

# The Sentinel

Voice of the ECC Faculty Association  
Local 3791/IFT [www.eccfaculty.org](http://www.eccfaculty.org)



November 2010

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## From the President:

Sarah Dye



Congratulations go to **Fred Vogt** of the Biology Department, who was approved for tenure at last month's Board of Trustees meeting. He will be formally recognized at the

January Convocation when his tenured status begins.

This year's **Holiday Breakfast** will be held on Friday, December 17 starting at 7:30 a.m. This is grading day for fulltime faculty so class conflicts should not be a problem to those of us who wish to attend.

The ECCFA will host an **end-of-the-semester party** on the Friday before the breakfast, December 10, at Carmina's on Randall Road at Fletcher Drive. The party will start at 4:30 p.m. and continue until 8:00 or so. Last year, our own President Sam did a turn or two on the dance floor with Arturo Vasquez's group providing the live band. Look for the invitation in email at the beginning of December. As we have been doing in the last few years, we will be collecting food after Thanksgiving and monetary donations the evening of the party for the **Northern Illinois Food Bank**. Watch for email from Dan Kernler, ECCFA FAV Chairperson, about this food drive and

look for the donation barrels around campus soon after we come back from Thanksgiving break.

**The Construction Open House** is being held this Wednesday, November 10, from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the newly completed Multipurpose Classroom Building on Renner Drive. Join your colleagues and the public for tours of the building.

**The Testing Center** which is housed temporarily in the MPC 170 closes and returns to SRC108. As a result, Testing in MPC170 will close at 5 pm on Wednesday, November 24 and remain closed until Sunday, December 5 for moving. Students can test at the Fountain Square Campus Room 408 from Monday, November 29 through Thursday, December 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. On Friday, December 3, the students can test from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be no Saturday hours on December 4 at either campus. Please call FSQ Testing at 847-214-6977 for more information. *Special note to Instructors from Victoria Roush: Please let her know prior to November 24, if you will need any makeup tests during the time frame of November 29 through December 5, 2010.*

Finally, I cannot express how important your support of the **Negotiation Team** is this semester. The team works very hard for each of us. One indicator of support is the meals brought to the team each evening or day that the team meets. The team is especially appreciative of the delicious food that many faculty members have been supplying. That initiative is being co-chaired by Armando Trejo ([atrejo@elgin.edu](mailto:atrejo@elgin.edu)) and Mary Elfring ([melfring@elgin.edu](mailto:melfring@elgin.edu)). Contact one or both of them if you wish to become involved.

# The Inequity of Using Textbook Profits as Subsidies

## Dan Kernler

Assistant Professor of Mathematics  
Math Department Co-Coordinator

Anyone associated with college education – students, parents, faculty, staff, and administrators – knows that textbook costs are rising. As a co-coordinator of the math department, one of my roles has been to coordinate the ordering of textbooks. This task has grown in complexity lately, with the myriad of online homework systems, online textbooks, hardcover, unbound, and custom editions.

Regardless of the format that we in the math department choose, what doesn't change is the mark-up that the bookstore applies. This is to say nothing against the great work done by Steve and Linda and the rest of the bookstore staff. Obviously, the bookstore needs to mark up prices a reasonable amount to pay for the facilities and the salaries and benefits of their employees. But did you also know that the bookstore subsidizes other activities on campus?

## An ECC Budget Mini-Lesson

The ECC budget is broken down into ten funds, ranging from the Education Fund--where most faculty salaries and benefits come from--to the Operations and Maintenance Fund, the Bond and Interest Fund, and several others. The bookstore and other areas fall under a fund called the Auxiliary Services Fund.

According to the ICCB:

The Auxiliary Enterprises Fund is established by Section 3-31.1 of the Public Community College Act and accounts for college services where a fee is charged to students/staff and the activity is intended to be self-supporting. Each enterprise/service should be accounted for separately using a group of self-balancing accounts within the fund. Examples of accounts in this fund include food services, student stores, and intercollegiate athletics.

Only monies over which the institution has complete control should be included in this fund.

Subsidies for auxiliary services by the Education Fund should be shown as transfers to the appropriate account.

*Source: ICCB Fiscal Management Manual, [tiny.cc/iccbfmm](http://tiny.cc/iccbfmm)*

For FY2010 at ECC, profits from the Bookstore are used to subsidize Corporate and Continuing Education (\$155,000 each), the Childcare Center (just over \$100,000), and the Visual and Performing Arts Center (\$225,000). (Source: ECC Annual Budget for FY2010: [tiny.cc/eccfy2010](http://tiny.cc/eccfy2010)) All of these sub-funds are intended to be self-funded under the Auxiliary Enterprises Fund, but the Board of Trustees has the right to set a budget that runs them at a deficit and subsidizes them from another fund in the college's budget.

### **Where is the Problem?**

As a parent of a young toddler who has had a glorious time (minus the colds, but what can you do?) at the ECC Childcare Center, I clearly support and value the wonderful work they're doing. I've also attended many shows at the Visual and Performing Arts Center. They continue to bring in great artists from around the world

and give ECC students, faculty, staff, and the community an excellent opportunity to enjoy a wide range of art experiences. I also know that the Corporate and Continuing Education departments each serve a significant portion of our community, though I sincerely hope the subsidy they receive is indeed for a single year. They do not seem like particularly strong candidates for subsidies from the textbook purchases of students from primarily credit-bearing classes. (The Childcare Center and VPAC, on the other hand, are enjoyed by a wide range of ECC students and employees.)

So why this long letter? **It's the inherent inequity in funding these areas with textbook profits.** Based on the FY2010 budget, ECC's bookstore charges a roughly 33% mark-up on textbooks and materials. Of that mark-up, over half goes to subsidize other areas. The remainder goes to pay salaries, benefits, depreciation costs, and other costs that just go along with running a bookstore. The problem with this is that not all students have the same textbook costs.

For example, a student getting an Associate in Arts with a Psychology emphasis, following the recommendations of our academic advisors, would spend roughly \$2,650 taking a 60-credit load of courses over two years ([tiny.cc/eccpsych](http://tiny.cc/eccpsych)). Of that \$2,650, approximately \$650 would be mark-up and about \$360 of that would end up as subsidies. In contrast, an individual working through an Associate in Applied Science: Welding Fabrication Technology ([tiny.cc/eccweld](http://tiny.cc/eccweld)) would spend quite a bit less – roughly \$1775, of which \$440 would be mark-up and \$240 as subsidies. (This is based on Fall 2010 prices, with estimates for courses not offered this

term. The ECC Bookstore website did not have prices for Spring 2011 available as of 27 October 2010.)

**That's a difference of about \$120 in subsidies to those other areas that the Psychology student spends versus the Welding student.**

To be clear, this isn't a critique of the Welding program (most welding courses just require arc welding materials, instead of texts) or the Psychology department (most textbooks are reasonably priced between \$130 and \$160). It's simply that **because all students do not have the same textbook costs, their portion of the subsidy is not equitably distributed.**

### **What Can Be Done?**

Obviously, the college can't just pull \$600,000 from other areas in the budget for the next year. And the Board of Trustees is completely within its rights to fund the other areas under the Auxiliary Services Fund with profits from the bookstore.

My hope and suggestion is that while setting future budgets, the Board will continue to attempt to minimize unnecessary subsidies (the Corporate and Continuing Education subsidies are not in the FY2011 budget, for example), and keep in mind the inherent inequities in subsidizing with profits from the bookstore. I would also ask that the Board consider gradually moving toward subsidizing with other revenue streams that are more equitably distributed, such as local property taxes or tuition.

## **Retention Alert! Retention Alert!**

**Catherine Moushon**

Math Dept. / Retention Committee

Want to reach out to students who are having difficulty in your classes, life issues that are distracting them from college work, or who need encouragement to seek support services?

As easy as 1, 2, 3 – click here:

[Download instructions](#) --faculty members can quickly generate a letter that is personalized and mailed to the student's home address. It is fully automated and fill-in-the-blanks. The letter describes the particular issue and encourages the student to discuss the issue with the professor as well as extending a list of student support services. If the student is identified with a particular population, such as athletic team sports, TRIO, or Tech Prep, the Retention Alert will also be copied to a case manager who may choose to follow up with the student regarding their program as well.

As faculty, this is another tool for facilitating student retention and success. Using the Retention Alert tool is voluntary but highly encouraged. There have been nearly 450 referrals in Fall 2010!

Testimony: "My student was absent 3 class periods and did not respond to their student e-mail. In 30 seconds I was able to generate a Retention Alert letter regarding their attendance issue, the student received the letter and contacted me. This student, who had a personal crisis, was able to work on the issue and find ECC support services to help them." ~Catherine Moushon

“It was nice to know that someone cared.” ~Student

You have *seen* the Retention Alert link, but have you *noticed* it? It is on the Faculty Menu of AccessECC, on the same page that you visit to see a roster or submit grades.



#### Faculty Information

- [My Advisees](#)
- [Class Roster](#)
- [Grading](#)
- [Search for Sections](#)
- [My To Do List](#)
- [Retention Case Reminder Pref](#)
- [My Contributions to Cases](#)
- [Count of Open Retention Cases](#)
- [Closed Retention Cases](#)
- [Retention Alert](#)

Faculty may want to explain the program to students by including an explanation in their syllabi:

#### Sample Syllabus Insert:

This class will be participating in the “Early Alert” program at Elgin Community College. The “Early Alert” program is designed to promote Student Success. If I notice that you are experiencing difficulties early in the semester (Low test scores, lack of participation or poor attendance, for example), I may mail a notification to you through the “Early Alert” program.

My letter will express my concern and will request that you meet with me to address any difficulties you are having in my course through an action plan that might involve other campus or community services in the area.

Questions? Contact members of your Retention Committee: John Coffin, Vany

Wells, Jeanne Grogan, Patty Jachowicz, Catherine Moushon, Jamie Pang, or Joyce Ross.

## FAVs Highlights Local Suicide Prevention Group

### Dan Kernler

ECCFA FAVs Chairman

Kim Tarver is a full-time faculty member in the Physical Therapy department. When the call went out in a Faculty Association Volunteers (FAVs) email earlier this fall for organizations that our members support, Kim replied right away. Suicide Prevention Services is an organization that Kim has supported for over ten years, and she currently serves on its board of directors. Here’s their story:

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**Here for Life! Suicide Prevention Services**, under the leadership of Stephanie Weber, established the first phone help line and the first self-help group for those who had lost someone to suicide in the Fox Valley, 28 years ago. Now combining these two efforts with prevention and educational programs, Suicide Prevention Services seeks to ‘close the gap’ between research and direct services by working toward the following goals-

1. Provide comprehensive, evidenced based programs and curricula.
2. Establish partnerships with Aurora University and Communities in Schools to integrate suicide prevention training for bachelor and graduate level caregivers

3. Implement more outreach programs for underserved, at risk populations.
4. Implement and deliver faith-based curriculums for all congregations
5. Collect data and assess the effectiveness of all programs

SPS is one of 10 National Lifeline call centers in Illinois. SPS answers 39% of those calls. 38% of funding comes from donations and fundraisers, 62% comes from grants. SPS does not rely on any state or federal sources of income. That leaves 86% for direct services and programming!

Volunteer support contributes to low operating expenses. Administrative costs equal 9% and facility expenses equal 5% of the total budget.

SPS provides certificate training in suicide prevention for educators, mental health & health care providers. SPS is recognized for excellence in education, presentations and leadership at the local, state and national levels. Locally, SPS provides comprehensive screenings, consultations, survivor support, after care and attempter support groups.

If you're on the look-out for a charitable organization to support, **please consider donating to Suicide Prevention Services!** You donate directly through the website listed below, or you can designate all or part of your United Way donation.

**Suicide Prevention Services, Inc.**

528 S. Batavia Avenue, Batavia, Illinois 60510

Phone: 630-482-9699 E-mail:

[spsinfo@spsfv.org](mailto:spsinfo@spsfv.org)

Website: [www.spsfv.org](http://www.spsfv.org)

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Have an organization that's near and dear to your heart? Please contact Dan Kernler at [dkernler@elgin.edu](mailto:dkernler@elgin.edu) to be included in future *Sentinel* articles and other FAVs communications.

**Remember:  
ECCFA End-of-the-Semester Party**

When: Friday,  
December 10,  
4:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Where: Carmina's  
Randall Road at Fletcher Drive.



## Senate Information, 2010-2011

### ECCFA OFFICERS 2010-2011

President: Sarah Dye  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President: Luis Martinez  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: Susan Ford  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President: David Lawrence  
Secretary: Lori Clark  
Treasurer: Linda Hefferin

### ECCFA SENATORS 2010-2011

Josefana Aleman, UAF2  
Mary Arndt, HP  
Elizabeth Becker, MSE  
Rick Bonnom, UAF2  
Michelle Brynelsen, HP  
Lori Clark, CABS  
Sumitra Duggirala, UAF1 (on leave)  
Leonard Fitzpatrick, SSCT  
Sue Ford, UAF2  
Clark Hallpike, BUS  
Linda Hefferin, BUS  
Cindy Hutman, CABS  
Crystal Kerwin, UAF2  
Dan Kocher, UAF2  
Dave Lawrence, UAF2  
Marcia Luptak, UAF2  
Luis Martinez, MSE  
Pat O'Brien, CABS  
Gary Norden, SSCT  
Joel Peck, LVPA  
Mary Peterhans, UAF2  
Roger Ramey, BUS  
Howard Russo, LVPA  
Manuel Salgado, ADLRSS  
Cathy Tomasik, UAF2  
Glenn Turner CABS  
Scott Vazsily, UAF2  
Vicki Walker, UAF1

## ECCFA/Senate Meeting Dates 2010-2011

### FALL SEMESTER 2010

Wed., Nov. 17, 2010, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., UBC 205

**(NOTE: Thanksgiving 11/25)**

Wed., Dec. 1, 2010, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., UBC 103

Wed., Dec. 15, 2010, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., UBC 205

Fri., Dec. 17, 2010, Grading Day AND Graduation

**(NOTE: Classes end TH 12/16)**

Mon., Dec. 20, 2010, 8:00 AM, Grades due

### SPRING SEMESTER 2011

Thurs., Jan. 13, 2011, TBA, ECCFA General Member

Meeting & Luncheon, UBC

Fri., Jan. 14, 2011, 9:00-10:00 AM, New Faculty

Intro/Welcome to ECCFA Meeting, TBA

Fri., Jan. 14, 2011, 1:00-2:00 PM, Instructional

Coordinator/ECCFA Meeting. TBA

Wed., Jan. 19, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Wed., Feb. 2, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Wed., Feb. 16, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Wed., March 2, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Wed., March 16, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

**(NOTE: Spring Break 3/23)**

Wed., March 30, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Wed., April 13, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Wed., April 27, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Wed., May 11, 2011, 3:00-5:00 PM, Senate Mtg., Alumni

Room

Thurs., May 19, 2011, Grading Day

**(NOTE: Classes end W 5/18)**

Fri., May 20, 2011, Graduation

Mon., May 23, 2011, 8:00 AM, Grades due

## Sentinel Dates, 2010-2011

<b>Submissions Due</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>
Friday, 3 December 2010	Tuesday, 7 December 2010
Thursday, 3 February 2011	Monday, 7 February 2011
Thursday, 3 March 2011	Monday, 7 March 2011
Monday, 4 April 2011	Thursday, 7 April 2011
Thursday, 5 May 2011	Monday, 9 May 2010