

# ELPA NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021



## FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Susan Epps, program coordinator for the M.Ed. in Ed Leadership presented “Creating the Super Syllabus” at the ETSU Conference for High Impact Instructional Practices (CHIIPS) in August. Dr. Epps also was elected as chair of the Southern Conference Executive Committee, conducted a session for students participating in the Second-Year Transitional Experience Program (STEP) on dealing with faculty, and served on the Student Success and Engagement Task Force of the Committee for 125 Chapter 2.

## CONGRATULATIONS

On October 28th, 2021, Dr. Virginia Foley completed her 100th dissertation defense.

This Fall 2021 semester, the ELPA department graduated its 1,000th doctorate student. Our first graduate was in 1972.

## FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

*continued*

Dr. Ginger Christian represented ELPA at the International Society of Educational Planning (ISEP) Conference. The Conference Theme is Leading During a Crisis: The Intersection of Effective Planning and Management-Lesson and Implications for the Future. She presented Leading School Transformation through a Trauma Informed Systems Approach: The Power of University Partnerships, Leadership, and Social Emotional Learning. Dr. Christian along with her colleague Dr. Foley also presented at the MSERA (Mid-South Educational Research Association) conference in November and were part of the STEM.LD Grant.

Drs. Christian, Foley, and Channing with Yana Popper presented at the MSERA (Mid-South Educational Research Association) conference in November. ELPA had a total of four presentations and spotlighted students in research when Yana presented. (See pictures below).



*(Above Left Photo)* Dr. Foley and Dr. Christian

*(Above Right Photo)* Yana Popper and Dr. Channing presenting at MSERA

*(Bottom Right Photo)* Yana Popper, Dr. Christian, Dr. Foley, and Dr. Channing at the MSERA conference.

# ELPA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**Meaghan Heimbach** was appointed the Vice-President of the Graduate and Professional Student Association, is a graduate student senator in the Student Government Association, and serves on the University Council.

**Yana Popper** is serving as a graduate student senator in the Student Government Association.

**Hannah Scheurer** is a NiswongerCARE Advisor. She assists students from Daniel Boone and David Crockett high schools with college and career questions, helps them fill out job/college/scholarship/financial aid applications, and guides seniors through the process of life after high school.

**Zack Sholes** holds a Graduate Assistantship (GA) in the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL Office). He works with chapter presidents in the context of the chapter assessment program (CAP), working with the FSL office and leaders in the Greek community to develop a new risk management program for all of Greek life.

**Madison Lowe** is now the Secretary for Learning Services in the Center for Academic Achievement at ETSU.

**Laurel Cox** has been hired as an Academic Advisor in the Haslam College of Business at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

**Sydni Leonard** has started her new job as a First-Year Academic Advisor for Social Sciences, Humanities, the Arts, and Education at Emory & Henry College, her alma mater.

**Kyle Williams** has been hired for a one year internship position as an Assistant Academic Counselor for football at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. ETSU student athletes held “Bucky’s Boo Bash”, Oct. 28 for children in the community. Kids attended in costumes to play games and trick or treat.



## IN MEMORIAM

ETSU Alumni Mark Allen Lenz, age 61, sadly passed away Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Mark was born in Fremont, Ohio on February 17, 1960 and was a graduate from the Community College Leadership Certificate Program. Mark proudly served his country for 6 years in the US Navy. Mark will be greatly missed and is survived by his wife of 25 years, 2 sons Mathew and David Lenz, his daughters Ashley Ayers and Brittny Bowers, his grandchildren Heather Lenz, Ellis Ayers and Eden Ayers, as well as the rest of his extended family. To learn more about Mark's life please view his [Obituary](https://www.gatewayfh.com/obituary/mark-lenz).

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Former ETSU ELPA Doctoral Graduate Jennifer Hodge Barber sadly passed away October 16, 2021. Born in West Chester, Pennsylvania to her parents Terry and Pam Hodge. Working in various positions in East Tennessee, even meeting her future husband in the student newspaper, Jennifer's ETSU Family will miss her greatly. She is survived by her husband Rex Barber Jr, father Terry Hodge, mother Pam Hodge, sister Jessica Hodge, niece Liyah Hillman, her maternal and paternal grandmothers Nell Dowell and Bessie Moody, and several aunts and uncles. To learn more about Jennifer's life please view her [Obituary](https://www.mountaincityfh.com/obituary/jennifer-barber).

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