AGENDA
East Carolina University Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
December 10, 2004

1. Approval of Minutes – September 24, 2004

2. Health Sciences Division Issues – Dr Michael Lewis
   - General Updates

3. Medical School Report

4. ECCVI Update

5. PCMH/UHS – Mr. David McRae
Mr. Hill, Chairman of the Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes**
Mr. Hill asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes of July 13, 2004. There being no changes, the minutes were approved as distributed.

**Health Sciences Division Issues**
Mr. Hill mentioned that the Liaison Group meeting was held on Thursday and that he was pleased with the increased and improved dialogue between ECU and UHS.

Dr. Lewis introduced Ms. Donna McLees, President of the Medical Foundation and Associate Vice Chancellor for Development to the group. Ms. McLees indicated that it was a pleasure to be here and that she looked forward to working with everyone.

Dr. Lewis indicated that a true Academic Health Center would be established in 2006 with the move of Allied Health, School of Nursing and the Laupus Library. Coordination of Student Services is being handled by Dr. Garrie Moore.

According to Dr. Lewis, there has been a very significant growth in student enrollment in the School of Allied Health Sciences. A Biosensory Center, which will handle issues such as stuttering, hearing/language impairment, dizziness/falls, brain injury/stroke/traumatic injury/older driver initiatives, as well
as diabetes/peripheral neuropathy/amputations, is being established. There has also been a significant growth in student enrollment in the School of Nursing. The School of Nursing has been identified as the largest producer of baccalaureate nursing graduates in the state. The MSN program and the PhD program have also increased significantly in enrollment. The Laupus Library has made great strides in providing research support for faculty. The Brody School of Medicine has received a full eight-year accreditation from LCME. The US News and World Reports 2004 ranked the School of Medicine fourth (4th) in Rural Medicine; fifteenth (15th) in Family Medicine, and nineteenth (19th) in Primary Care.

Dr. Nicholas Benson represented Dr. Cynda Johnson for the Brody School of Medicine. He introduced Dr. Mark Darrow, Medical Director, and Mr. Frank Evans, Director of Clinical Finance for the Brody School of Medicine. Dr. Benson indicated that Dr. Rosa Cuenca has been appointed to head the Breast Wellness Center, which is a component of the Leo Jenkins Cancer Center. This will be a joint venture with University Health Systems and more details will be provided in the coming months. According to Dr. Benson, 94% of the rising third year students passed the National Boards on the first attempt. It is uncommon in most medical schools to have that large a majority pass on their first try. Dr. Marcus Randall has accepted the position of Director of the Leo Jenkins Cancer Center. Dr. Benson acknowledged the partnership of PCMH in the recruitment efforts of Dr. Randall. Dr. Benson reported that Mr. Gamble secured an anonymous gift in the amount of $2.5 million for funding of a Geriatrics Center. The same donor has indicated interest in providing additional gifts if this gift is handled well.

Dr. Lewis stated that the Division of Health Sciences held a HSD Strategic Plan retreat, which enable the member to look for opportunities for collaboration, linkage, and synergy. Minority recruitment, employee/student health issues, biosensory center, clinics on east campus, the Family Medicine Center, the Rural Health Institute, the Cancer Center, the Metabolic Institute, policy development, and support for the ECSU School of Pharmacy were some of the issues discussed at the retreat.

Mr. Vanderpool shared some of the financial challenges of the Brody School of Medicine with the group. Patient visits have increased with a decrease in the number of faculty members. Expenses have exceeded revenues with a $7.6 million loss due to loss of revenues, write offs, expenses, state budget cuts and unique state constraints. Mr. Hill suggested that the board members tour the FPC in order to see the outdated facilities at the BSOM. Mr. Vanderpool reported that Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements represented 66% of charges but only 24% of collections. The BSOM is known as the place to send the high rate of uninsured patients. Two of three uninsured patients are from areas other than Pitt County. Malpractice insurance and labor costs have been
designated as driving forces behind expenses exceeding revenues. Mr. Vanderpool reported that teaching hospitals receive funds from the legislature for training of residents. Mr. Redwine indicated that he would work with Mr. Hill to discuss this issue with area legislators. Mr. Vanderpool also mentioned that the school pays rent in the amount of $0.6 million for use of the facilities and that $1 million has been transferred from the budget back to the state for graduate medical education. The following have been implemented to reduce the deficit: significant operating expense reduction, new business ventures, provision of more care for state employees, possible new allocations from ECU, tough negotiating stance with various payors pursuing legislative relief on constraints; establishment of the CV Institute and a new Family Medicine Center. Mr. Bodenhamer suggested that area legislators should be invited to the evening socials preceding the Board meetings and perhaps even spend an afternoon touring the area.

ECCVI Update

Mr. Brian Floyd reported that programs are being developed building relationships with basic scientists, cardiologists, and surgeons. Design programming with Perkin & Will has begun. The mission of the center is to improve the health status of the people of eastern North Carolina by providing health services. NIH has awarded a $2.2 million grant for robotic and device research in conjunction with NC State Engineering. The CV Symposium will be held next week in Greenville and six international heart surgeons participating in the event. Mr. Brody indicated that attraction of 100 heart surgeons is a major accomplishment and that press coverage should be available for this symposium.

UHS/PCMH

Mr. McRae indicated that he would be brief in his remarks due to the lengthy financial section of the committee. He introduced Mr. Steve Lawler, Chief Administrator Office for UHS, and reported that he and Mr. Lawler would take turns presenting at the ECU board meetings.

Mr. Talton stated that he looked forward to receiving future reports on the financial issues of the BSOM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.
Greetings from the Laupus Library
As we come to the end of a busy semester, the faculty and staff of the Laupus Library want to thank all of the members of the ECU Board of Trustees for all that you do to support our University throughout the year. We wish you all the happiest of holiday seasons and health, happiness and peace in the New Year!

Outreach Services
The Outreach Services Department provides services to the 23 counties served by Eastern AHEC under a contract with that agency. In addition, Laupus Library supports non-EAHEC affiliated users needing to access the collections and services of the Laupus Library through its coordinated Outreach Services program. Roger Russell, MLS leads the department in his dual role as EAHEC Librarian/Head of Outreach Services. He is assisted by Van Norfleet and Aline Council.

This year the Outreach Services Department provided funding for a library improvement project, developed technology CE Classes, and worked towards improving access to online medical databases for healthcare professionals in the region.

Library Development Projects:
Continuing our work with hospital libraries in Eastern NC, the Outreach Services Department completed a library improvement project at Outer Banks Hospital in Nags Head last year and has presently been awarded funding for a project at Wayne Memorial Hospital in Goldsboro. These projects are funded through the National Network of Libraries of Medicine and provide up to $7,000 for technology related library upgrades such as seed money for purchasing online databases or software, computers, and some print materials.

Training:
The department provided 5 formal CE Classes on MS Access and MS Excel for healthcare support staff in the Eastern AHEC region. These classes were attended by over 50 healthcare workers. We presently have 5 new class offerings scheduled for Spring/Summer 2005.

Improved Access to Information:
Finally, the department will be working this year on improving access to online medical databases for our affiliated regional healthcare professionals. This project will involve changing software, procedures and training the nearly 180 healthcare professionals who currently have access to online medical databases such as MD Consult and OVID Medline through Outreach Services.

Document Delivery
Access to the collections and resources of the Laupus Library is an important function of the Outreach Services Department. To facilitate this access,
Document Delivery Services are managed by the EAHEC/Outreach Services Department.

The demand for photocopies of journal articles and delivery of books and other library materials for ECU’s faculty, staff, students and regional affiliates increased 14% from 27,883 total requests received in 2002-2003, to 32,401 in 2003-2004. To meet this challenge while maintaining our quality of service, we are presently reviewing data from a cost study based on methodology approved by the Association of Research Libraries to explore new potential fee for service models. We have also increased our participation in electronic deposit accounts such as National Library of Medicine sponsored Electronic Funds Transfer System in order to reduce the number of staff hours devoted to billing. Document Delivery continues to be on the cutting edge by maintaining state of the art digital scanners and software necessary for delivering materials electronically, and by utilizing electronic request management software like ILLiad to improve the requesting process for clients and staff.
MFPP Key Performance Indicators
Fiscal Year-to-Date (September 2004)\(^1,2\)

- **Patient Visits** \(\uparrow 5.9\%\)
- **Productivity** is Up
  - # Faculty \(\downarrow 1.0\%\)
  - Relative Work Value Units (RVUs) \(\uparrow 9.1\%\)
- **Charges** \(\uparrow 13.1\%\)
- **Collections** \(\uparrow 1.9\%\)
- **Total Revenues** \(\downarrow 1.5\%\)
- **Expenses** \(\uparrow 8.9\%\)

\(^1\)Comparisons made to September 2003
\(^2\)Results Reported on Cash Accounting Basis
ECU Physicians MFPP
FY 2003/2004 Actual Results
For the Period July 1, 2004 through September 30, 2004¹

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jul-Sep '04 Actual</th>
<th>Jul-Sep '03 Actual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>26,675,634</td>
<td>27,147,667</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>21,449,535</td>
<td>19,525,141</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating/non operating expenses</td>
<td>6,313,512</td>
<td>5,965,527</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>315,072</td>
<td>251,460</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>28,078,119</td>
<td>25,742,128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating deficit before transfers</td>
<td>(1,402,485)</td>
<td>1,405,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net transfers out</td>
<td>(1,660,521)</td>
<td>(174,242)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net deficit</td>
<td>(3,063,006)</td>
<td>1,231,297</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Results Reported on Cash Accounting Basis
Contributing Factors to Change in YTD Results from Operations
FY 03-04 vs. FY 04-05

1. Revenue Problems
   - $0.5 Million Medicaid Withhold
   - $0.5 Million Medicaid HIPAA Billing Problem
   - $0.5 Million Lag in Contract Revenue

2. Expenses
   - $0.6 Million Legislative Salary Increase (pro-rated)
     - (1st in 4 years)
   - $0.25 Million Malpractice Insurance Costs Increase (pro-rated)
   - $0.5 Million Medicaid Cost Settlement repayment

3. Timing of Auxiliary Overhead Assessment by University on MFPP
   - Assessment made in September 2004 ($1.4 Million)
   - Assessment made in October 2003 ($1.28 Million)
Dear Alumni,

The beginning of the 2004–05 academic year is full of new places, new people, and new challenges. You will read about some of these in more detail inside your CONNECTIONS. First, we are so pleased to have a new ECU leader. Dr. Steve Ballard began his tenure as chancellor in June. He brings with him a new vision for the university, much energy, great warmth, and a wealth of experience in academe.

Next, the school now has an expanded home. The addition to the Rivers Building was completed in early August in time for the fall semester’s start. We were delighted to move into our nearly doubled space. However, this move is only temporary since construction on our home-to-be on West Campus has begun in earnest with a target date for completion sometime in 2006. It can’t come too soon because we are still bursting at the seams.

Our enrollment of 830 students is the largest we have ever experienced, with a 9% increase in undergraduates and a 43% increase in graduate students. With more students necessarily come more faculty. In this time of serious shortages in faculty ranks, we were most gratified to recruit some able and enthusiastic teachers and academic leaders for our programs. Maybe our success in this effort has been an early reward of sorts for the school’s emphasis in the MSN and PhD programs on preparing the future generation of faculty for the nursing programs in North Carolina colleges and universities.

As you are well aware, the nursing shortage also continues in the clinical arena. ECU School of Nursing graduates more entry BSN students than any other program in the state. It is believed our new Alternate Entry MSN for non-nurses holding baccalaureates in other disciplines will also contribute to the production of RNs to join you in the workplace. This is a purposeful and worthy goal.

You, as our alumni, are our very best “marketers” for the school. Your competence, professional orientation, and commitment to nursing practice and education reflect well on your alma mater.

We want to keep the ties between you and us as strong as possible. So come and visit. Communicate with your Alumni Advisory Board. Participate in school sponsored activities. Nominate one of your own as a distinguished alumna. Give to the school’s development fund to outfit the learning labs in our home-to-be. And please—drop us a note or E-mail telling us what is new with you!

We are still here for you.

Phyllis N. Horns
Dean
$647,138 HRSA grant to expand FNP concentration

The School of Nursing has received a grant for $647,138 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to expand our family nurse practitioner concentration with the goal of increasing the number of primary-care providers in rural eastern North Carolina.

Coordinated by Dr. Alta Andrews, Chair, Department of Family and Community Nursing, this three-year project will address the growing nursing shortage by training family nurse practitioners who live in rural areas of eastern North Carolina. Using advanced technology and a web-based curriculum, students will be able to complete their coursework without driving long distances to Greenville.

Since there is a growing disparity in mortality rates for different racial and ethnic groups in eastern North Carolina, this project will focus on educating family nurse practitioners to provide culturally competent care to minority clients. In addition, funds will be used to recruit and retain students in local communities and encourage them to continue practicing in these areas.

“The design of this program allows nurses who are currently working in medically underserved areas to advance their education without leaving their jobs or their communities,” said Dr. Andrews. “We are assembling a curriculum that is cutting edge and rich with case studies and simulated patient encounters.”

Students will participate in discussions, lectures, and case study models by using personal computers. In addition, students will use hand-held computers to log patient encounters, write clinical notes, and access reference materials. Supervised clinical experiences will be arranged with preceptors in areas where students live.

Jennifer Lang, will be the primary Family Nurse Practitioner faculty member working with this project. Ms. Lang was recognized by East Carolina University during the 2003–2004 academic year as recipient of the Max Ray Joyner Award for Faculty Service through Continuing Education.

Dr. Andrews adds, “This grant will allow the School of Nursing to continue its commitment to serving the health care needs of the region. It builds on our expertise in outreach education and information technology.”

The Family Nurse Practitioner concentration at East Carolina University School of Nursing received approval from the NC Board of Nursing in 1995. Information on the FNP concentration and other concentrations in the graduate program can be obtained by calling 252-328-4302.

National association created to support bariatric nursing

Ninety-six nurses and other healthcare professionals gathered at the Hilton in Greenville on Thursday, June 25, 2004, for the inaugural meeting of the Consortium for Bariatric Nursing.

The group voted unanimously to form the National Association of Bariatric Nurses to advance the health and quality of life for individuals and families who are experiencing obesity. The group also plans to promote best practices of holistic nursing care for bariatric patients and their families.

According to organizer, Dr. Mary Ann Rose, “The National Association for Bariatric Nurses is the first association to focus on nurses and their concerns and challenges in taking care of these patients.”

For more information, contact Dr. Rose at 252-328-4323 or rosemr@mail.ecu.edu.

President, Mary Ann Rose,
ECU School of Nursing

Vice President, Dan Drake,
Pitt County Memorial Hospital

Secretary, Debbie Bost,
Pinehurst Bariatric Surgery

Treasurer, Jewel Hardy,
Pitt County Memorial Hospital

2004–2006
NABN Officers
Dr. Martha Raile Alligood has joined the faculty in the School of Nursing as professor and Director of the Doctoral Program.

Prior to her appointment at ECU, Dr. Alligood was professor and founding dean for the School of Nursing and Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Dr. Alligood also held faculty positions in graduate nursing education at the University of Florida, the University of South Carolina, and the University of Tennessee for a total of twenty years.

Alligood is the co-editor/author of two widely circulated nursing theory textbooks, *Nursing Theory: Utilization & Application* and *Nursing Theorists and Their Work* are used in English speaking countries and have been translated into many other languages. She is under contract for new 2006 editions of both texts.

After receiving her Master of Science degree from Ohio State University, she went on to complete her doctoral education at New York University in New York City.

The current focus areas of her research are theory testing in adult human development and theory development in nursing empathy.

Dr. Alligood may be contacted at 252-328-5534 or alligoodm@mail.ecu.edu.

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Dr. Ruth P. Cox has joined the faculty in the School of Nursing as associate professor and Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration.

She joins ECU after serving since 2000 as the coordinator of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at the School of Nursing at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she was an associate professor.

In addition to certification as an advanced practice registered nurse, Dr. Cox is a Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice. Dr. Cox also holds credentials from the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and the Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists.

Dr. Cox earned her Master’s of Science in Nursing degree from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and her PhD from Florida State University in Tallahassee. Her post-Master’s certificate was obtained from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Her primary areas of research interest are multicultural families with young children who have low and very low incomes. In these families, the children have been identified as ‘at risk’ for physical, mental health, school, and spiritual problems.

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Each semester, the School of Nursing recognizes outstanding students in the Master’s, RN/BSN, and Undergraduate programs.

**Bobbie Perkins** was the May 2004 recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student Award. She was recognized for her professionalism, enthusiasm, and commitment to the nursing profession. Bobbie is also active in the Beta Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau.

The Outstanding RN/BSN student selected by the RN/BSN faculty was **Ann King**. Ann has been described as “very hard-working, motivated, and always displaying a positive attitude.” She also received an Undergraduate Research Award to study the relationship between BMI and blood pressure in children attending Jones County Schools.

The graduating pre-licensure students selected **Kenneth Gregory** as the pre-licensure student of the year. This award recognizes the student who sets the most outstanding example for other nursing students. This selection is based on support given to fellow students, commitment to nursing, and leadership skills.

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For more information about the PhD Program, please contact the SON Graduate Office at (252) 328-4302.
Elaine Scott, a Nursing PhD student, is the instructor for a section of Nursing 4150, Nursing Leadership.

Two of our nursing PhD students have been granted doctoral assistantships by the ECU Graduate School for the 2004–05 academic year. The awards carry a stipend as well as a tuition remission which will allow Elaine Scott and Joan Smith to pursue full-time study.

Both will be teaching sections of the undergraduate senior-level leadership course under the supervision of Dr. Alta Andrews who will mentor them in the doctorally prepared faculty role. Neither, however, is a novice to nursing education.

Elaine is a third year student. She has extensive experience in home health administration as both a COO and a CEO of large service agencies. She has shared her expertise as a consultant on the national level. Elaine has also taught in university nursing programs. The focus of her doctoral research is the study of work environments for nurses.

Joan Smith is in her second year of study. She brings with her a rich clinical background in family health and pediatrics and has taught in associate and baccalaureate programs. Her experience in the Navy Nurse Corps on active duty and as a reservist has tested her knowledge of health care systems and family supports. Joan plans to focus on the construct of compassion in her doctoral research.

Both of our doctoral teaching assistants have the goal of teaching in a university nursing program on completion of the PhD. We are pleased these two, most qualified, nurses will have the support and opportunity this year to further immerse themselves in their studies.

Mike Lewis, Vice Chancellor of Health Sciences, speaks at groundbreaking for the Learning Village.

Groundbreaking for the new School of Nursing home in the Learning Village was held during Founder’s Week in March 2004.

The first shovels of dirt symbolized the beginning of a longtime School of Nursing goal to be housed in the heart of the ECU medical community.

While we are pleased to occupy the new addition of the Rivers building, our sights are set on a learning complex that will locate the Schools of Nursing, Allied Health, and Laupus Health Sciences Library near the Brody School of Medicine.

Our wing of the new facility will measure 84,000 square feet and will contain six laboratories for student training and faculty research. We hope to outfit these labs with the most up-to-date equipment available. Many naming opportunities will be available in this building.

Each school will maintain a separate entrance and identity in the Learning Village and all will be connected by upper floor corridors.

Plans call for a cyber café with indoor and outdoor dining areas.

Please watch for details and updates as we strive to build a home that will provide state-of-the-art training for nursing students at ECU. The scheduled completion date for this project is fall of 2006.

An Internet link has been created for you to watch “live” construction progress. Visit often!


Learning Village construction begins

“My particularly thrilled about the concept integration labs. These are labs where students get to put into practice some of the things they have learned and work with real-life patients situations in a virtual environment.”

—Dr. Phyllis Horns, Dean

A first: doctoral teaching assistants
Alumni Notes

Marion J. Howard (BSN 70) worked at Vanderbilt University Hospital in psychiatry after graduation from ECUSON. She received her MSN from Vanderbilt in 1975 and her PhD from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1984.

Karen Watt (MSN 85) is employed by Rush Midwifery Services, which serves women in rural eastern Mississippi and western Alabama.

Donna Roberson (BSN 86, MSN 93) is enrolled in the PhD program at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Elsie (Peg) Spencer (MSN, FNP 99) continues to precept graduate FNP students in Carteret County, NC, where she has been employed in an OB/GYN practice for five years.

John (Gage) Spencer (MSN 00) is on active duty with the US Navy at the Naval Hospital at Camp Lejeune, NC, and is an occasional guest lecturer here in the School of Nursing.

Emily Spencer Collins (BSN 02) is a LTJG in the US Navy Corps and will be deploying to Kuwait this fall with the Fleet Hospital 5 out of the Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia.

Know a member of our alumni family who is a star?

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: ECU Nursing Alumni Who Have Made Exemplary Contributions to the Nursing Profession

Outstanding people deserve rewards and recognition. To that end, we at the School of Nursing and our Alumni Advisory Board are instituting an annual Distinguished Alumni Award. The first recipient will be named in late spring 2005 and invited to speak at the School of Nursing homecoming festivities the following fall. This individual will also serve as the School’s candidate for the University Alumni Award.

Please honor one of our graduates and colleagues by offering his or her name, a brief note on why you think such an award is deserved, and a summary of accomplishments (a curriculum vitae would be ideal) to our Alumni Advisory Board. Send your nomination(s) to: Christy Daniels, Dean’s Office, School of Nursing, Rivers Building, ECU, Greenville, NC 27858. Or, E-mail an attachment to Christy at danielsc@mail.ecu.edu or Terri Lawler at lawlert@mail.ecu.edu.

We are so excited about this new endeavor since we know there are so many stars among you!!

‘Connecting’ with other SON alumni

CONNECTIONS is published twice a year by the School of Nursing as a way to keep you informed of news and happenings on campus and with other alumni.

We encourage you to visit the SON website at www.nursing.ecu.edu. Links have been added to include updated information on alumni news, awards, events, and faculty.

You may also access the alumni registry at www.nursing.ecu.edu/alumniregister. Please drop us an E-mail and share your news.

Visit often and please keep in touch!

Connections Staff

Editor: Laurie Evans evansl@mail.ecu.edu

Contributing Editor: Christy Daniels danielsc@mail.ecu.edu

Consultant: Dr. Therese Lawler lawlert@mail.ecu.edu
East Carolina University and School of Nursing Homecoming Weekend

**ECU 2004 Football Schedule**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 4</td>
<td>at West Virginia</td>
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<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>Wake Forest</td>
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<td>Sept. 2</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
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<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>at Louisville</td>
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<td>Oct. 9</td>
<td>Tulane</td>
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<td>Oct. 23</td>
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<td>Nov. 6</td>
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<td>Nov. 27</td>
<td>NC State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>at Louisville</td>
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<td>Oct. 9</td>
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<td>Nov. 27</td>
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**Friday, October 8th**

School of Nursing Celebration  
Rivers West Room 105A

- 5:30 P.M. Welcome and Comments
- 6:00 P.M. Tour of New Rivers West Building
- 6:30 P.M. Reception on the Courtyard of Rivers West  
(R.S.V.P. to Christy Daniels at (252) 328-2789)

**Saturday, October 9th**

ECU Alumni Association Celebration  
Taylor-Slaughter Alumni Center  901 E. 5th St.

- 9:00 A.M. Open House and Parade on 5th Street  
Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- 11:30 A.M. Tailgating Lunch  
Alumni Tent on Charles Boulevard  
($15/person, children under 12 free, 1-800-ECU-GRAD for reservations)
- 2:00 P.M. ECU vs. Tulane Football Game  
Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium  
(1-800-DIAL-ECU or 252-328-4500 for tickets)

**Inside...**

“... new places, new people, and new challenges for the School of Nursing...”
### LARGEST GRAD PROGRAMS

Thinking about pursuing a graduate degree online? *U.S. News* surveyed about 1,000 institutions to compile a detailed list of 332 graduate-level E-learning programs in business, education, engineering, library science, nursing, and public health. The table below shows the largest programs in each field (measured by enrollment), along with key attributes of the learning experience. More details on these and other online graduate opportunities are available at [www.usnews.com/elearning](http://www.usnews.com/elearning).

#### BUSINESS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>School, state</th>
<th>Year launched</th>
<th>Number of students (fall 2003)</th>
<th>Technical help? (daily hours)</th>
<th>Limit on class size? (max. students)</th>
<th>Typical per-credit-hour charge*</th>
<th>Web address</th>
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<td>5,712</td>
<td>Yes (24)</td>
<td>Yes (20)</td>
<td>$393</td>
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<td>Capella University (MN)</td>
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#### EDUCATION

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<th>Number of students (fall 2003)</th>
<th>Technical help? (daily hours)</th>
<th>Limit on class size? (max. students)</th>
<th>Typical per-credit-hour charge*</th>
<th>Web address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walden University (MN)</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>5,705</td>
<td>Yes (24)</td>
<td>Yes (20)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.waldenu.edu">http://www.waldenu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nova Southeastern University (FL)</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>2,576</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.novaschools.edu">http://www.novaschools.edu</a></td>
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<td>Regis University (CO)</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>2,541</td>
<td>Yes (12)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.regiononline.org">http://www.regiononline.org</a></td>
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<td>Capella University (MN)</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>1,092</td>
<td>Yes (12)</td>
<td>Yes (10)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.capela.edu/education">http://www.capela.edu/education</a></td>
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#### ENGINEERING

<table>
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<th>School, state</th>
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<th>Limit on class size? (max. students)</th>
<th>Typical per-credit-hour charge*</th>
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<td>University of Southern California</td>
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<td>761</td>
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#### LIBRARY SCIENCE

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<th>Limit on class size? (max. students)</th>
<th>Typical per-credit-hour charge*</th>
<th>Web address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>San Jose State University (CA)</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1,201</td>
<td>Yes (10)</td>
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<td>NA</td>
<td><a href="http://library.sjsu.edu">http://library.sjsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>1,111</td>
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<td>Yes (10)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.unt.edu">http://www.unt.edu</a></td>
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#### NURSING

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<th>School, state</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Phoenix</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>Yes (24)</td>
<td>Yes (18)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.upsonline.com">http://www.upsonline.com</a></td>
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<td>Ball State University (IN)</td>
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<td>Yes (20)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Duke University (NC)</td>
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<td>East Carolina University (NC)</td>
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#### PUBLIC HEALTH

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<tr>
<td>University of Phoenix</td>
<td>1999</td>
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<td>Yes (18)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.upsonline.com">http://www.upsonline.com</a></td>
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<td>Yes (18)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.northcarolina.edu">http://www.northcarolina.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Johns Hopkins University (MD)</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Yes (12)</td>
<td>Yes (10)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.jh.edu">http://www.jh.edu</a></td>
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<td>A.T. Still University of Health Sciences (MD)</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>Yes (12)</td>
<td>Yes (10)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.atu.edu">http://www.atu.edu</a></td>
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*Changes are for 2004-2006 academic year. The first figure cited is tuition for in-state students; the second is for out-of-state students. Schools with one tuition number are private. Not included in this list is New York University, the nation's largest graduate program, amounting to $2,000 per credit hour for in-state residents and $3,500 per credit hour for out-of-state residents.*

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