



September 2025



ECCFA NEWS

The Sentinel: Elgin Community College Faculty Association Newsletter

What is in the Septemer issue:

- ISSUE CONTENTS - 1
- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - 1
- ECCFA SOCIAL MEDIA - 1
- IN MEMORY OF TAMMY - 1
- COMMITTEE CHAIRS - 2
- NEGOTIATION TEAM - 2
- FACULTY OFFICE HOURS - 2
- INTERNSHIP PROGRAM - 2
- SLAAC UPDATE - 2



Keep in Touch with ECCFA

 [Facebook.com/ECCFaculty](https://www.facebook.com/ECCFaculty)

 www.eccfaculty.org

ECCFA President's Message

Now that I'm starting my second year in this role, I feel like I'm getting into a bit of a rhythm. As always, this is helped immensely by the many faculty who have stepped into important roles. I'd like to particularly thank those who took on new positions this year, including Tim Anderson (Membership), Lisa del Giudice (2nd VP), Diane Flahaven (3rd VP), and especially Kim Tarver (Chief Negotiator).

Without the help of all of these willing faculty - and those currently in positions of leadership across the campus - we would cease to function. Our power as a union comes from our membership. Without your engagement at whatever level you're able to contribute, we will lose our effectiveness.

As we approach the beginning of our formal negotiations on a new contract, we need you more than ever. We need you to join our Discord server - email Lauren Sullivan at lcsullivan20@gmail.com from your personal email. We need you to read Senate agendas and minutes, and to ensure that your Senator is in regular communication with you. And we need you to show up and connect with us when the request comes. Maybe it's a show of force by attending an ECC Board Meeting. Maybe it's just joining a gathering with other members as a show of solidarity while the Negotiations team is meeting with the administration. Maybe it's wearing buttons, or wearing your ECCFA t-shirt.

Whatever it is, we need you. We're only as strong as our members. Together, we are more than just the sum of us as individuals. Together, we are the ECCFA.

I would also be remiss if I didn't add a note about the passing of [Tammy Ray](#), ECCFA Senator, Webmaster, and most recently, our 3rd Vice President. Please read Liddy Hope's nice tribute to Tammy, explaining all that she contributed to the community.

In Unity, Dan Kernler - Prof. of Mathematics - President, ECCFA, IFT Local #3791

In Memory of Tammy Ray by Liddy Hope

"Tammy Ray, long-time Elgin Community College employee, union member, advocate and student passed away on Wednesday, August 27, 2025. Her passing leaves a huge hole at ECC as Tammy Ray truly embodied what it is to "Be ECC.

To adequately honor Tammy Ray is a daunting task for sure; it's sad, hard and just not easy in any way..." Please [click here](#) to continue reading the beautifully written tribute!



COPE:

[Antonio Ramirez](#)

Curriculum:

[Marc Beth](#)

Faculty Development:

[Jessica Carpenter](#)

Grievance:

[Peter Han](#), [Laura Haske](#)

Honors:

[Jason Kane](#)

Membership:

[Tim Anderson](#)

Negotiations:

[Kim Tarver](#)

Sick Bank:

[Kathleen DeMars](#)

SLAAC:

[Angelika Stachnik](#)

If you missed the Opening Day meeting, Lauren Sullivan (Unit Adjunct II Librarian) is the new Communications Liaison for the 2025 negotiations. This year our Negotiations Team is going to be more transparent and communicative with our members. The way we've decided to do this is with Discord, which is a multi-media communication program. The great thing about Discord is that it has not only an app, but also a desktop version and a browser version. This will be an informational and professional space, so we will not be including personal chats, hobbies, or (sadly) pictures of pets. Discord will be the place we plan events like Town Halls or T-Shirt days, we'll post polls if we need your input, and we'll update you when we reach a TA or need your voices strong. It is optional, but the more members we have getting this information, the stronger we'll be - ESPECIALLY adjuncts! The more of you who show up, the better we can represent and fight for you at the table!

This communication will be for members ONLY, so please do not share this info with people outside the union. If you are a member and missed the link, as mentioned in the President's message of this issue, please email Lauren on her personal email at lcsullivan20@gmail.com from your personal email, and she'll get you that link. The intention is to keep these communications off the ECC server!



Faculty Office Hours – Quick Guide

Faculty office hours provide essential support for student success, creating opportunities for one-on-one guidance, clarification of course material, and academic mentorship. This guide outlines the contractual requirements for different faculty types to ensure consistent availability throughout the semester.

Full-Time Faculty Requirements

10 Weekly Hours

1

- 10 total hours required weekly (unless reduced for multiple locations)
- At least 5 hours must be in person
- Up to 3 hours may be virtual (with camera on)
- Up to 2 hours may be by appointment
- All 10 hours may be in person if preferred

1 Hour Requirement

2

On days you teach, you must offer at least 60 minutes of regularly scheduled office hours. These hours should be accessible to students in your courses and maintained consistently throughout the semester.

Multiple Locations

3

- Reduce by 1 hour/week if teaching at 2+ locations 1 day/week
- Reduce by 2 hours/week if teaching at 2+ locations 2+ days/week

Part-Time Faculty Requirements

Additional Requirements

Hours

Hold 20 mins of office hours/week per credit/contact hour.

Submission

- Submit office hours to your dean by the first school day after your first class
- Post schedule outside your office door and in your syllabus

By Appointment

Up to 1/3 may be by appointment, and hours can be in-person or virtual (no limits).

Virtual Office Hours

When conducting virtual office hours, use only College-supported platforms with camera on when students are present. No traveling during virtual sessions is permitted.

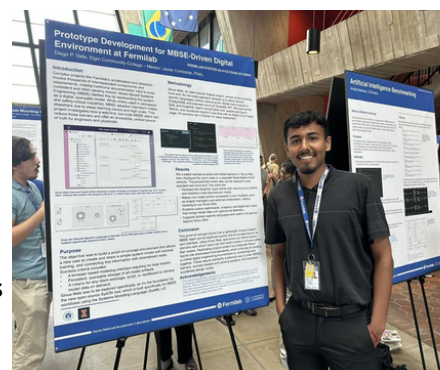
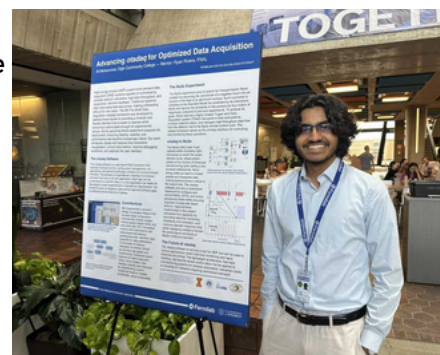
Changes & Absences

Notify your dean by email before missing or changing office hours (or as soon as possible if unexpected). Provide alternative availability when possible.

Community College Internship program

Former ECC students, Ali Mohammed and Diego Valle, are part of a large cohort of ECC students headed to the U of I this Fall to study engineering as part of the Engineering Pathways Program with [The Crainger College of Engineering](#) in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

These two participated in this summer's Community College Internship program at Fermilab in Batavia and had very impressive projects. They're also both very proud ECC graduates and are excited about encouraging more ECC students to be involved in programs like these in the future.



Student Learning Assessment and Advisory Committee

This year, the Student Learning Assessment and Advisory Committee (SLAAC), will concentrate on two of the six General Education Outcomes: Communication and Global/Multicultural Literacy. The results will be shared when the data is analyzed.

More information and the other General Education Outcomes can be found here: [ECC General Education Assessment](#).