

## **EMU launches nation's first graduate program in restorative justice in education**

Long a pioneer in the field of restorative justice, Eastern Mennonite University will become the first in the country to offer restorative justice programs housed within a graduate education program. Beginning this fall, students in the MA in Education program will be able to pursue an interdisciplinary concentration in Restorative Justice in Education (RJE) by taking courses through the education department as well as EMU's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding.

The education department will also begin offering a 15-hour graduate certificate in RJE for students who aren't pursuing a master's degree.

"Restorative justice offers a completely different model of addressing classroom discipline problems that focuses on building effective relationships both between teachers and students, and among students," said Kathy Evans, an education professor who has led the development of the new RJE programs.

## **One of first to graduate with MA in biomedicine: 'everything and more' than expected**

Two years ago, after earning an undergraduate biology degree from the University of Mary Washington, Qaiser Ahmed was looking for a graduate program that could give him extra preparation before pursuing his ambition to become a dentist. At the same time, Eastern Mennonite University was preparing to launch a new MA in biomedicine program designed precisely for students like him.

Ahmed basically knew just one thing about EMU, but it was more than enough to convince him to apply: the university's science graduates have enjoyed remarkable rates of acceptance to medical and dental schools. Last month, he was among the speakers at the university's commencement, representing its first graduating class from the new MA in biomedicine program.

"It was everything and more than what I expected," said Ahmed, in a separate interview. "It was a great two-year experience and I think I'm better for it."

## **How can EMU serve you?**

Contact the church relations office to schedule the president or a faculty guest speaker: (540) 432-4589 or [ChurchRelations@emu.edu](mailto:ChurchRelations@emu.edu).

### **Allegheny Conference Connections to EMU**

#### **Constituent Conference Representative**

Joy Cotchen

#### **Undergraduate Students**

Seven students from Allegheny Mennonite Conference were enrolled in the spring 2014 semester at EMU.

#### **Giving**

Allegheny Mennonite Conference churches gave \$8,000 in matching grants to their students at EMU during the year ending June 2013.

- **Loren Swartzendruber**, *president*
- **Phil Helmuth**, *director of church relations*
- **Les Horning**, *associate director of Seminary admissions, development and church relations*
- **Karen Moshier-Shenk**, *associate director of development*
- **Andy Richter**, *assistant director of admissions*

### **Our Vision**

*EMU envisions a learning community marked by academic excellence, creative expression, professional competence, and passionate Christian faith, offering healing and hope in our diverse world.*

*To this end, we commit ourselves to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God.*