

The Sentinel

NISOD Award Becomes a Family Tradition for ECC Faculty Member



ECC Math Professor Catherine Moushon and her sister Darlene, both NISOD award recipients.

By Dan Kernler

Every year, ECC nominates five faculty members for the NISOD Teaching Excellence Award. One of this year's winners, Catherine Moushon of the math department, has an especially interesting story.

Catherine comes from a family of educators. When her mother wasn't teaching Art in some school ranging from kindergarten through college, she was giving free art lessons in her home, nursing homes, or running 4-H clubs. Catherine's father double-majored in Physics and Chemistry, was a college professor and worked for the national atomic energy commission in the 1960's. Catherine's sister, Darlene Gentles, is a Biology professor

currently teaching at National Park Community College in Hot Spring, Arkansas. She advises the Phi Theta Kappa group there, and has commented that ECC has such a large chapter that is well known nationally.

Like every award winner, Catherine was honored to hear she was selected to represent ECC at the annual NISOD conference. She called her parents to give them the news that she would be traveling to Austin, Texas in May. Her parents must have thought it seemed a bit coincidental that Darlene had also called and mentioned that she was going to Austin in May. What the sisters soon found out was that they both had been nominated by their colleagues to represent their colleges this year!

Author Birkerts to Read at ECC

On February 21, Sven Birkerts, editor of AGNI magazine and the author of eight books will be reading at 7:30 p.m. in H 142. Birkerts has received grants from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Foundation and the Guggenheim Foundation. He was winner of the Citation for Excellence in Reviewing from the National Book Critics Circle in 1985 and the Spielvogel-Diamonstein Award from PEN for the best book of essays in 1990. Birkerts has reviewed regularly for The New York Times Book Review, The New Republic, Esquire, The Washington Post, The Atlantic, Mirabella, Parnassus, The Yale Review, and other publications. He has taught writing at Harvard University, Emerson College, Amherst College, and Mt. Holyoke College, and is the current director of the graduate Bennington Writing Seminars.

A pre-reading dinner with the author will be held at 5:30 p.m. For reservations, please contact Rachael Tecza at rtecza@elgin.edu.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***Everyone's Safety Is
Everybody's Concern***

Dear Colleagues,

I am sure that we have all been hearing about the gun regulation issue in the last two months. On both sides of the topic, arguments in favor or against gun regulation have been broadcast all over the country. I don't know where you stand when it comes to this subject, nor is my intention to impose my views on this matter on anybody, but we can all agree that healthy conversation is needed.

As teachers, parents and citizens, we cannot ignore the pain and sorrow caused by the loss of innocent victims of gun violence. Some of these violent acts have taken place at educational institutions. The lives of students, teachers, staff and administrators have come to an unexpected, unimaginable end and for reasons they were not the cause of.

This is a reality we are living with and that we cannot ignore. There are different positions on how to tackle it. As members of our communities, we should be able to express our opinions, to have a reasonable dialogue on this and any other subject that affects us as a

collective. I encourage you to do so, to have a conversation with your family, your friends, students, elected representatives and any other person you deem necessary. Silence and inaction are not options.

But in the meantime, we need to look at this reality we live in and what we can do to be better prepared, to act, to respond in the best possible way if we are ever confronted with this type of violence. Safety is everybody's concern. The safety of all of us—family, students, friends and coworkers—is the concern of every one of us.

Just recently, at one of the ECCFA Senate's meetings, we had a conversation about the need for all of us to learn more about how to respond if (and I hope it never happens) we ever have to face gun violence. Let's be clear: gun violence can happen anywhere, at the work place, the mall, cinemas, you name it. Therefore, safety is important not only at the workplace, but everywhere.

At the ECCFA Senate, we will continue to work closely with our colleagues and coworkers to make sure we are as best prepared as possible, with the premise that everyone's safety is everybody's concern.

In Unity,
Luis Martinez
ECCFA President

Moushon Continued...

Here's what Catherine writes about the experience: "We are both thrilled to be going to the 2013 NISOD conference together in May. It was a lovely surprise to learn that we had each been selected to represent our community colleges - the same year! We look forward to sharing through our profession, and learning together at the conference. As sisters... that's kind of cool."

The complete list of this year's NISOD award winners from ECC are Patty Jachowicz, David Reich, Linda Wallace, Catherine Moushon, and Marcia Luptak. Congratulations to all the winners!

—Catherine Moushon also contributed to this article.

OUT OF THE SHADOWS

INTO THE STREETS



WILL NOT STOP US!

TUESDAY, MARCH 19th, 2013

at **JOBE LOUNGE**

Elgin Community College, 1700 Spartan Dr., Elgin, IL 60123

Time: 11am to 12:30pm



NATIONAL COMING OUT OF THE SHADOWS RALLY
VISIT WWW.IYJL.ORG FOR MORE INFO



2012-2013 ECCFA Senators

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Joel Peck
Howard Russo

BUS

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MSE

Mary O'Sullivan
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Gary Norden
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Dan Kocher
David Lawrence
Marcia Luptak
Loretta McCallister
Chad Pearion
Joyce Ross
Julie Roth
Cathy Tomasik
Baudelaire Ulysse
Cassandra Watson



Sentinel Calendar

March 18

-Deadline March 14

April 15

-Deadline April 11

May 6

-Deadline May 2

2013 Senate Meetings

- **February 27**
- **March 1**
- **April 3**
- **April 17**
- **May 1**
- **May 15**

All Senate meetings are on Wednesdays, from 3:00-5:00, in C120. All faculty are welcome to attend.
