



# Academic Support

## **Hartzler Library**

*Director: Beryl H. Brubaker*

The Sadie A. Hartzler Library, which includes the Menno Simons Historical Library and the EMU archives, collaborates with classroom faculty in the educational mission of the university by acquiring educational resources, arranging them for easy access and providing instruction on their use. The library is dedicated to helping students locate and evaluate resources needed for their research.

The library's website ([www.emu.edu/library](http://www.emu.edu/library)) is the portal to many resources and services. Sadie, the online library catalog, provides efficient access to reliable sources including both print and electronic material. The numerous databases can be accessed by students anywhere they have access to the internet; in addition, the library building provides a comfortable and welcoming environment for study and research. The library's dedicated staff is committed to quality service.

The collection includes over 170,000 books in print. The library provides access to over 70,000 full-text journals, newspapers and magazines either in print or electronically; over 22,000 e-books; and a catalog of millions of books and other materials held by libraries worldwide. The library participates in the Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA), a library consortium that allows broader access to expensive online resources. Off-campus access is available for most of the research databases.

Interlibrary loan provides access to materials not owned by the Hartzler Library. To speed up access to articles, the library uses ILLiad, a system that provides electronic delivery.

The library is open daily during the academic year for a total of 90 hours each week. Accommodations on all three floors provide individual study space as well as space for group study. The library is equipped for wireless access to the internet.

Several specialized collections are located in the Hartzler Library. 1) The Menno Simons Historical Library has the finest collection of Mennonite and Anabaptist materials on the east coast with items dating from the sixteenth century to the present. The Historical Library also has an extensive collection of local history materials. 2) Collections of curriculum materials and children's literature support the teacher education program. 3) The Hartzler Library also houses the archives for Eastern Mennonite University and Virginia Mennonite Conference.

Through agreements with other local institutions, EMU students and faculty have access via EMU ID to the library materials of Bridgewater College, Mary Baldwin College, Shenandoah University, and James Madison University.

## **Academic Support Center**

*Director: Linda W. Gnagey*

The Academic Support Center is an academic support and enrichment resource for all students and staff. Staff and peer

tutors are available Monday through Friday for course specific tutoring as well as study skill and time management coaching. Writing and math support is offered during daily hours. Course-specific study halls are offered as needed.

The Academic Support Center staff counsel and serve as advocates for first-year conditionally admitted students as well as students with disabilities and chronic disorders to assist them in their transition into the university and in meeting their academic goals.

The goal of the Academic Support Center is to provide assistance and support to both students and staff whenever requested.

### **Academic Advocacy Program**

Each year EMU's Admissions Committee grants conditional admission to a limited number of students who fall below the requirements for unconditional admission, but who otherwise demonstrate the ability and motivation to adequately perform university-level work. These "premajor" students participate in the Academic Advocacy Program. They take 12 or 13 credit hours during each semester of their first year at EMU and meet regularly with the director of the Academic Support Center, who serves as academic advisor and advocate.

As advisor, the director helps premajors choose appropriate courses to develop study skills and reading and writing proficiency. The director also provides a link to a student's future major advisor and encourages a connection to that academic department's campus activities and organizations. Students in the Advocacy Program officially declare a major in March and meet with a new advisor to plan their second year course schedule.

As advocate, the director stays in touch with students, professors, and coaches when appropriate; communicates EMU's academic and specific course expectations; and tracks student perfor-

mance. Premajors are expected to meet with the director once each week at the beginning of the year and less frequently later as needs dictate.

At the end of the first year, the admission status of each premajor is reviewed by the university registrar and the assistant dean, and a decision is made regarding readmission for the following academic year. A student may be granted unconditional readmission, conditional readmission, or denied readmission, based on how the student's academic record compares with the criteria for good academic standing.

### **Students with Documented Disabilities**

EMU is committed to working out reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities to ensure equal access to the University and its related programs. The University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

To obtain accommodations, students who are accepted to EMU should voluntarily identify their disabilities and submit the required documentation to the Coordinator of Student Disability Support Services (SDSS) in the Academic Support Center, (540) 432-4233, so it can be processed prior to registration and the student's arrival on campus. Students with physical disabilities related to housing and campus facilities should also contact the director of housing and residence life located in the student life office, University Commons, (540) 432-4128.

Students who wish to appeal a decision on their accommodations may use the University grievance procedure located in the President's Office or the Student Life Office.