Dear Colleagues,

Both the Honors Day and the VTI-CASA Reunion went very well on Saturday, April 14, 2018. Academic honors recipients must have attained a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5. Given the rigorous demands of our academic programs, a 3.5 or better GPA is an excellent accomplishment. A total of 455 students from CASA were recognized for their academic excellence, and 102 students were recognized receiving scholarships and awards. I extend my sincere appreciation to the staff and faculty, especially Barb Lipe and the Honors Day Committee, and to all the volunteers who helped organize and facilitate the 2018 Honors Day event.

The VIT-CASA Reunion was a huge success. Thank you all for preparing departmental and college memorabilia and reminiscing with our former colleagues and friends in the gorgeous Garden Grove Event Center. Especially I would like to thank Mary Nemetsky, Cara Doerr, Shelby Adkinson, and the Planning and Organization Committee for their excellent job done for the reunion event. We had a total of 176 participants, many traveled long distances to attend this event. Numerous people expressed to me that they loved the wonderful venue, delicious food, and unforgettable reunion sharing stories and celebrating our proud tradition.

This is a celebration of a group of programs and individuals that came together, worked hard, and built something very special. That is VTI (Vocational Technical Institute, 1950-1973), STC (School of Technical Careers, 1973-1987), CTC (College of Technical Careers, 1987-1995), and today’s CASA (1995-2018). In the last 68 years, we worked together as a family, generated tremendous impact on student lives, on local economy, and on society at large. Just for the last six (6) years, CASA’s enrollment increased 18%, especially in online and off-campus programs, while the College generated approximately one-third of overall distance education revenue for the University. We did this through the excellent support of staff members; through the dedication of outstanding faculty; through the strength of leadership; through the hard work and determination of students; and through the success and assistance of alumni and friends. We have a proud tradition, a rich heritage, and an exemplary reputation rooted in high standards.

Below is a collection of pictures taken at the VTI-CASA Reunion event. For more photos, please visit the College shared drives.
CONGRATULATIONS

- Please join me in congratulating Ms. Mary Nemetsky, Administrative Assistant, and Ms. Natalie Richardson, Dental Hygienist, on being selected to receive the 2018 CASA Service to the College Award! This award is in recognition of an individual employed in administrative professional (AP) or civil service (CS) full-time position in the College of Applied Sciences and Arts who promotes a vision of pride and community from within the College. Award winners and nominees create “a culture where all employees embrace their responsibilities for the recruitment and retention of students, and act as good-will ambassadors” to the College. Such individuals may:
  - Advance the mission of the College and improve workplace morale;
• Accomplish job duties in an exemplary manner with extensive knowledge and expertise;
• Improve job and workplace efficiency, productivity, safety and environment; and
• Support the job performance of other employees.

Mary Nemetsky has served as the Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the College of Applied Sciences and Arts for almost six years. This position is critical to the effectiveness and efficiency of the college. In her role, Mary interacts not only with CASA faculty and staff, but also with upper administration, colleagues in other academic and auxiliary units, current and prospective students and their families, and Southern Illinois community members. Mary is always professional, discrete, tactful, and friendly in her work. In addition to her normal work duties, Mary attends many evening and weekend university and college events throughout the year. Mary attends homecoming events, graduation ceremonies, open houses, and honors day events, which are in the evenings or on weekends. Additionally, Mary assists with the successful planning of the faculty and staff fall and spring kick-off events, the CASA winter potluck, the CASA Flash Talk, CASA Connection, and the VTI-CASA Reunion. Mary not only helps plan these events, but she works extra hours to set-up and clean up when these events take place. She comes into the office to handle urgent business as well as respond to emails and perform other work duties during the evening and weekend hours with no additional compensation. Mary not only provides outstanding service to this college, but she has served Southern Illinois University for thirty years.

Natalie Richardson is a 2007 graduate of the Dental Hygiene program. Since graduation, she has worked in clinical practice and in a Federally Qualified Health Care Clinic (FQHC). When the
need to fill the position of Program Coordinator and Site Supervisor for the Dental Sealant Grant Program (DSGP) became necessary, Natalie brought an enthusiasm and profound work ethic to the program. She took the lead to increase the sites the DSGP visited. She goes above and beyond to assist the students completing the rotations to the school and clinical sites. She insists on complete care and has high ethical standards when it comes to treatment of the children seeking care at the sites. The students often cite her as a positive role model in their reflections. Natalie has volunteered outside the school setting by doing charitable work with her service sorority, volunteered for the Missouri Mission of Mercy, Give Kids a Smile Day and Give Adults a Smile Day hosted by the SIU Dental Hygiene program and the component society of the Illinois Dental Hygienists’ Association. She has also volunteered to represent the DH program at on campus Open Houses when faculty were not available. She has had to take on additional functions by serving as supervisor of student workers in the current vacant position of a dental clerk. She has had to meet with students, resolve conflicts, and create weekly schedules and prepare deposits in addition to her other duties. Every moment of this is performed with a smile and unsurmountable energy and professionalism.

Both Mary and Natalie have been a true asset to this College, and they have proven that they deserve to be recognized by receiving this Service to the College Award. Congratulations!

This year’s nominees for the Service to the College Award also include: Nathan Black, Local Area Network Administrator, and Brittany McElroy, Academic Advisor. Congratulations!

- I am pleased to announce the 2018 CASA Scholar of the Year Award winner, Dr. Seung-Hee Lee, Professor of Fashion Design and Merchandising, School of Architecture. Congratulations!

The CASA Research Committee reviewed the 2017 calendar year Performance Reports from all eligible faculty in CASA. They used a spreadsheet that allocated points to different accomplishments such as journal articles, grants, presentations, awards, etc., and created a ranked list of faculty based on total points accumulated over the course of the 2017 calendar year. Many
thanks go to the CASA Research Committee members for their commitment, dedication and service.

Within the calendar year of 2017, Dr. Seung-Hee Lee had **seven (7)** peer-reviewed research articles, (including 2 forthcoming papers; 5 papers are **SSCI Journals**), **nine (9)** peer-reviewed proceedings publications, **nine (9)** presentations at International conferences, **eight (8)** presentations at regional research forum, and **two (2)** Best Research Paper Awards at International conferences. She has been awarded this ‘CASA Scholar of the year Award’ for three consecutive years.

As an internationally-recognized scholar in fashion merchandising, Dr. Lee has been extremely prolific - over 190 referred research presentations at national and international conferences, four (4) book translations (from English to Korean), one (1) Korean book (Socio-Psychology of Clothing), and more than 130 articles in prestigious academic journals. Dr. Lee has made significant contributions to fashion literature and provided a foundation for fashion theory/model development. Dr. Lee has obtained over $1 million in research grant funding from government agencies, research foundations, corporations, and universities. She has received numerous ‘Best Paper Awards’ at national/international conferences, and three University-level “Distinguished Researcher of the Year” awards and three college-level “Scholar of the Year” awards. Due to Dr. Lee’s contributions to scholarship, she was invited to co-teach “Brand Marketing” for one semester at University of Vienna (Austria) and to give research presentations at international conferences as well as fashion corporations (e.g., Samsung). She has served on the editorial board for 10+ journals (including Editor and Associate Editor), as reviewer for 30+ journals and in various roles at International conferences.

Congratulations!

- **Dr. Seung-Hee Lee**, Professor of Fashion Design & Merchandising, has three co-authored paper published recently:

Congratulations!
During the SIU Day of Giving on Wednesday, March 7, 2018, CASA raised $12,421 from 306 gifts. Among the 28 participating units of the University, our College had the highest number of participants in the one-day fundraising event. Our College’s participation increased by 170 percent (170%), and the total raised increased by 31.96% compared to last year. Below is the trophy the College received from the SIU Foundation:

On their April 12 meeting, the SIU Board of Trustees approved that Dr. Rolando Gonzalez-Torres will be tenured associate professor in the School of Architecture effective in the 2018-19 academic year. Congratulations!

The School of Allied Health Scholar of the Year Committee has selected this year’s winner: Mr. Anthony Fleege. Please join me in offering him congratulations on a productive research year!

Dr. Jose Ruiz, Professor of Aviation Management and Flight, was selected as an external evaluator for the Indiana State University Aviation Management program. Dr. Ruiz visited the program last week. Congratulations!

A total of 15 sophomore students from SIUC radiography (Radiologic Sciences) program attended the 83rd Annual ISSRT (Illinois State Society of Radiologic Technologist) Conference along with Sandi Watts, Assistant Professor of Radiologic Sciences, in East Peoria, IL, April 18 - 20, 2018. Our Radiologic Sciences Scholar Bowl team, pictured below - Emily Schoaf, Meghan
Willenborg, Dylan Hart and Paige Beuligmann, earned second place at this year’s competition. This is the third year in a row that SIUC has been in the top three: 2016 – 3rd place, 2017 – 2nd place, and this year 2018 – 2nd place. I am very proud of our students and the faculty of the Radiologic Sciences program. Ms. Sandi Watts started this tradition three years ago and her efforts are greatly appreciated. Congratulations!

I am pleased to introduce the first Student Research and Activities Team in the Health Care Management (HCM) program. The team, led by Faculty Advisor Dr. Tom Shaw, was created to conduct research that may lead to publications, grants, presentations, and team competitions. Team members will be working closely with field executives on projects (such as a mock Joint Commission review) to bring hands-on field experience to the HCM students. Membership includes:

- Ethan Bentley, HCM-BS
- Vicki Brown, HCM-BS
- Chris Grace, MHA
- Savanah Hopkins, MHA
- Jacqueline Nash, HCM-BS
- Rachel Seay, HCM-BS; and
- HCM Faculty Thomas Shaw, Sandy Collins, and Jessica Cataldo.
Please join me in congratulating the School of Allied Health (SAH) Radiologic Sciences (RADS) program for its articulation agreement with Rend Lake College, Ina, IL. The agreement has been signed by SIU administration and Rend Lake College leaders. According to the agreement, all graduates of Rend Lake College with an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Radiologic Technology and meeting SIU Carbondale admission requirements will be considered for admission into SIU Carbondale’s Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Radiologic Sciences (RADS): Education & Management (online), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) & Computed Tomography (CT), or Radiation Therapy Technology options in the College of Applied Sciences and Arts based upon the Department’s enrollment criteria and space availability. Congratulations to Scott Collins and all RADS/SAH faculty/staff!

Approximately twenty-five (25) Health Care Management (HCM) students attended an Illinois Rural Health Association conference this month to learn about career tracks in rural health areas. It provided students with an opportunity to interact with those from a variety of health care professions. A good number of our online HCM students, a few from several hours away, drove all the way to campus to participate. Congratulations!

The picture below shows the panelists.
Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s nationally ranked aviation program received the first of three Piper Arrow general aviation flight trainer planes on March 20, 2018. More details can be found in the SIU news: [http://news.siu.edu/2018/03/031918-ma-newest-plane-arriving-tuesday.php](http://news.siu.edu/2018/03/031918-ma-newest-plane-arriving-tuesday.php)
SIU Aviation is being represented at the 2018 Women in Aviation (WIA) Conference in Reno Nevada by AVT Field Representative, Rachel Lee, AVT student Faith Lorenz, and two other students, Olivia Vincent and Gabriella Escudero. AVT student Faith Lorenz cleaned up in the scholarship department, receiving a $2500 Snap-on tools scholarship, and a $2500 scholarship from Caroline Burton who works as a mechanic at American airlines. She is the first African American female aircraft mechanic (in Dallas) who has overcome a lot of adversity and wanted to personally pay it forward with her own money.
- Health Care Management (HCM) student **Vicki Brown** secured a copy of the “2018 Understanding the CMS Regulatory and Survey Process for Hospitals” from the Joint Commission, and HCM faculty and students will be working with health care executives to design a mock Joint Commission review for educational purposes for students. This is the first step towards a hands-on Experiential Learning Facility. Congratulations!

- Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Bart Millstead, from Southern Illinois Healthcare was on campus this month presenting undergraduate student **Vicki Brown** and graduate **Chris Grace** with their Mid-America Health Care Executives awards. Along with the
Director of the School of Allied Health, Scott Collins, Mr. Millstead also participated in presenting undergraduate student Sarah Hepper with her McGaw award as provided by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. While here, Mr. Millstead gave a presentation to Health Care Management students and faculty regarding the X-Matrix his team uses to develop organizational strategy and shared the path he followed to become a healthcare executive. Congratulations!
The Aviation Technologies (AVT) Detail Dawgs received a $15,000 grant from the Chicago Area Business Aviation Association (CABAA). Mr. Harry Fanning, Lecturer of AVT, was
instrumental in seeking this funding support for the Detail Dawgs. The funds are to be used for participation in the AMC maintenance competition, starting an annual SIU maintenance competition, and supporting the development of a Detail Dawgs scholarship program. Congratulations!

• Below are a few pictures from Professor Martin Hebel’s Flash Talk (March 21, 2018) demonstration project:

Charith Atapattu and Jeremy Kim, who are members of Smart & Secure Computing Research Group led by Dr. Sam Chung (ISAT Director/Professor), demonstrated their research in Website with Minimal Coding, Web App with MEAN (Mongo DB, Express, Angular, Node.js) Full Stack, and Web Distributed App (DApp) using Blockchain Technology at CASA Research Flash Talks.
Ms. Belle Woodward, Associate Professor of Information Systems Technologies (IST), and IST student Jessica Peck attended the Women in Cyber Security Conference from March 22 - 25, 2018 in Chicago. According to Jessica, "The Women in Cyber Security Conference (WiCyS) was an amazing opportunity for me and so many other women in the security field. The conference provided me with exposure to all kinds of new research, networking, and educational opportunities but more importantly allowed me to come together with hundreds of women from all over the world to work towards a common goal: empowering and motivating women to pursue careers in the IT field. It was truly inspiring being around that many women all pursuing a common goal and sharing their stories and knowledge with others. If there is one piece of advice that really stuck with me from the conference, it is to "never be a victim of your own thoughts," and I will remember that for a very long time."
Below is a picture from the School of Architecture Fashion Design and Merchandising (FDM) program during Nashville Fashion Week. The FDM students were able to receive one-on-one time with Amanda Valentine (designer and Project Runway/Project Runway All Stars contestant), meet Ayana Ife (designer and Project Runway/Project Runway All Stars contestant) and sit down with Fern Mallis (creator of New York Fashion Week, who now ranks Nashville as #3, soon to be #2 in fashion weeks), and designer/fashion icon Anna Sui! Our students also attended learning labs, runway shows each night, the Nick Cave exhibit at Frist Museum, and many were able to make connections for internships and employment after graduation. Congratulations!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday, April 23, 2018: New Student Orientation, 7:45am - 4:30pm, Student Center Corker Lounge.
- Tuesday, April 24, 2018: 11:00am - 12:30pm, Deans’ Council Meeting, Anthony Hall Balcony Conference Room.
- Wednesday, April 25, 2018: 5:00pm - 7:00pm, Friends of Morris Library 2018 Delta Award and reception, Morris Library.
- Thursday, April 26, 2018: 2:30pm - 5:00pm, Faculty & Staff Excellence Awards, University Museum Auditorium.
- Friday, April 27, 2018: 3:30pm - 5:00pm, SIU Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony and Reception, Morris Library Guyon Auditorium.
• Saturday, April 28, 9:00am - 4:00pm, American Airlines SIU Career Day, Transportation Education Center.
• Friday, May 11, 2018, 7:00pm - 8:30pm, Academic Excellence Recognition Ceremony, Student Center Ballrooms.
• Saturday, May 12, 2018, 5:00pm - 7:30pm, SIU Commencement for CASA, COE, and MCMA. SIU Arena.

AND FINALLY …

If you see something in this update that you want to comment on, please send an email to awang@siu.edu or call me at 618-536-6682. Also, if you know of anyone interested in receiving the CASA Dean’s MMU, please ask them to send me an email and we will gladly add them to our mailing list. If you prefer not to receive the CASA Dean’s MMU, please let me know, as well. Thank you.

Andy Ju An Wang, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Applied Sciences and Arts