted its "Chat and Chew", open to all nursing students on campus. It was an excellent way to conclude the Fall Semester and prepare the students for the upcoming semester.

Faculty members shared their professional experiences, discussed different career paths in nursing, and provided advice on how to succeed in the program. The Chat and Chew event aimed to strengthen relationships between students and faculty, fostering an open environment for learning and growth within the EIC nursing community.

ALUMNI FEATURE: EIC SUCCESS STORIES



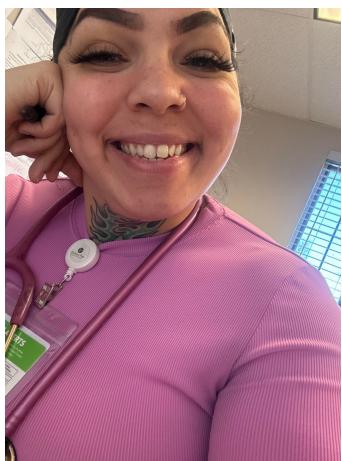
BRANDEN GARCIA, RVT, DMS '25

"Shortly after graduating from EIC's Diagnostic Medical Sonography program and completing my externship, I was fortunate enough to be hired at my externship site as a cardiovascular technician. During that time, I improved my scanning skills, learned from experienced professionals, and gained confidence in my practical abilities. My path had challenges: I initially aimed for the echo registry and was not successful in my first few attempts. It was tough not to compare myself to classmates who already passed their board exams. Those moments taught me patience, resilience, and the importance of focusing on my own journey. After moments of feeling defeated and unsure of how to move forward, I realized that giving up was not an option. This time around, I chose to change course and embrace my interest in vascular sonography by pursuing it as my specialty. After months of rigorous studying, I successfully earned my ARDMS credential. Now that I am a registered vascular technologist, the opportunities ahead of me feel endless, and I am enthusiastic about what this new chapter holds. A piece of advice I'd like to give to current and future students is this: perseverance is key. You might not get it right the first time, but you must keep pushing forward. Every setback is simply a part of the journey. And always remember, do not be afraid to take smart risks and explore different areas within the field, as this career is full of opportunities and growth."



OLA ELYAMANY, RDH, DH '24

"I am proud to be a graduate of the Dental Hygiene program at Eastern International College, Class of 2024. My journey was not always easy & balanced the demands of coursework, clinic hours, and personal responsibilities, but each challenge made me stronger. At EIC, I gained not only the technical skills needed to provide high-quality patient care, but also the confidence to grow as a professional. The faculty and clinical experience taught me the importance of compassion, teamwork, and perseverance. I learned how to care for patients from diverse backgrounds and how to adapt to every situation with patience and dedication. There were times I doubted myself, but the support of my instructors and classmates reminded me why I chose this field to help people live healthier lives through oral health. Graduating as a dental hygienist is more than a career achievement; it is the fulfillment of a dream I worked so hard for. Today, as I begin my career, I carry with me the lessons, resilience, and pride of being an EIC alumna. My journey proves that with determination and faith, challenges can be turned into success stories."



VANESSA RIVERA, RN, ADN '21

"I graduated in 2021, taking my NCLEX one month after graduation. I began at Kindred Hospital as a floor nurse and then started working on Clipboard as a per diem RN in LTC facilities. Once I began working in LTC, I fell in love with the geriatric residents and found my passion for Long Term Care nursing. I was allowed to work as an Infection Preventionist, which involved collaboration with the Department of Health. I obtained my Infection Control Credentials through the Certification Board for Infection Control and Epidemiology. After two years of work as an IP, I have now been promoted to Assistant Director of Nursing. Nursing has changed my life for the better, and every single one of my residents has made a huge impact on my life. This field is not for the faint of heart and requires thick skin, but the stories you will hold dear to your heart make each day worth the trials and tribulations of nursing school."

FACULTY NEWS

LESLEY GERALD-KORAM, PHD, MSN, RN

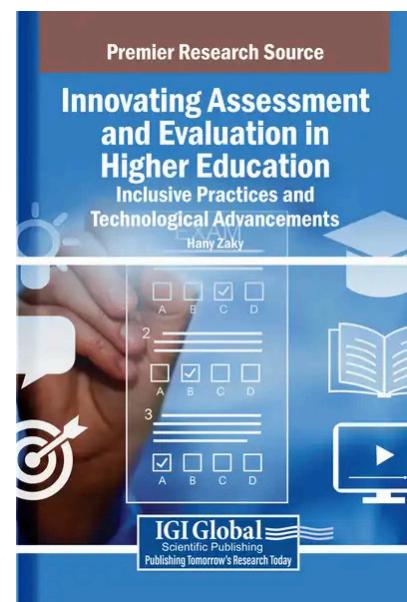
Dr. Lessley Gerald-Koram completed and defended their doctoral dissertation, entitled **"The Lived Psychosocial Experiences of Nursing Students Transitioning from In-Person to Virtual Learning at the Onset of COVID-19."** This research marked the culmination of a 5½-year scholarly journey through Liberty University's PhD in Nursing Education program. Guided by Dr. Schacke and a committee of mentors and faculty, the study examined the multifaceted psychosocial challenges and adaptive strategies experienced by nursing students during one of the most transformative periods in modern education. Dr. Lessley Gerald-Koram is dedicated to advancing nursing scholarship, innovation in simulation-based learning, and the professional development of future nurses through education, leadership, and advocacy.

SOLOMON WEAVER, MSN, MHA, RN, CNE, PMH-BC

Recently earned a Psychiatric Mental Health (PMH-BC) Certification through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).

HANY ZAKY, ED.D

Dr. Zaky, the Director of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, published a handbook in ***Assessment and Technology in Higher Education***. It uniquely connects assessment with AI technology, inclusive design, and competency-based education. While these topics are usually discussed separately, this handbook offers frameworks that combine them effectively. It promotes a developmental view of assessment, seeing learning as continuous growth, and emphasizes student agency, reflecting forward-thinking educational methods essential for the future.



STUDENT AFFAIRS SPOTLIGHT



SUCCESSFUL FALL SEMESTER CAREER FAIR: WELCOMING NEW & CURRENT EMPLOYER PARTNERS

On Thursday, October 16, 2025, the Career Services Department held the Fall Career Fair, which takes place every semester for all programs. The department implemented a new strategy in Fall 2023 by hosting the fair in the student lounge, which helped increase student engagement. At that time, only four employers participated. This year's career fair was a success, featuring eight employers in attendance. The employers included Hudson Regional Hospital (previously known as Carepoint Health), Care Options for Kids, Great Expressions Dental, Smile Brands, Aspen Dental, MetroLight Staffing Agency, and Holy Name Medical Center, with the latter three being newer employer partners.

As Eastern International College continues to expand its network of employer partners, the Career Services Department plans to host separate career days next year—one for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) and Nursing, and another for Dental Hygiene. This initiative aims to welcome more employer partners to engage with students.



STUDENT AFFAIRS SPOTLIGHT: EIC'S NEW VOLUNTEER STUDENT AMBASSADORS

During the Fall Semester New Student Orientation, Eastern International College's New Volunteer Student Ambassadors were introduced. The Volunteer Student Ambassadors are Xhunejda Jonuzi (DH), Letizia Mauriello (DH), Mae Raja (DH), Chadonii Campbell (DMS), Thamara Rodriguez (DMS), and Aliyah Danmole (BSN).

The Volunteer Student Ambassador Program is a leadership opportunity for students who are dedicated to serving and representing Eastern International College. Volunteer Student Ambassadors provide peer mentoring, serve as representatives of Eastern International College, and perform duties at various community outreach and campus events.



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



FACULTY & STAFF HARVEST POTLUCK: CELEBRATING CULTURE & COMMUNITY!

The Eastern International College (EIC) community came together last Monday for a delightful Faculty & Staff Potluck held in the Student Lounge from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM. This vibrant event successfully transformed the lounge into a lively gathering spot, providing an opportunity for faculty and staff across all departments to connect outside of their usual professional roles.

The event showcased the culinary talents of the EIC team, featuring a variety of homemade dishes, from savory casseroles to sweet desserts, reflecting the rich cultural backgrounds of the participants. More than just a meal, the potluck fostered a spirit of camaraderie and appreciation. Attendees enjoyed relaxed conversation and fellowship, strengthening the bonds that underpin the college's supportive environment.

These informal social events are crucial in fostering a cohesive campus culture. The potluck was a fantastic opportunity for faculty and staff to recharge, share a few laughs, and build stronger working relationships. EIC looks forward to hosting more events that bring the team together.

LIBRARY RESOURCES: MEET YOUR EIC LIBRARIAN, EMILY MERCADO!



Hello, my name is Emily Mercado, MLS, C.A.G.S., M.Ed. I'm the librarian at EIC! I've been a school librarian for 20 years, mainly at K-12 schools in New England, New York City, and New Jersey. A big part of my job as a librarian is helping students with their research, including proper citations, the research process, and navigating the print and digital resources we have here in the library. I also work collaboratively with the professors at EIC to provide instruction in research related to individual courses in each of our academic programs. I teach a weekly Information Literacy course (on Friday afternoons) in collaboration with the ENG 101 professor, where we cover all aspects of research, from beginning to end. I also offer help in navigating our databases and online resources, editing your papers (I do NOT edit for content, but rather only to check for proper citations and setup), and helping you format a quality research question.

If you would like individual help, you are welcome to stop by the library at any time. I'm available in the library Monday to Thursday from 9:00 AM- 6:00 PM, and Fridays from 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM. If you require more in-depth help, email me at emily.mercado@eicollege.edu to set up an appointment. Keep your eyes out for more information in future newsletters!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS AT EIC



A FESTIVE UGLY SWEATER CONTEST BEFORE THE END OF THE SEMESTER!

EIC held its first-ever Ugly Sweater Contest on Thursday, December 11, 2025, bringing students together for a festive gathering in the student lounge. Students enthusiastically embraced the holiday spirit, wearing their ugly sweaters over their scrubs. The event was a great success, fostering a sense of community and providing a fun opportunity for students to socialize and take memorable holiday photos.

*Wishing You
Christmas Cheer*



ACADEMIC CALENDAR

SPRING SEMESTER 2026

January 15, 2026

Faculty Orientation

January 16, 2025

Orientation for New Students

January 19, 2026

Martin Luther King Jr. Day – College Closed

January 20, 2026

Spring Semester Begins

January 30, 2026

Last Day for Add/Drop

February 16, 2026

President's Day – College Closed

March 13, 2026

Last Day to Withdraw from Spring Semester Classes

April 3, 2026

Good Friday – College Closed

May 2, 2026

Spring Semester Ends

May 4, 2026

All Final Spring Semester Grades Due to Registrar