A healthy MATCH
School wellness program stretches beyond N.C.
A winning recipe
School wellness program stretches beyond N.C.

Coming in first
These students embrace being the first in their families to go to college.

From foul balls to fair calls
Sheilah Cotten ’75 ’77 is a leader on and off the field.

Creating her shot
Jada Payne’s senior season could propel her to the WNBA.

On the cover: Chowan Middle School seventh-grader Chace Winslow stretches during a MATCH Wellness activity. Begun several years ago by Tim Hardison ’82 ’83 as part of his science class, the program has expanded through the Carolinas and to Mississippi. Story page 16.

Photo by Cliff Hollis

Nikki Beck, president of the Pirate Veterans Organization at ECU, places flags near Joyner Library in early November in a “Field of Honor,” recognizing veterans and members of the armed services. Photo by Cliff Hollis
This issue marks Steve’s last with East. He will retire at the end of this year, trading in his editor’s pen for some free time and, from the looks of the camping-equipped truck he’s bought, a bit of the vagabond life.

As editing credentials go, Steve came up the hard way, through the rough-and-tumble of a newsroom at a daily newspaper. His approach to editing reflects that grounding: Be thrifty with words, be timely, be factual and tell stories with a purpose.

It’s apparent that those 10 years transformed Editor Tuttle into a purple-and-gold icon in his own right. It’s equally apparent his steady and faultless hand has transformed East, our university magazine, to a vehicle for compelling storytelling about ECU.

After a decade under that kind of tutelage, Steve has matured from a fledgling alumni-oriented magazine into a comprehensive university magazine—a critical piece of growth that Steve has guided with teamwork and intentionality.

And, I would add, integrity.

When his choice of a photo for a story on an alumna who had won Miss USA was criticized as sexist, he took steps.

“I realized this was an important issue that obviously I was ignorant about, so I enrolled in a gender studies class. Over the next few semesters, I took several classes and I’m instructing students in that course of study.”

What does Editor Tuttle have to say before he sets sail?

“Thank you for welcoming me into the Pirate Nation. And be sure to give back to ECU in thanks for what this university did for you.”

Thank you, Steve—our editor, our Pirate.

*INTERIM EDITOR Mary Schulken ’75*

*MANAGING EDITOR Doug Boyd ’99*

*ART DIRECTOR/DESIGNER Brent Burch PHOTOGRAPHER CHF Holt*

*CONTRIBUTING WRITERS*

Crystal Batty, Jamstress Bowden, Doug Boyd, Harley Dortt, Jackie Drake, Amy Adams Ellis, Alyssa Gutierrez, Jeanine Manning Hamilton, Kathryn Kennedy, Kelly Selzer, Doug Smith ’90 ’07, Spaine Stephens, Steve Tuttle ’92 ’99, Elizabeth Willy

*CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS*

Ben Aseen, Gretchen Baugh, Jay Clark, Forrest Croce, Steve Dykes, Patrick Fay, Jerome Kitzke, Mike Lathem ’75, Tomas Rossa, Doug Smith ’90 ’07

*COPY EDITORS*

Jimmy Root ’94, Spaine Stephens

*ECU REPORT EDITOR*

Jeanine Manning Hamilton

*ALUMNI NEWS EDITOR*

Jackie Drake

*CLASS NOTES EDITOR*

Joanna Kollar

*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION, PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND MARKETING*

Mary Schulken ’75

This issue is produced three times a year by East Carolina University in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association.

Complete this form (please print or type) and mail to: Class Notes Editor, Howard House, Mail Stop 107, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353. Please use additional paper as necessary when sending your news. You also can email your news to ecuclasnotes@ecu.edu. While East happily prints wedding announcements, it is our policy not to print engagement announcements. Also, when listing fellow alumni in your news, please include their class year.

Please send address changes or corrections to: Kay Murphy, Office of University Development, Greenville Center, Mail Stop 301, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353, or email: murphyk@ecu.edu

©2016 by East Carolina University

Printed by RR Donnelley

To start or stop a subscription, or to let us know about a change of address, please contact Advancement Services at advancementservices@ecu.edu or 252-328-9550.

Send letters to the editor to easteditor@ecu.edu or East Carolina Alumni Association, Howard House, Mail Stop 107, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353

Send class notes to ecuclasnotes@ecu.edu or use the form at left.

Clarification: In the fall 2015 issue of East, an article about the Stuart Wright Collection in Joyner Library also mentioned a collection of the work of poet A.R. Ammons. The two collections are separate.
In 2006, a program director from Camp Lejuene in Jacksonville approached Russoniello with the idea of using Wounded Warrior Marines as they transition back into civilian life. He described the request as what he “had been preparing for (this whole life).”

Soon, a partnership formed between Russoniello’s biofeedback lab at ECU and the Wounded Warrior Battalion-East at Camp Lejuene. It has since improved the lives of hundreds of veterans.

His work at ECU started in 1999 after Hurricane Floyd devastated eastern North Carolina. Russoniello was accepted as an assistant professor position with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Traumatic brain injuries are also common in veterans and are similarly incapacitating.

Russoniello knows this well. He developed PTSD after losing a mentor, friend and fellow machine-gunner in his infantry platoon during the Vietnam War. Years later, the experience would spark what he described as a “passion to determine the underlying physiological benefits of recreation or fun activities.”

Once he put his finger on that, he knew he would be able to use it to help people cope in significant ways.

Biofeedback technology turned out to be a big piece of the puzzle.

A colorfully painted Cinderblock wall near campus helps illustrate an ongoing partnership between ECU and its neighbors.

The initiatives, called Art + Community, brings ECU and the surrounding neighborhood together through the exploration and installation of art. On Sept. 19, an estimated 500 people turned out at Third and Cordon streets in downtown Greenville for a block party that included painting the wall, live music and fellowship.

“Some people painted for 10 to 15 minutes and others for two to three hours,” said Kate Lamere, associate professor of art and director of ECU’s School of Art and Design. “There was a sense of ownership.”

ECU students and volunteers led by Scott Eagle, associate professor of art and director of graduate studies, spent several days outlining a whimsical underground scene on a relighting wall at the intersection, leaving lots of white space for block partygoers to finish.

On Sept. 19, Eagle and Tim French, ECU graduate and art instructor at Pitt Community College, and ECU students Zach Cleghorn, Rhett Verma, Laelita Nava and Shayla Thornton worked to finish the outline.

French, who is known for painting gnomes, had painted two or three on the wall. “I tend to hole up in my studio, so this was a chance to get outside and do something cool,” French said.

Verma, a sophomore majoring in sports medicine, was out to gain extra credit for a class. “I’m not very good at art, but I love watching how art is made,” Verma said. “I’m just going over the stray parts and outlining since I’m not an artist.”

Cleghorn, a junior majoring in industrial engineering technology, said he loves helping people and giving back to the community. The Marine Corps veteran served seven years before a roadside bomb caused a brain injury that ended his military career. “So many people have put their hands on me and helped me work this path,” said Cleghorn, who is the first in his family to attend college. “I was fortunate in the support group at ECU.”

He is one of five ECU students picked as an inaugural Public Service Fellows—an outreach of the Arts Community Initiative. The students will work 300 hours in local nonprofit or for-profit agencies this semester and will conduct a research project for the community. The fellowships are made possible by a $10,000 grant from the State Employees Credit Union Foundation.

Arts + Community started more than two years ago when a Greenville Police Department officer walked into the Jenkins Fine Arts Center, Lamere said.

The officer, Mike Cates, was seeking artists to create work for the county’s Property Protection Initiative to reduce crime near campus based on the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

This thought is that residents who meet one another and get involved in making art will monitor and protect it, creating a sense of ownership and leading to a decrease in crime in the neighborhood.

ECU’s Minus Hurl, assistant professor of planning, had already formed a research team that was primed to work with Cates. Faculty in art and design, geography, planning and the environment and design, geography, planning and the environment and ECU’s OffCampus Student Services joined efforts with the police department.

Art + Community started more than two years ago when a Greenville Police Department officer walked into the Jenkins Fine Arts Center, Lamere said.

The officer, Mike Cates, was seeking artists to create work for the county’s Property Protection Initiative to reduce crime near campus based on the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

This thought is that residents who meet one another and get involved in making art will monitor and protect it, creating a sense of ownership and leading to a decrease in crime in the neighborhood.

ECU’s Minus Hurl, assistant professor of planning, had already formed a research team that was primed to work with Cates. Faculty in art and design, geography, planning and the environment and the Public Service Fellowship started the initiative.

The fellowships are made possible by a $10,000 grant from the State Employees Credit Union Foundation. 
Diversity commended

For the fourth consecutive year, ECU has been recognized by INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine with its Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award. National institutions are recognized with the HEED Award for exhibiting "outstanding efforts and success in the area of diversity and inclusion," according to the award's citation.

ECU is the only North Carolina institution to receive this distinction four years in a row.

"This award speaks volumes about the efforts across campus to increase diversity and inclusion at East Carolina University," said LaFasha Ashton Forbes, associate provost for equity and diversity. "We have initiatives and leadership in place at ECU that warrant the national recognition."

Various committees and offices work together to make sure ECU has a diverse and inclusive environment, Forbes said, including the Chancellor's Diversity Leadership Cabinet, the Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Women and the Diversity Committee in the Staff Senate.

ECU has prioritized diversity at every level, as shown in the 2014-2019 strategic plan. In the plan, 25 colleges and divisions include diversity as a goal.

In addition, the admissions office works with local minority organizations and Upward BOUND programs to provide local students with exposure to a higher-education environment and information about the university. The office also works with grade-school and community college students to ensure that information about ECU is reaching underrepresented and minority students. —Jamstress Bowden

Enrollment climbs

ECU enrolled 28,289 students this fall, the most in its 110-year history. Undergraduate enrollment reached a historic high of 23,039, 3.54 percent above last year’s undergraduate enrollment, said John Fletcher, associate provost for enrollment services.

The new freshmen who entered ECU this fall are the best prepared in the university’s history with an average SAT of 1,061 and a weighted high school GPA of 3.76, Fletcher said.

Total graduate student enrollment remained steady at 4,735 students while first-time graduate students increased by 11 percent, said Paul Gambertine, dean of the Graduate School.

Enrollment figures are considered preliminary until reviewed and approved by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors Administration. —ECU News Services

Board initiates fundraising plans for Heritage Hall

ECU trustees voted Sept. 25 to raise $100,000 by Dec. 1 to begin developing Heritage Hall, the place where the university will recognize people of historical significance to the university including the namesake of Aycock Residence Hall.

Trustees also voted to transition the Aycock name from the building as soon as possible once the money is pledged.

It's estimated the hall will cost $100,000.

"We as a board need to get behind Heritage Hall," said Steve Jones, chair of the trustees. "We need to get out and put some energy around raising this $100,000.

Jones asked that each board member consider making a personal donation. "If we don't raise the amount by December, we need to keep working toward it and transition the name as soon as possible," he said.

The vote came after concerns were raised at the trustees’ lunch meeting the previous day about a possibility in transitioning the name since the hall will be part of a new Student Services Center that won't be completed until 2019. The eventual Heritage Hall is intended to occupy a physical space in the student center as well as virtual space in a yet-to-be-developed timeline website.

Board members had not decided on a location for the hall when they voted to create it and transition the name as soon as possible, he said.

"We're going to do that in a way that will warrant the national recognition." —Steve Jones

Graduate students share research on social media

Chances are ECU doctoral students are in either the field, in the lab, headed to one or just back from the other. To find out, just log on to their social media accounts.

Biology students Molly Albecker, Daniel Newhouse and numerous others are among a new generation of researchers—graduate students and early career professors—who are embracing social media, blogs and websites to communicate with the public and their peers.

According to a 2014 Pew Research Center survey of scientists connected with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 90 percent of scientists talk with the public about science and research. Fifty-one percent speak with reporters. Forty-seven percent use social media to discuss or follow science, and 24 percent have blogged about science and research.

Twenty-two percent described themselves as "very important" (4 percent) or "important" (18 percent) for career advancement in their discipline to promote their findings on social media such as Facebook or Twitter.

"People are telling their stories sooner and see that need to tell their stories," said Katie Mosher, communications director of N.C. State's Research Commercialization Office. "They don't want to share their science with a broader audience. It’s extremely important, and I think the graduate students and early career faculty are recognizing that in greater numbers."

Albecker, a doctoral student in the Institute for Coastal Science and Policy, said using social media allows researchers to communicate discoveries to people outside of academic circles. Social media also connects the researchers personally to the work they are doing, she added.

"I find that it is the easiest way to send out links to neat articles, display pictures of my research-in-progress, and other science-based things I find interesting or funny," said Albecker, who uses her Twitter account (@jillandfrog) as her primary means of science-based communication.

It also allows scientists to show their excitement and passion for their work, she added.

"In particular, connecting a face, a sense of humor and a real person to the research is especially important in recent times since scientists are sometimes portrayed as distant, unconnected and even untrustworthy," she said. "Instead, researchers can show that they are regular people that are curious and motivated to share our work and our place in it."

Ariane Peralta, (@ArianePeralta) an assistant professor of ecology, was one of a trio of biology faculty members who earlier this year spoke with students about using social media to talk about science.

"The pros are that online networking through social media works for many types of personalities, it evens out the playing field—as an early career person you can connect with very established scientists in your field (and) your reach is in real-time and global," said Peralta. "Embracing social media as part of science allows you to enhance visibility of your work, raise your online presence and helps you keep up."

Social media also makes it easier to stay in touch with colleagues and scientists in other disciplines.

"There are no ‘take backs.’" —Nate Holland (@onecynicmedic), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.

"I think services like Twitter are great for communicating with the lay public because the concise nature of the messages, such as character limits, really force me to distill my message to something easily digestible by the lay public and fellow researchers alike," he said. Newhouse (@oldhouse5), a doctoral student in the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine, says it's important to give the public a chance to know what scientists are doing—and in terms the public can understand.
Sharks put ECU graduate student in the spotlight

If you were at a North Carolina beach this summer, you might have wondered if a shark was swimming just beneath the waves. With eight shark bites reported along the state’s coast during a span of about four weeks in May and June, many people, including news reporters, were asking that same question. For shark expert and East Carolina University doctoral student Chuck Bangley, that meant more chances to talk about his work.

“North Carolina’s not a very crowded market for shark people,” he said. “I definitely appreciate being able to help.”

He guessed he did 35 media interviews during the summer and he’s also appeared on two National Geographic Wild specials, “When Sharks Attack” and “Unsung Sharks of America.” In August, Bangley wrote a blog post for N.C. Sea Grant about his experiences with the media this summer following the shark bites.

On Aug. 13, he spoke at a public gathering at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences. A week earlier, he spoke at the N.C. Estuarium in Washington about his research of sharks in Back Sound near Beaufort.

“It seems overwhelming, but ultimately it’s one of our jobs as scientists to provide answers to people when they need them,” Bangley wrote in the Sea Grant blog.

Katie Moshar, communications director for N.C. Sea Grant, said Bangley is well-suited for that role. “Chuck has a natural ability to put research in terms the public can understand and he has an affinity—a need—to do that,” she said.

In his media interviews, Bangley has emphasized one main point: Warmer ocean temperatures brought sharks to North Carolina this year sooner than expected.

From 2003-2014, coastal water temperatures rose 4 degrees Celsius in May and 1-2 degrees in June.

“It seems like we get these summer temperatures earlier, then they’re here,” Bangley said. “We’re getting hotter faster.”

What that means is sharks that would normally come into the area in midsummer are arriving in late spring—at a time when swimmers are just beginning to hit the water. Then as spring turns into summer, the sharks continue up the coast to New England.

“It’s really a bright, clear connection to temperature,” he said. And with 25 confirmed shark bites between 2005 and 2014, North Carolina ranks fifth in the nation for bites, according to National Geographic.

The warmer waters also appear to have created a new nursery for baby bull sharks: the Pamlico Sound. Looking at data from the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, Bangley has identified 36 juvenile bull sharks in or near the sound.

“What it’s showing is this species has the ability to find new nursery habitat if it has to,” he said.

There is a benefit to having the sharks around. They keep patches of young aquatic plants free of fish that would feed on the juvenile fish that live among the plants.

But when a hot spring brings people to the beach at the same time the bulls are arriving, conflict is bound to occur.

“They’re the apex predator shark that’s most likely to overlap with people in the water,” Bangley said. “They’re big and powerful enough that an accidental bite can remove an arm.”

Bangley contributes to the science blog Southern Fried Science at www.southernfriedscience.com. Follow him on Twitter at @spinydogfish. He blogs about “spiny dogfish, grad school and life” at yakkledags.southernfriedscience.com.

Chuck Bangley pilots the skiff with Ryan Mackenzie, grad student, at left.

Wave glider listens to and records ocean data

ECU scientists have been sending a small craft to navigate the North Carolina coast studying underwater noise and keeping tabs on tagged marine life all to better understand the ocean environment.

Called an acoustic wave glider, the device is an ocean-going robot that gathers data on acoustically tagged fish such as tuna, flounder and sharks; whales, plankton; and ocean environmental conditions. It’s manufactured by Liquid Robotics and was funded by a $281,393 grant from the National Science Foundation. ECU researchers have nicknamed the craft “Blackbeard.”

ECU is among a handful of universities that have a wave glider ready to deploy. It will sail up the coast to New England.

Bangley is well-suited for that role. “With eight shark bites reported along the state’s coast during a span of about four weeks in May and June, many people, including news reporters, were asking that same question. For shark expert and East Carolina University doctoral student Chuck Bangley, that meant more chances to talk about his work. The public can understand and he has an affinity—a need—to do that,” he said.

“Chuck has a natural ability to put research in terms the public can understand and he has an affinity—a need—to do that,” said Katie Moshar, communications director for N.C. Sea Grant.

Bangley has emphasized one main point: Warmer ocean temperatures brought sharks to North Carolina this year sooner than expected. From 2003-2014, coastal water temperatures rose 4 degrees Celsius in May and 1-2 degrees in June.

“It seems like we get these summer temperatures earlier, then they’re here,” Bangley said. “We’ve getting hotter faster.”

What that means is sharks that would normally come into the area in midsummer are arriving in late spring—at a time when swimmers are just beginning to hit the water. Then as spring turns into summer, the sharks continue up the coast to New England.

“It’s really a bright, clear connection to temperature,” he said. And with 25 confirmed shark bites between 2005 and 2014, North Carolina ranks fifth in the nation for bites, according to National Geographic.

The warmer waters also appear to have created a new nursery for baby bull sharks: the Pamlico Sound. Looking at data from the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, Bangley has identified 36 juvenile bull sharks in or near the sound.

“What it’s showing is this species has the ability to find new nursery habitat if it has to,” he said.

There is a benefit to having the sharks around. They keep patches of young aquatic plants free of fish that would feed on the juvenile fish that live among the plants.

But when a hot spring brings people to the beach at the same time the bulls are arriving, conflict is bound to occur.

“They’re the apex predator shark that’s most likely to overlap with people in the water,” Bangley said. “They’re big and powerful enough that an accidental bite can remove an arm.”

Bangley contributes to the science blog Southern Fried Science at www.southernfriedscience.com. Follow him on Twitter at @spinydogfish. He blogs about “spiny dogfish, grad school and life” at yakkledags.southernfriedscience.com.

Chuck Bangley pilots the skiff with Ryan Mackenzie, grad student, at left.
Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines

Dr. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

“There’s a competition between a virus and the immune system as to which can amplify itself fast—a virus and the immune system nearly $2.6 million to study the...”

Rachel Roper, right, a professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

“This competition between a virus and the immune system as to which can amplify itself fast—a virus and the immune system nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction. There is a competition between...”

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs.

Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs.

Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.

Researchers aim for better vaccines, medicines. Scientists at ECU are taking a closer look at the intercellular war that goes on between viruses and the human immune system in an effort to design better drugs to target the germs. Rachel Roper, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Brody School of Medicine, is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant totaling nearly $2.6 million to study the human-virus interaction.
According to the 2013 Behavioral Health trial site, who enrolled the first patients—the second-largest study of its kind to date. Approximately 250 of those respondents in the region who were receiving care at the Brody School of Medicine faculty—managed by the N.C. State University and the ECU researchers will maintain close communication with these providers as the remaining arms of the study unfold. Over the next several months, Brody’s trial participants will be contacted by their primary care providers for their health care needs. Participants enrolled in ECU’s intervention will maintain close communication with these providers as the remaining arms of the study unfold.

ECU has played a leading role in a clinical trial that believes this study could potentially increase the number of hypertension patients being treated in the future, according to the North Carolina State University and ECU researchers will maintain close communication with these providers as the remaining arms of the study unfold. Over the next several months, Brody’s trial participants will be contacted by their primary care providers for their health care needs. Participants enrolled in ECU’s intervention will maintain close communication with these providers as the remaining arms of the study unfold.

ECU recently announced the launch of the first phase of this pilot study, which focuses on improving the health and well-being of patients with hypertension. The study, which is funded by the National Institutes of Health, aims to improve blood pressure control and reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease among patients with hypertension.

ECU researchers will work closely with providers to identify patients who could benefit from the intervention, and these patients will be randomly assigned to one of several treatment groups.

The intervention includes a variety of strategies designed to help patients achieve and maintain their blood pressure goals. These strategies may include medication adjustments, lifestyle changes, and support from a registered nurse or other health care provider.

The researchers will measure patients’ blood pressure at regular intervals and assess the effectiveness of the intervention using a variety of methods, including electronic medical records, patient diaries, and interviews.

Participants in the study will receive the intervention for a period of six months, and the researchers will continue to monitor their progress for an additional year.

The results of the study will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of this intervention and may inform future efforts to improve blood pressure control and reduce cardiovascular disease risk.

---

ECU researchers will work closely with providers to identify patients who could benefit from the intervention, and these patients will be randomly assigned to one of several treatment groups.

The intervention includes a variety of strategies designed to help patients achieve and maintain their blood pressure goals. These strategies may include medication adjustments, lifestyle changes, and support from a registered nurse or other health care provider.

The researchers will measure patients’ blood pressure at regular intervals and assess the effectiveness of the intervention using a variety of methods, including electronic medical records, patient diaries, and interviews.

Participants in the study will receive the intervention for a period of six months, and the researchers will continue to monitor their progress for an additional year.

The results of the study will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of this intervention and may inform future efforts to improve blood pressure control and reduce cardiovascular disease risk.

---

ECU researchers will work closely with providers to identify patients who could benefit from the intervention, and these patients will be randomly assigned to one of several treatment groups.

The intervention includes a variety of strategies designed to help patients achieve and maintain their blood pressure goals. These strategies may include medication adjustments, lifestyle changes, and support from a registered nurse or other health care provider.

The researchers will measure patients’ blood pressure at regular intervals and assess the effectiveness of the intervention using a variety of methods, including electronic medical records, patient diaries, and interviews.

Participants in the study will receive the intervention for a period of six months, and the researchers will continue to monitor their progress for an additional year.

The results of the study will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of this intervention and may inform future efforts to improve blood pressure control and reduce cardiovascular disease risk.
Rudolph Alexander Performing
Barry performs at 8 p.m.
are extremely loud. “Not musically skilled, but they
band has been described as
guitar in the literary rock band
on CBS for four years. And for
Dave’s World,
a staple in more than 500
during his performance April 16
Best-selling author and
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES
Cahn, Jimmy Van Heusen, Rodgers
Lippia
Simply Sinatra: Steve
era, leaving his audience begging
the ECU Arts website, www.ecuarts.
[Image -1x529 to 175x698]

Black Violin, performing at 7 p.m.
classical, hip-hop, rock, R&B and
and Wilner “Wil B” Baptiste meld
variety show that will exceed your
well. Touted as “a jaw-dropping
Black Violin, a staple in more than 500
during the spring semester. Both
[330x80]Initiative
Chapel Hill School of Law.
the University of North Carolina at
Alfred Brophy will speak on “What’s
bring two author events to campus
2013 Hemingway Foundation/PEN
in the spring. Kevin Powers, the
2013 Young Artists Competition. Also in the program
will be in Wright Auditorium. Both

RUDOLPH ALEXANDER PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

With a hot, driving band behind him, Steve Lippia interprets the best repertoire of the big-band era. Lippia brings to life the music and lyrics of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Van Diaz, Van Cliburn, and Stéphane Wrembel. Lippia performs at 8 p.m. Jan. 22 in Wright Auditorium.

Kevin “Keye” McNair’s “Sylvester” and the family of malt-almond classic, hip-hop, rock, R&B and classic hip-hop. The release of The Black Violin, performing at 7 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. The group’s latest release is Stereotypes. Steve Lippia brings to life the music and lyrics of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Van Diaz, Van Cliburn, and Stéphane Wrembel. Lippia performs at 8 p.m. Jan. 22 in Wright Auditorium.

Kevin “Keye” McNair’s “Sylvester” and the family of malt-almond classic, hip-hop, rock, R&B and classic hip-hop. The release of The Black Violin, performing at 7 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. The group’s latest release is Stereotypes. Steve Lippia brings to life the music and lyrics of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Van Diaz, Van Cliburn, and Stéphane Wrembel. Lippia performs at 8 p.m. Jan. 22 in Wright Auditorium.

From their successful debut at the American Dance Festival, Body/traffic, brings its unique, one-of-a-kind, hip-hop based Los Angeles landscape to eastern North Carolina at 8 p.m. April 7 in Wright Auditorium. The San Francisco company was founded in 1995 by two expressive and elegant artists. The company has performed sold-out tours and has been featured in many newspapers around the country.

The Top Talent Search returns to Wright Auditorium at 7 p.m. March 4 with a top prize of $1,000 for the second annual event drawing singers, dancers, and musicians from across eastern North Carolina. While北方的巡演将在中国和美国进行，最终到达香港。在音乐会中，田丽将带给我们一场视觉和听觉的震撼。音乐会将包括多首经典歌曲和一些新的作品。音乐会将在香港和美国的多个城市举行，包括纽约、旧金山、洛杉矶和芝加哥。音乐会将包括田丽的独唱、合唱和乐队表演，以及一些特别嘉宾的表演。音乐会将是一个将视觉艺术和音乐融合在一起的完美结合。音乐会的门票将在早些时候出售，具体信息将在日后公布。
Youth wellness program yields healthy habits

Smiling Faces Child Care Center stands like a beacon in rural Martin County, its clean, white siding contrasting with the deep green of the soybean fields around it.

Tiny vegetable gardens in raised boxes line the front walk and fenced-in playground beside the building. One collard plant is tall enough to shade the smiling face of the 3-year-old standing beside it.

Director Bernadette Rodgers ’08—who holds a master’s degree in education from East Carolina University—and her daughter Brianna Horne lean over some pepper plants, pointing out “red” and “green” to a group of curious preschoolers.

“This class helped plant our peppers and collards this year,” Rodgers says. “We grow blueberries, cucumbers, cherry tomatoes. … We use these fresh ingredients in the children’s meals.”

Horne is a senior nursing student at ECU. In 2006-2007, as a seventh-grader at Williamston Middle School in Martin County, she was one of 110 inaugural participants in a wellness program created by her science teacher, Tim Hardison ’82 ’83.
Healthy Weight Research and Treatment

Hardison’s direction within ECU’s Pediatric Health-Wise Research and Treatment Center and reaches more than 5,000 youth in 34 public schools throughout the Carolinas and Mississippi—state with the third-highest adult obesity rate in the nation. Recently MATCH was awarded $470,000 by the North Carolina chapter of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education organization to expand into as many as 100 schools by 2018. Another $750,000 from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation is helping the team prepare for 10 times that capacity. Meanwhile, the USDA is exploring ways to promote expansion of MATCH into eight southeastern states.

Making wellness fun

When we started doing the MATCH program, “Mr. Hardison” had the nurse weigh us on the scale. I started out weighing 161 pounds. Now since I am involved in different kinds of sports and physical activity, I have lost a total of 10 pounds so far.

—Horne, from an essay written in spring 2007

Horne and Rodgers describe with laughter their first foray into aerobic dance using videos Horne discovered through MATCH.

“It was so much fun, I decided to bring some videos to the day care for the kids to do,” says Rodgers, who’s operated the child care and early education center since 1987. She still exercises most mornings before work. And she sees to it that her students stay active with activities such as swimming and gymnastics.

As a middle-schooler, Horne relayed what MATCH was teaching her about nutrition, and those morals were incorporated into the center’s operations, too. Staff moved the children from 2 percent to skim milk. They began substituting tortillas and whole grain bread for white bread in their sandwiches and serving fruit instead of crackers and cookies.

In 2011, the center received two awards from the Child and Adult Care Food Program, a federally funded program of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

“They were impressed by our on-site gardens,” Rodgers says. “We were ahead of the curve with government regulations like healthier menus, reduced screen times, increased activity levels.”

On weekdays, the center feeds 140 children from newborn to age 12. Preschoolers typically get two meals plus a snack. Monthly newsletters sent home with the children are packed with easy, healthy, affordable recipes and fun nutritional information.

Smiling Faces is a model program, frequently hosting visitors from other day care centers who seek input and inspiration for growing their own produce, incorporating more activity into daily schedules and serving more nutritious food. Rodgers—or “Miss Bern,” as her students call her—attributes most of this success to what her daughter learned through MATCH.

Solving a problem

In fall 2006, when Hardison had his students calculate their body mass index, he discovered more than half were overweight or obese.

“I knew they were at risk for obesity-related diseases—and hearted from heart disease,” says Hardison, who holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in physical education.

He set out to empower his students to make healthy choices for a lifetime. He created turnkey lessons such as “Re-think Your Drink” and “Portion Distortion” to align with educational standards—and to be delivered over 16 weeks across the curriculum to avoid overburdening individual teachers. MATCH participants might journal about food choices during language arts class then calculate their BMIs in math. At every turn, they have opportunities to identify their individual strengths and weaknesses, set personal goals, monitor their behaviors and practice decision-making. A built-in “badge” system motivates students without the need for teacher manipulation.

The MATCH program has really impacted my family. I have gotten them to start eating healthy foods, stop eating fast and fried foods every day, and I’m making them do aerobic dancing. We started to walk at the track twice a week and stopped eating in front of the television.

—Horne, 2007

Horne penned those words around the time Hardison was回头看awing the students in her class—and realizing just how well his program had worked. Nearly three-quarters of the overweight and obese students had improved their BMIs.

To build support for his program, Hardison turned to Dr. Suzanne Lazorick, pediatrician and obesity researcher with ECU’s Pediatric Health-Wise Research and Treatment Center. The unique academic-community partnership that followed has garnered about $2.75 million in grants from groups such as the N.C. Joint Legislative Task Force on Childhood Obesity, the N.C. State Board of Education and the BCBSNC Foundation. Bolstered by Lazorick’s work, MATCH became the only school-based obesity intervention program in the country to earn a “research-tested” designation from the Center for Training, Research and Translation—an independent group that evaluates programs for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“The federal government wants evidence-based programs,” Lazorick says, “and MATCH has consistently improved BMI in seven of 10 overweight adolescents.”

Outstanding outcomes

Jennifer MacDougall, senior program officer for the BCBSNC Foundation— which has invested more than $1 million in MATCH—says “astounding” results sparked their interest in the program, and consistent results have kept them at the table.

“Looking across school-based programs in North Carolina and the nation, we had never seen results as dramatic as MATCH,” she says. “MATCH has achieved significant results in the schools in our state with some of the highest rates of health disparity. … It is a critical component to combating the epidemic of childhood obesity and … could ultimately be a key factor in turning the tide.”

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, childhood obesity has quadrupled in U.S. adolescents during the past 30 years. In eastern North Carolina during the past two years, the rate of extreme obesity (weight above the 99th percentile)—at 9.3 percent—was double the national average. It’s no surprise the N.C. Institute of Medicine’s Task Force on Rural Health included MATCH in their recent action plan, recommending the state Board of Education include obesity prevention in middle grades.

“We have a much bigger problem than most

BY AMY ADAMS ELLIS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CLIFF HOLLIS

Today MATCH Wellness is housed under Hardison’s direction within ECU’s Pediatric Healthy Weight Research and Treatment Center and reaches more than 5,000 youth in 34 public schools throughout the Carolinas and Mississippi—state with the third-highest adult obesity rate in the nation. Recently MATCH was awarded $470,000 by the North Carolina chapter of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education organization to expand into as many as 100 schools by 2018. Another $750,000 from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation is helping the team prepare for 10 times that capacity. Meanwhile, the USDA is exploring ways to promote expansion of MATCH into eight southeastern states.

Making wellness fun

When we started doing the MATCH program, “Mr. Hardison” had the nurse weigh us on the scale. I started out weighing 161 pounds. Now since I am involved in different kinds of sports and physical activity, I have lost a total of 10 pounds so far.

—Horne, from an essay written in spring 2007

Horne and Rodgers describe with laughter their first foray into aerobic dance using videos Horne discovered through MATCH.

“It was so much fun, I decided to bring some videos to the day care for the kids to do,” says Rodgers, who’s operated the child care and early education center since 1987. She still exercises most mornings before work. And she sees to it that her students stay active with activities such as swimming and gymnastics.

As a middle-schooler, Horne relayed what MATCH was teaching her about nutrition, and those morals were incorporated into the center’s operations, too. Staff moved the children from 2 percent to skim milk. They began substituting tortillas and whole grain bread for white bread in their sandwiches and serving fruit instead of crackers and cookies.

In 2011, the center received two awards from the Child and Adult Care Food Program, a federally funded program of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

“They were impressed by our on-site gardens,” Rodgers says. “We were ahead of the curve with government regulations like healthier menus, reduced screen times, increased activity levels.”

On weekdays, the center feeds 140 children from newborn to age 12. Preschoolers typically get two meals plus a snack. Monthly newsletters sent home with the children are packed with easy, healthy, affordable recipes and fun nutritional information.

Smiling Faces is a model program, frequently hosting visitors from other day care centers
people realize," Hardison says. "If we don’t get a handle on this now, we’ll be in a world of hurt before long. We don’t even know all the problems these kids will have without intervention."

Dr. Brian Caveney, vice president and senior medical director of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, the largest independent health insurer in the state, says MATCH is “the most durable, scalable, reasonable” approach he has seen to deal with obesity-related problems.

“Obesity affects all organ systems,” Caveney says. “It diminishes the body’s ability to respond effectively to injury and illness. When you look at the downstream impacts of childhood obesity, the total cost explodes. Why wait 30 or 40 years for diseases to fully develop, and have to put someone through the health care system to fix those problems, when that’s the most expensive place—and the place we’ll get poorer outcomes?”

Two years ago, DeActive North Carolina—a nonprofit committed to empowering North Carolinians to live healthy, active lives—calculated that a 3 percent conversion of overweight adults to healthy weight would save N.C. employers $3 billion annually in direct medical costs, lost productivity and workers’ compensation. Hardison notes the average conversion rate for MATCH graduates measured at age 17 is five times that.

John Chaffee, president and CEO of NC. East Alliance, the lead economic development organization serving eastern North Carolina, says these savings estimates aren’t surprising, considering the myriad health issues faced by obese adults.

“Anything we can do to improve the health of children and adults is good for employers and government,” he says. “If you can save $300 for every dollar invested, that’s a no-brainer. Government, health care systems, employers and families to get bran and whole-grain cereals.”

“I crave healthy things!”

Heather Winslow, a physical education teacher at Chowan Middle School in Chowan County, says MATCH motivates students by helping them compare their personal fitness levels to their peers’.

“Some of my heaviest kids might be the most flexible, so that’s cool for them to see,” she says.

She says the lessons that resonate most with her students are the ones about diseases that diet and activity can impact, because most have family members living with those diseases.

Eighth-grader Jakon Melendez says MATCH motivated him “to aim for the top” in his fitness goals. He reads for water now instead of sodas and high-calorie sports drinks.

Classmate Brauma Miles—who rides her bike almost daily—was surprised to learn the ingredients in foods she thought were healthier. “I used to eat sugary cereals and donuts for breakfast,” she says. “Now I tell my family to get bran and whole-grain cereals.”

And therein lies the key to MATCH’s success, Hardison says. “Thirteen-year-olds are starting to feel independent—capable of influencing their own outcomes. Arm them with knowledge, and they’ll become agents of change.”

“I have a daughter in the seventh grade, and she just started exercising,” says Horne. “She used to eat sugary cereals and donuts for breakfast.”

Horne confesses she reverted back to some unhealthy habits after middle school, gaining more than 40 pounds by the time she was a high school sophomore.

“I was eating lots of fatty, processed foods. But I remembered what I learned from MATCH. I started back exercising 30 or 40 minutes several times a week. I cut back on sugars, fats and starches. I changed my lifestyle habits. During my freshman year at ECU, I got back down to my seventh-grade weight.”

Classmate Brianna Miles—who rides her bike almost daily—was surprised to learn the ingredients in foods she thought were healthier. “I used to eat sugary cereals and high-calorie sports drinks. This program has also helped me and my grandmother with our asthma. I feel like I have really made a huge difference in our lives. Now I am helping the children at my mother’s day care center by making fun healthy foods and getting the children fit so they won’t have to go through these life-threatening behaviors.”

—Horne, 2007

For a free quote, call 800-867-5517 or visit libertymutual.com/ecualumni

©2015 Liberty Mutual Insurance
Jessie Smith, Glenesha Berryman and Emmanuel Moreno-Ortiz

Coming in first

ECU's first-generation college students set a standard for success
Nicole Blevins ’00 was halfway to East Carolina University with her whole family and her luggage in tow when it hit her for the first time: She was going to college.

“I said, ‘We have to pull over,’” Blevins recalls. “I needed to breathe. It was surreal.”

What was a natural next step for many newly minted college students was monumental for Blevins: She would be the first in her family to attend college. As a first-generation college student, she faced the challenges and triumphs that each new student would encounter, but she had to navigate the ins and outs of college while at the same time fulfilling dreams of her entire family.

“I didn’t want to fail for me,” she says, “and I didn’t want to fail for my family.”

Today’s first-generation students at ECU echo that sentiment. While they learn how to be successful students and balance their goals with the expectations of those around them, the university looks for ways to encourage and retain them.

This student population is finding itself increasingly in the spotlight. That’s not only because of student demand but also because first-generation students are setting the bar for future generations in their families—and for a vibrant, prepared workforce in the region and beyond.

Like Blevins, first-generation students often lack the guidance that other students begin college with, so they adapt and learn by trial and error by finding what helps them succeed in the classroom and in life. After graduation, Blevins created a program in the Union County Division of Social Services that focuses on educating parents accused of or convicted of child abuse or neglect.

As her family drove away on her first day at ECU, Blevins smiled to herself and her family to pursue higher education, she knew it was a vital step, although she was intimidated.

“There were more people on this campus than there were in my hometown,” she says. Woodle’s first semester didn’t go as planned—she sank into a depression because of the academic expectations and the pressure surrounding her and began skipping class.

“Tired and like a flashback to my teen angst years,” she says. “I felt like no one understood me.”

Woodle enrolled in a “probationary” section of COMD 1000 and found the motivation and resources she needed to repair her GPA and to believe in herself.

“It taught me to not only think about what everyone else is expecting of me but about what I expect of me,” Woodle says.

Sophomore public health major Seth Whitley is determined to become a physician assistant or doctor. During his first year, he wrestled with a singular question: If his parents found success without college, why couldn’t he, too? But he says he recognized the opportunity in college and enrolled.

“I found what I need to be here,” he says. “College has defined me as a person.”

Beginning first-generation students are setting the bar for future generations in their families—and for a vibrant, prepared workforce in the region and beyond. Like Blevins, first-generation students often lack the guidance that other students begin college with, so they adapt and learn by trial and error by finding what helps them succeed in the classroom and in life. After graduation, Blevins created a program in the Union County Division of Social Services that focuses on educating parents accused of or convicted of child abuse or neglect.

As her family drove away on her first day at ECU, Blevins smiled to herself and welcomed the journey.

“Let’s do this,” she said.

Charting a course

At ECU, efforts are underway to more clearly identify incoming first-generation students, and many of them and their parents take advantage of information sessions during New Student Orientation. Many students sign up for special sections of COMD 1000: Student Development and Learning in HigherEducation, which works on students’ decision-making, time-management and study skills.

The course is taught by Linda Mellish, associate director of research and assessment in Campus Living and the Office of Student Transitions. Mellish contacts each eligible student for the college, and she becomes a personal cheerleader and disciplinarian for each one who signs up. She wants them to succeed, and she knows first-generation students face a range of emotions when they begin college.

These feelings can range from guilt from being the only one in the family to have the opportunity for college to outright financial worries. Then there is the “imposter phenomenon,” which presents students with constant internal arguments that they don’t belong in college, that they can’t cut it.

“These students are the first,” Mellish says. “They are taking a giant leap into this unknown territory for themselves and their families.”

She should know. Mellish herself is a first- generation student, earning two music degrees from ECU before going to Purdue University to complete a master’s degree and a doctorate.

“I have a belief in these kids,” she says. “I am one of them, and that has never left me.”

Her students know that. Brittany Woodle, a junior elementary education major from Robbinston, was determined to go to college to fulfill her dream of becoming a teacher. While she would be the only person in her family to pursue higher education, she knew it was a vital step, although she was intimidated.

“I drank my experience will definitely make me a better teacher,” she says.

T oday’s first-generation students at ECU and their families are skills they have to learn before they reach college. For many, knowing who’s a first-generation student depends on whether the students fill out a Federal Application for Federal Student Aid and identify as first- generation. That information is neither required nor verified. Students may also identify themselves as first-generation on a survey during student orientation and on the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement. According to results from the 2014 BCSSE, 32 percent of students who responded to the survey reported as first- generation with neither parent having any college education.

On the same survey, 55 percent of students reported as first- generation with neither parent earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree. The College Board, a not-for- profit organization whose mission is to expand access to higher education, offers a section on its website to counselors and parents earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree.

This pioneering adventure

East Carolina University is making first-generation students a special focus as universities nationwide do likewise. By identifying and tracking the first-generation student population—as ECU is doing with those who began classes in fall 2014—the university can determine what services and programs it needs to offer these students.

“It’s more than just identifying another student population that needs assistance measures,” says Linda Mellish, associate director of research and assessment in Campus Living and the Office of Student Transitions. First- generation students come to campus with stereotypes that they’re more likely to fail because they have been no one before to achieve what they are striving for and because there are skills they have to learn before they reach college.

“Knowing who’s a first-generation student depends on whether the students fill out a Federal Application for Federal Student Aid and identify as first- generation. That information is neither required nor verified. Students may also identify themselves as first-generation on a survey during student orientation and on the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement. According to results from the 2014 BCSSE, 32 percent of students who responded to the survey reported as first- generation with neither parent having any college education.

On the same survey, 55 percent of students reported as first- generation with neither parent earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree. The College Board, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to expand access to higher education, offers a section on its website to counselors and parents earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree.

This pioneering adventure

East Carolina University is making first-generation students a special focus as universities nationwide do likewise. By identifying and tracking the first-generation student population—as ECU is doing with those who began classes in fall 2014—the university can determine what services and programs it needs to offer these students.

“It’s more than just identifying another student population that needs assistance measures,” says Linda Mellish, associate director of research and assessment in Campus Living and the Office of Student Transitions. First- generation students come to campus with stereotypes that they’re more likely to fail because they have been no one before to achieve what they are striving for and because there are skills they have to learn before they reach college.

“Knowing who’s a first-generation student depends on whether the students fill out a Federal Application for Federal Student Aid and identify as first- generation. That information is neither required nor verified. Students may also identify themselves as first-generation on a survey during student orientation and on the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement. According to results from the 2014 BCSSE, 32 percent of students who responded to the survey reported as first- generation with neither parent having any college education.

On the same survey, 55 percent of students reported as first- generation with neither parent earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree. The College Board, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to expand access to higher education, offers a section on its website to counselors and parents earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree.

This pioneering adventure

East Carolina University is making first-generation students a special focus as universities nationwide do likewise. By identifying and tracking the first-generation student population—as ECU is doing with those who began classes in fall 2014—the university can determine what services and programs it needs to offer these students.

“It’s more than just identifying another student population that needs assistance measures,” says Linda Mellish, associate director of research and assessment in Campus Living and the Office of Student Transitions. First- generation students come to campus with stereotypes that they’re more likely to fail because they have been no one before to achieve what they are striving for and because there are skills they have to learn before they reach college.

“Knowing who’s a first-generation student depends on whether the students fill out a Federal Application for Federal Student Aid and identify as first- generation. That information is neither required nor verified. Students may also identify themselves as first-generation on a survey during student orientation and on the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement. According to results from the 2014 BCSSE, 32 percent of students who responded to the survey reported as first- generation with neither parent having any college education.

On the same survey, 55 percent of students reported as first- generation with neither parent earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree. The College Board, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to expand access to higher education, offers a section on its website to counselors and parents earning a bachelor’s degree or above—meaning one or both parents might have attended college but never completed it or earned a degree.
always adamant about that next step after high school, and Lopez dove headfirst into scholarship applications that proved fruitful. She received an Access Scholarship and is also in the Walter and Marie Williams Leadership Awards Program, among other honors. Lopez says she is adjusting well to her first semester and is ready to get involved in student government, club sports and other activities. She also wants to create an organization for Hispanic students to meet and form bonds. Her experience as a first-generation student partly fueled that drive.

“It’s important because it shows that college is for everyone,” Lopez says. “It shows that diversity and openness.”

Promises for tomorrow

Jessie Smith almost has her degree. Tears welled in her eyes as she filled out her application to graduate in December. The communication major from Winterville will be the first in her family to earn a college degree. Smith completed the university transfer program at Pitt Community College before enrolling at ECU. She worked on the requirements of various majors and almost gave up hope before she found her niche and flourished. The rocky road was worth it, she says.

“We as first-generation graduates are unlocking the door to our future and the ability to help grow our nation in a positive direction,” Smith says. “We may have nothing to lose, but we have everything to gain.”

Nursing student Emmanuel Moreno-Ortiz sees opportunity before him as well. He is slated to also graduate in December with plans to pursue a career in anesthesiology or elsewhere in the medical field.

“I’m still reaching new waters, but it’s been mostly positive pressure,” Moreno-Ortiz says. “I’m using school to find my destiny.” Moreno-Ortiz was the first in his family to attend high school, so pursuing a college degree makes his parents proud, even if they don’t always understand the subject matter in his textbooks.

“It’s important for universities to retain first-generation students because it will fuel others to come in,” he says, “other generations of the same family. A big part of that is that I’m already here.”

Building that access to education across families has implications that reach further.

“East Carolina has always been about access and service to the region,” says Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor for student affairs. To Regina Whitemore ’14, that commitment from the university, her family and herself helped her earn a degree in information technology. She grew emotional when she recalls the struggles she overcame from academics to financial responsibilities and red tape that broke more easily for other students.

“If I feel that my time at East Carolina and these difficulties I had melded me into a stronger individual, a leader and a go-getter,” Whitemore says. “Too many times I could have buckled under the pressure when things got difficult, but I’m a Pirate. We don’t give up.”

We’re not just the student bookstore, we carry a wide selection of East Carolina merchandise and apparel in our stores.

As part of the University, we’re able to return profits to benefit scholarships and support campus programs.

Whether you’re taking in a show at Wright Auditorium or watching the Pirates play ball, we hope you’ll shop with us whenever you’re on campus! Go Pirates!
From foul balls to fair calls

Sheilah Cotten ’75 ’77 expanded athletic opportunities for women

BY JACKIE DRAKE PHOTOGRAPHY BY CLIFF HOLLIS
Growing up in Fuquay-Varina in the 1960s, Sheilah Cotten’s only chance to participate in competitive sports before she entered high school was retrieving foul balls during boys’ baseball games.

Like everything else this resourceful coach and athletics administrator went on to accomplish in her life after graduating from East Carolina University, Cotten put her considerable energy and competitive spirit to the task.

“There was not a foul ball to be lost if I worked a game,” she recalls with a laugh. “I participated in anything I could, but I couldn’t really play; women’s opportunities were very limited back then.”

Things have changed when it comes to women’s competitive sports. Cotten has
gave her the confidence to speak up in the classroom as a teacher, on the court as a coach and in the boardroom as an administrator.

Opportunity opens
Cotten played basketball in high school but didn’t think she could continue at the collegiate level. But during her junior year of high school, she began to hear about women’s basketball teams forming on college campuses. She first heard about ECU when head basketball coach Catherine Bolton came to watch her high school play in Rocky Mount during her senior year and recruited her for the Pirates.

“I was excited for the opportunity to play basketball on a college campus and to continue my career in sports,” Cotten says. “That’s what brought me to ECU. I didn’t really know anything about ECU until she came and watched me play.”

Bolton was ECU’s first professional women’s basketball coach. Women’s basketball has more than 100 years of history at East Carolina, with extramural teams formed as early as 1915. Competition play against other colleges began in the 1930s. Official conference play began under Bolton’s direction in the 1969-1970 season, shortly before Cotten arrived on campus.

“From the time I could dribble a basketball, I had always watched the boys play,” she says. “I knew I wanted to go to a university where there would be a strong athletic program.”

Cotten majored in health and physical education and remained at ECU to complete her master’s degree in health education. Her physical education instructors and her coaches were her role models, she says, for learning how to teach and coach others.

“ECU began to open my eyes to all the opportunities for women in sports,” she says. “It provided me with… outstanding peers who I could learn from.”

An ECU advisor also helped her find her first job, pointing to an opening at Louisburg College. She was a key figure in the National Junior College Athletic Administration from 1992 to 2000, where she worked to expand sports opportunities for women at two-year and community colleges in the Southeast and throughout the country.

Cotten does not describe those things as accomplishments but rather as teaching young women to do their best and to push themselves to the limit of their capabilities.

“I chose to be the best I could be on the court, in the classroom and as a coach because it simply feels good to know you have given your all,” Cotten says. “To value the opportunity, do your best, have no regrets, that is still what I share today with the students I teach.”

East Carolina is where she learned how to do that. Playing basketball at ECU and competing at such a high level, says Cotten,

A leader in the field of women’s collegiate athletics, Cotten has pursued equality and opportunities for all. She was a record-setting member of the ECU women’s basketball team shortly after conference play began. She also played on the volleyball team and in 1981 became the first female athlete inducted into the ECU Athletics Hall of Fame.

Cotten coached women’s sports and some men’s sports at Louisburg College for 28 years. She was also a key figure in the National Junior College Athletic Administration from 1992 to 2000, where she worked to expand sports opportunities for women at two-year and community colleges in the Southeast and throughout the country.

Cotten does not describe those things as accomplishments but rather as teaching young women to do their best and to push themselves to the limit of their capabilities.

“I chose to be the best I could be on the court, in the classroom and as a coach because it simply feels good to know you have given your all,” Cotten says. “To value the opportunity, do your best, have no regrets, that is still what I share today with the students I teach.”

East Carolina is where she learned how to do that. Playing basketball at ECU and competing at such a high level, says Cotten,

opened the door to more opportunities for all. She was a record-setting member of the ECU women’s basketball team shortly after conference play began. She also played on the volleyball team and in 1981 became the first female athlete inducted into the ECU Athletics Hall of Fame.

Cotten coached women’s sports and some men’s sports at Louisburg College for 28 years. She was also a key figure in the National Junior College Athletic Administration from 1992 to 2000, where she worked to expand sports opportunities for women at two-year and community colleges in the Southeast and throughout the country.

Cotten does not describe those things as accomplishments but rather as teaching young women to do their best and to push themselves to the limit of their capabilities.

“I chose to be the best I could be on the court, in the classroom and as a coach because it simply feels good to know you have given your all,” Cotten says. “To value the opportunity, do your best, have no regrets, that is still what I share today with the students I teach.”

East Carolina is where she learned how to do that. Playing basketball at ECU and competing at such a high level, says Cotten,

opened the door to more opportunities for all. She was a record-setting member of the ECU women’s basketball team shortly after conference play began. She also played on the volleyball team and in 1981 became the first female athlete inducted into the ECU Athletics Hall of Fame.

Cotten coached women’s sports and some men’s sports at Louisburg College for 28 years. She was also a key figure in the National Junior College Athletic Administration from 1992 to 2000, where she worked to expand sports opportunities for women at two-year and community colleges in the Southeast and throughout the country.

Cotten does not describe those things as accomplishments but rather as teaching young women to do their best and to push themselves to the limit of their capabilities.

“I chose to be the best I could be on the court, in the classroom and as a coach because it simply feels good to know you have given your all,” Cotten says. “To value the opportunity, do your best, have no regrets, that is still what I share today with the students I teach.”

East Carolina is where she learned how to do that. Playing basketball at ECU and competing at such a high level, says Cotten,

opened the door to more opportunities for all. She was a record-setting member of the ECU women’s basketball team shortly after conference play began. She also played on the volleyball team and in 1981 became the first female athlete inducted into the ECU Athletics Hall of Fame.

Cotten coached women’s sports and some men’s sports at Louisburg College for 28 years. She was also a key figure in the National Junior College Athletic Administration from 1992 to 2000, where she worked to expand sports opportunities for women at two-year and community colleges in the Southeast and throughout the country.

Cotten does not describe those things as accomplishments but rather as teaching young women to do their best and to push themselves to the limit of their capabilities.

“I chose to be the best I could be on the court, in the classroom and as a coach because it simply feels good to know you have given your all,” Cotten says. “To value the opportunity, do your best, have no regrets, that is still what I share today with the students I teach.”

East Carolina is where she learned how to do that. Playing basketball at ECU and competing at such a high level, says Cotten,
To learn how to compete can bring out and talents, she says. The fear of failure and discover hidden gifts. Participation in sports is one way to reduce with teamwork and a common purpose. A greater appreciation of what can be done she says, along with a belief in self and a she did: Sport builds strength of character, Cotten is clear about why she chose the path.

Turning opportunities into lessons

Cotten also opened doors for countless others at schools throughout the region through her leadership in the NJCAA. She established sports procedures for women’s fast-pitch softball, implementing divisional play and even international play. She oversaw various sports and held several positions culminating in NJCAA Region X women’s director of athletics.

In 2007, she was inducted in the Louisburg College Athletic Hall of Fame, and in 2010, she was inducted into the NJCAA Sports Hall of Fame. She was recognized as one of the “Top 100 Female Athletes for 100 Years” by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

“She’s a pioneer in women’s athletics,” says Louisburg College Athletic Director Mike Holloman. “She brings a lot of passion and excitement and she’s always looking for teachable moments. She’s touched a tremendous amount of lives here at Louisburg and in our region. And she hasn’t slowed down.”

“For me to work a single day, I just go and play every day,” Cotten says.

“A second chance”

Cotten is clear about why she chose the path she did: Sport builds strength of character, she says, along with a belief in self and a greater appreciation of what can be done with teamwork and a common purpose.

Participation in sports is one way to reduce the fear of failure and discover hidden gifts and talents, she says.

“To learn how to compete can bring out the best in you,” she says. “Something as simple as being able to throw the ball back into the game... I can remember the exhilaration of that, being able to pick up that baseball and throw it to the coach.”

All kids enjoy competition, she says. “That is not a gender-related thing at all. It’s universal to all kids. They want to be able to play.”

Heather Ross, a faculty member at Berea University in Georgia who played basketball and softball under Cotten in the 1990s, described her coach as “energetic and excited about the game.”

“She taught us how to carry ourselves, how to dress and speak professionally, to speak the truth and own what you’re saying,” Johnson says.

Turning opportunities into lessons

Cotten is clear about why she chose the path she did: Sport builds strength of character, she says, along with a belief in self and a greater appreciation of what can be done with teamwork and a common purpose.

Participation in sports is one way to reduce the fear of failure and discover hidden gifts and talents, she says.

“You know what really hit home for me,” Johnson says. “I was going through a lot of personal things and dealing with depression and low self-esteem. Coach Cotten helped me find myself.”

That second chance, Johnson says, may have saved her life. “I really messed up... If she had sent me away, I don’t know what I would’ve done. I may have considered suicide.”

Johnson credits Cotten’s caring leadership and high expectation for her success—and pains what she learned from her along to other young people.

“She taught us how to carry ourselves, how to dress and speak professionally, to speak the truth and own what you’re saying,” Johnson says.

Johnson is involved with AmeriCorps, a program where term work with FEMA to get a grant for college. “What coach Cotten instilled in me, I instill in these young people,” Johnson says.

Cotten says her leadership style is based on thinking positively. “Forever the optimist, I consider a failure or a great challenge a valuable learning opportunity,” she says.
Creating her shot

Already armed with her degree, Jada Payne sets her sights on a pro career.
In the classroom. She’s already graduated
player and teammate.
her game.”
“She wants to make sure she has no flaws in
one of the hardest workers, that makes
every single day one of your best players is
work for,” she says of her success
“It’s always something I had to
study hall, she has some advice. And it’s the
same as on the court.
“Well, that’s because I worked hard and I
worked my way out of it,” she says.
Proving her potential
Growing up in Hickory, Payne played
basketball from a young age—younger than
the rules allowed. “I was the smallest,” she says.
“My mom begged them to let me
play at 4.
“Basketball was always a constant. I never
stopped playing.”
Her mother, Amanda Forney-Freeman, was a
college basketball player at Lees-McRae and
West Virginia Tech and was inducted into
the Hall of Fame at WVU Tech in 2011.
“Shes everything a parent would want in a
child,” says Forney-Freeman. “And she always
keeps God first. I know that’s where all her
success has come from.”
During her senior year of high
school, Payne grew about 3 inches
and led her Hickory High School
team to a 28-3 record and the state
finals in 2010-2011. She was a
McDonald’s All-America nominee.
Even though she showed potential,
she was slender and hadn’t played
enough at the AAU level to draw the
eyes of many college coaches. She
liked the staff at La Salle University
in Philadelphia, so she headed north.
There, she made the Atlantic 10
All-Rookie Team and was named the
team’s rookie of the year.
Her mom had encouraged Payne,
who had never been far from
home, to broaden her horizons, but
Philadelphia might have been a little
too far too fast. After her freshman
year, she decided to transfer.
“ECU was one of the schools I kept
in the back of my mind,” she says.
Macy offered her a chance to play
for the Pirates, and Payne took it.
After redshirting her first season at
ECU, she started all 31 games and
led the Pirates in scoring in 2013-
2014 at 18.4 points per game. She earned
All-Conference USA First Team honors
and was a member of the Conference USA
Commissioner’s Honor Roll and the ECU
Athletics Director’s Honor Roll.
Last season, she started 32 of 33 games,
scoring in double-digits in 31, led the Pirates
in scoring in 23 games and scored 20 or
more points 11 times.
She finished last season ranked 17th in the
Pirates’ all-time scoring list with 1,132. By
the end of the season, she had made 80
three-pointers, breaking her own school
record. She also broke her own school
record in free-throw percentage with a mark of
.865, which also topped the conference.
“She did what it takes people to a career to do,”
Macy says. “She basically did it in a year-and-
a-half. Jadis’ breaking Jadis’ own records.”
During the season, she averaged a
team-best 17.1 points and 5.5 rebounds. In the
Women’s NIT, she scored a total of 41
points in two games.
She also was selected to the All-American
Athletic Conference First Team. She twice
received player of the week accolades and
made the conference weekly honor roll five times.
ECU named her its Female Athlete of the
Year. She also made the 2014-2015 American
Athletic Conference All-Academic Team.
She’s also added about 25 pounds of muscle
to her frame, a tangible sign of the effort she
puts into getting better.
It’s part of the game plan for Payne.
“Anywhere you go requires a lot of hard
work and dedication,” she says.

Pro prospects
The 2016 draft will be held Sept. 24, and
Payne ranked 38th among eligible players
before the season started. For now, that
puts her just outside the 12-team, three-
round draft—but very much in the draft
circulation.
“Her versatility and athleticism, her ability
to guard multiple positions and her accuracy
behind the 3-point line would mean WNBA
teams should look at her in the draft,” says
Traci Lacey, a former college basketball
player at N.C. State and coach and general
manager in the WNBA.
And if she is drafted, the benefits from ECU
would be significant.
“For the overall program, it speaks to
ECU women’s basketball’s commitment to
excellence and total player development,”
Lacey says.
Payne’s success in the classroom could also
play in her favor.
“As long as she can carry those smarts over to
the basketball court, she’ll be fine,” Lacey says.
For now, Payne is focused on this season.
She wants to be more aggressive, get in even
better shape and hit even more big shots.
“I want to be the best I can be for this team,”
she says. “I want to give every last bit of
energy I have for this team.”

Athletics Director’s Honor Roll.
Commissioner’s Honor Roll and the ECU

Women’s Fastbreak,
ECU women’s basketball
Heather Macy is clear
about her expectations
this season: a run in the
NCAA Tournament.
“I really feel like it’s
going to be a breakout
year for our program,”
she said at the Oct. 6
women’s basketball
media day.
“We’re expecting to be
in the Sweet 16,” said
senior forward I’Tiana
Taylor. “That’s what we’re saying in practice
and that’s what we hold ourselves to in practice.”
The Pirates opened their
season Nov. 13 against Texas-Rio Grande Valley
in the Islanders Classic
in Corpus Christi, Texas.
The 10-game conference slate begins Dec. 30.
See a broadcast of each game
on the CWSN Network.
Full schedule, including
game times, is available

After three straight
20-win seasons that
included postseason play in the Women’s
NIT, ECU women’s
basketball coach
Heather Macy is clear
about her expectations
this season: a run in the
NCAA Tournament.
“I really feel like it’s
going to be a breakout
year for our program,”
she said at the Oct. 6
women’s basketball
media day.
“We’re expecting to be
in the Sweet 16,” said
senior forward I’Tiana
Taylor. “That’s what we’re saying in practice
and that’s what we hold ourselves to in practice.”
The Pirates opened their
season Nov. 13 against Texas-Rio Grande Valley
in the Islanders Classic
in Corpus Christi, Texas.
The 10-game conference slate begins Dec. 30.
See a broadcast of each game
on the CWSN Network.
Full schedule, including
game times, is available
The Greens encourage ’66 classmates to attend reunion

Eddie Greene ’66 and his wife, Joan Greene ’66, are looking forward to reliving many happy memories of their time at East Carolina when their class reunites this spring. The Greens are helping the East Carolina Alumni Association recruit members of the class of 1966 to attend the Golden Alumni Reunion, which will be held May 5-6. Every year, the alumni association invites members of the 50th reunion class to revisit campus during commencement weekend.

“I had so many great experiences at East Carolina. It was a lot of fun,” Joan said. “We hope we get a lot of our classmates from the class of 1966 to attend the Golden Alumni Reunion, which will be held May 5-6. Every year, the alumni association invites members of the 50th reunion class to revisit campus during commencement weekend. We had a dorm mother to keep an eye on us.”

Eddie and Joan have been married 49 years. During their time on campus, they were involved with student government. Eddie served as president during his senior year as well as the homecoming committee.

“There were so many fun activities,” Eddie said. “We made lots of friends, and many of those continue to be our friends today.”

Eddie went on to law school at UNC-Chapel Hill and worked more than 30 years as a lawyer and judge. He is now a lawyer with Wynick Robbins in Raleigh. Eddie also served on the ECU Board of Trustees in the 1970s and on the ECU Board of Visitors when it was established.

After completing her education degree, Joan went on to graduate school at Chapel Hill, concentrating in literacy to become a reading recovery teacher. She has taught ever since and still teaches part-time today.

Last year’s Golden Alumni in the class of 1965 started a Golden Alumni Scholarship. So far, more than $4,700 has been raised to support scholarships of $2,500 for all ECU students.

More information on the Golden Alumni Reunion and the Golden Alumni Scholarship is at PirateAlumni.com/2016GAR.

Health Bowman named associate vice chancellor

Health Bowman has been named as ECU’s new associate vice chancellor of alumni relations and president of the alumni association. His first day at ECU was Oct. 12.

Bowman has 10 years of management and higher education leadership experience. Most recently, he served as director of outreach at the University of Arkansas. He has more than 20,000 dues-paying alumni members and nearly 2,500 dues-paying student members.

“This is a tremendous honor and honestly, very humbling,” said Bowman. “Pirate Nation has so much to be proud of. To be trusted to lead and grow alumni relations efforts at such a respected and innovative institution is the opportunity of a lifetime and a responsibility that I will take very seriously. I am excited to build on past successes and to blaze new paths for East Carolina and its alumni association.”

At Arkansas, Bowman led a team charged with outreach and engagement through innovative programs and collaborations with campus and community partners targeted to students, young alumni and alumni around the world.

Bohmans has a bachelor’s degree in hospitality management from Texas Tech University and a master’s degree in higher education leadership from the University of Arkansas.

Bowman has been married to his high school sweetheart, Ashley, since 2008. She is a speech-language pathologist specializing in treatment of geriatric patients recovering from post-operative and post-stroke impairments.

“Heath brings a wealth of knowledge, management skills, connections across the profession and vision to the position as well as commitment to make ECU and eastern North Carolina his family’s home,” said Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Christopher Dya. “The excitement here is contagious,” Bowman said. “The moment my wife, Ashley, and I set foot in Greenville, we knew that this was the place we were meant to be. It immediately felt like home. I feel lucky to be in a place where I can use my skill set and past experiences to benefit a place as special as ECU.

50th REUNION CLASS

Eddie and Joan Greene

Heath Bowman

John Israel ’82, Vice Chair
Norfolk, Va.

Olive ‘𝑡 innovate’ Williams ’12, Treasurer
Durham, N.C.

Mark Garner ’77, Secretary
Greenville, N.C.

Neal Crawford ’85, Immediate Past Chair
New York, N.Y.

Heath Bowman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations
Greenville, N.C.


Sheridan Barnes ’86, Micro, N.C.

Jim Bili ’79, Richmond, Va.

Nor Dorsey ’66, Winterville, N.C.

Ralph Flitch ’67, Neshoba, Va.

Jeff Foster ’83-McLean, N.C.

Kathie Frazier ’94, Raleigh, N.C.

Robin Good ’80, Katy, Texas

Duane Grooms ’60 ’82, Columbus, S.C.

James Hammond ’66, Poulsbo, Wash.

Kathy Harring ’90 ’95, Greenville, N.C.

Melissa Holden ’79, Raleigh, N.C.

Earl Howard ’81, Greenville, N.C.

Norfolk, Va.

Durham, N.C.

Greenville, N.C.

Richmond, Va.

Micro, N.C.

Greenville, N.C.

Raleigh, N.C.

Winterville, N.C.

Raleigh, N.C.

Raleigh, N.C.

Greenville, N.C.

Katy, Texas

Greek, N.C.

Poulsbo, Wash.

Greenville, N.C.

Greenville, N.C.

Raleigh, N.C.

Katy, Texas

Greenville, N.C.

Winterville, N.C.

Norfolk, Va.

Raleigh, N.C.

Raleigh, N.C.

Winterville, N.C.
Glenda Palmer-Moultrie '79 aims to connect students and alumni

Glenda Palmer-Moultrie '79 is a Pirate in more ways than one. As an alumna, parent, volunteer and leader, she knows the lifelong passion for East Carolina University begins well before graduation. “We need to get students more involved in the alumni association,” said Palmer-Moultrie, who is serving as the chair of the East Carolina Alumni Association Board of Directors for 2015–2016. “They need to see us on campus throughout their time here, not just read about us after graduation. The alumni association has value to students. This is their organization.”

Among Palmer-Moultrie’s goals for this year are expanding alumni association visibility on campus and increasing communication with students to let them know what the association offers them. These offerings include scholarships, opportunities to network with alumni and increasing communication and visibility on campus for this year are expanding alumni prospects. “I saw ECU for the first time at orientation,” she said. “I got here and I loved it.”

Palmer-Moultrie arrived at ECU not long after integration had occurred on campus, but overall, she said, race was not a big issue for her, and her time on campus was very positive. “Because of the experiences I had with traveling, I immersed better than most people,” she said. “I was busy just being Glenda. You have to be you. I made friends and got involved in lots of activities, including three years on the dance team. I had a great experience at ECU.”

She started as a nursing major but switched to recreation therapy. “You get a job right out of college at a school in Texas for children with profound mental disabilities. After that, she provided therapeutic recreation services for the city of Newport News, Virginia, where she advocated for people with disabilities. Then she worked in Maryland, where she worked for more than 20 years organizing children’s camps and other recreational opportunities.

“I was so blessed to be surrounded by people who supported me,” she said. “I wouldn’t have gone into this profession if it weren’t for my experience at ECU.”

When the city of Rockville began making budget cuts, she decided to turn her passion for traveling into a second career. She opened LBI Travel and Tours in 2010 and recently celebrated the company’s fifth anniversary. “I decided to step out of my comfort zone and take on this challenge to turn my passion into another career,” she said. “In both my careers, I want to help people enjoy life, and I’m able to do all of this because of everything I learned at East Carolina.”

Her children, Josh and Jessica, decided on their own to come to ECU as well. Josh graduated in 2014 with a music performance degree and now teaches music in Montgomery County, Maryland. Jessica is studying communication and political science. “I didn’t want to make them come here, but I was so happy with their decisions,” she said. “We have friends and a church family here, so I felt very comfortable sending them here. It’s like a second home.”

Palmer-Moultrie likes helping students from Maryland make the transition down south to ECU. She first got involved with the alumni association by attending the Performing Arts Series. 

Where Pirate Memories Continue... “Cypress Glen has cornered the market on customer service. With all the places I have visited, I have never seen a stronger desire to please the customer. Every staff person cheerfully does their job.”

A Wayne County native, Rudy Alexander graduated from East Carolina University in 1952 earning a degree in social studies. He later served in ECU and earned an M.A. degree in administration in 1955. Rudy proudly worked at ECU for 33 years beginning in 1962. His lengthy tenure involved numerous responsibilities such as managing Wright Auditorium, directing the student center, and chairing the Performing Arts Series. Rudy was humbled when he learned that the Performing Arts Series was named in his honor upon his retirement. Rudy’s favorite performers were classical pianists Arthur Rubenstein and Van Cliburn, and violinist Itzhak Perlman. He fondly remembers booking comedian Flip Wilson for his very first college performance. Rudy is married to his wife, June, 55 years and are discovering old and new friends living at Cypress Glen.
Moments for Membership
Members of the East Carolina Alumni Association receive many benefits, including special communication, access to exclusive services, discounts on alumni events. One benefit is a weekly e-mail featuring a discount at a particular retailer or restaurant. ECU is partnering with Alumni Access to provide our members with discounts at local and national companies such as Men’s Wearhouse, Eddie Bauer, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and more. In addition to this and other benefits, members enjoy feeling pride in supporting scholarships for students, award for alumni and faculty, and other programs that strengthen ECU. To learn more about all of our benefits and become a member, visit PirateAlumni.com/Membership. Call 252-ECU-GRAD or e-mail ecualumni@ecu.edu.

Alumni Scholarship applications due Jan. 31
The East Carolina Alumni Association is accepting online applications for Alumni Scholarships for the 2016-2017 academic year through Jan. 31. Each spring, Alumni Scholarships are awarded to full-time undergraduate students with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher for the following academic year. In addition to academic success, scholarships are awarded to recipients based on demonstrated leadership and volunteer service. Along with the application form, students should include one signed letter of recommendation. Both must be submitted online. To receive a scholarship, recipients must be present at the Alumni Scholarship Luncheon, which will be held April 30.

From its founding in 2005 through the 2014-2015 school year, the Alumni Scholarship program has awarded 224 scholarships totaling more than $350,000. More information is at PirateAlumni.com/Scholarships.

Become a Privateer!
The East Carolina Alumni Association is always in need of volunteers all across Pirate Nation. Now known as Privateers, these volunteers serve as initial points of contact for alumni in their region, helping to keep alumni connected and informed. Privateers can plan events or just help spread the word. Training is provided through an orientation session, and staff support is always available. For more information, to become a Privateer for your area or to volunteer in any other capacities, contact Shawn Moore ’91 ’98, director of alumni programs, at 252-328-5775 or mooresh@ecu.edu.

Join our Board of Directors
The East Carolina Alumni Association Board of Directors seeks new members to serve starting in 2016. Applications are being accepted online through Dec. 15. The association seeks an enthusiastic and diverse group of alumni and supporters to serve ECU Board members, guide staff and volunteers in carrying out the missions of the association and university. Gain service and leadership experience while working to advance ECU. New terms start July 1 and last three years. Board members, who serve on a volunteer basis, are expected to maintain active membership in the alumni association and attend four meetings a year, among other expectations as stated online.

Sponsorships allow more proceeds from events to go to our scholarship fund and other programs, so the benefits go right back to students and alumni,“ said Shawn Moore ’91 ’98, director of alumni programs.

To learn more about sponsoring an alumni association event, contact Moore at mooresh@ecu.edu or 252-328-5775.

ECU and the manager of public affairs for PotashCorp Aurora.

“The alumni base is a loyal, influential, passionate group devoted to success at East Carolina University and throughout the region,” McKeithan said. “It speaks to the value of shared experiences and the quality of an ECU education.”

Sponsorships allow more proceeds from events to go to our scholarship fund and other programs, so the benefits go right back to students and alumni,“ said Shawn Moore ’91 ’98, director of alumni programs.

To learn more about sponsoring an alumni association event, contact Moore at mooresh@ecu.edu or 252-328-5775.

#PirateNationGives: ECU to participate in #GivingTuesday
Giving Tuesday, a global day for celebrating charity and giving, falls on Dec. 1, and ECU is gearing up celebrating charity and giving, falls on Dec. 1, and ECU is gearing up for Giving Tuesday by making your gift online or by calling 252-328-GIVE or visiting www.ecu.edu/PirateNationGives. Encourage others to do the same through your social networks with the hashtag #PirateNationGives.

Join the Alumni Association
Members of the East Carolina Alumni Association receive many benefits, including special communication, access to exclusive services, discounts on alumni events. One benefit is a weekly e-mail featuring a discount at a particular retailer or restaurant. ECU is partnering with Alumni Access to provide our members with discounts at local and national companies such as Men’s Wearhouse, Eddie Bauer, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and more. In addition to this and other benefits, members enjoy feeling pride in supporting scholarships for students, award for alumni and faculty, and other programs that strengthen ECU. To learn more about all of our benefits and become a member, visit PirateAlumni.com/Membership. Call 252-ECU-GRAD or e-mail ecualumni@ecu.edu.

Support the University
Privateers can plan events or just help spread the word. Training is provided through an orientation session, and staff support is always available. For more information, to become a Privateer for your area or to volunteer in any other capacities, contact Shawn Moore ’91 ’98, director of alumni programs, at 252-328-5775 or mooresh@ecu.edu.

PirateAlumni.com/Scholarships
The East Carolina Alumni Association is accepting online applications for Alumni Scholarships for the 2016-2017 academic year through Jan. 31. Each spring, Alumni Scholarships are awarded to full-time undergraduate students with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher for the following academic year. In addition to academic success, scholarships are awarded to recipients based on demonstrated leadership and volunteer service. Along with the application form, students should include one signed letter of recommendation. Both must be submitted online. To receive a scholarship, recipients must be present at the Alumni Scholarship Luncheon, which will be held April 30.

From its founding in 2005 through the 2014-2015 school year, the Alumni Scholarship program has awarded 224 scholarships totaling more than $350,000. More information is at PirateAlumni.com/Scholarships.

Become a Privateer!
The East Carolina Alumni Association is always in need of volunteers all across Pirate Nation. Now known as Privateers, these volunteers serve as initial points of contact for alumni in their region, helping to keep alumni connected and informed. Privateers can plan events or just help spread the word. Training is provided through an orientation session, and staff support is always available. For more information, to become a Privateer for your area or to volunteer in any other capacities, contact Shawn Moore ’91 ’98, director of alumni programs, at 252-328-5775 or mooresh@ecu.edu.

Join our Board of Directors
The East Carolina Alumni Association Board of Directors seeks new members to serve starting in 2016. Applications are being accepted online through Dec. 15. The association seeks an enthusiastic and diverse group of alumni and supporters to serve ECU Board members, guide staff and volunteers in carrying out the missions of the association and university. Gain service and leadership experience while working to advance ECU. New terms start July 1 and last three years. Board members, who serve on a volunteer basis, are expected to maintain active membership in the alumni association and attend four meetings a year, among other expectations as stated online.

Sponsorships allow more proceeds from events to go to our scholarship fund and other programs, so the benefits go right back to students and alumni,“ said Shawn Moore ’91 ’98, director of alumni programs.

To learn more about sponsoring an alumni association event, contact Moore at mooresh@ecu.edu or 252-328-5775.

#PirateNationGives: ECU to participate in #GivingTuesday
Giving Tuesday, a global day for celebrating charity and giving, falls on Dec. 1, and ECU is gearing up to participate for the second year in a row as #PirateNationGives. Alumni, friends, students, faculty and staff, and parents are encouraged to make a charitable donation online or over the phone to any area of the university.

Last December, ECU participated in its first Giving Tuesday, with more than 150 Pirates raising $67,000 in a 24-hour period to benefit scholarships, experiential learning, study-abroad opportunities, the arts and research. This year, ECU will rely on those who already support the university as well as those interested in making their first gift to make #PirateNationGives an even bigger success.

Please join us on Giving Tuesday by making your gift online or by calling 252-328-GIVE or visiting www.ecu.edu/PirateNationGives. Encourage others to do the same through your social networks with the hashtag #PirateNationGives.

Sponsorship Spotlight
PotashCorp Aurora, also known as PCS Phosphate, is one of the largest employers in eastern North Carolina and is a presenting sponsor of the East Carolina Alumni Association’s signature events for 2015-2016. These include Buccaneer Buffet, the ECU Alumni Scholarship Classic, the Alumni Awards Ceremony and Dinner and the Pirate Alumni Road Race and Fun Run.

PotashCorp Aurora sources phosphate ore (the remains of ancient sea life) and produces fertilizer, feed and industrial products to be shipped around the world. Located in Beaufort County, it is one of the largest such facilities in the world.

The decision to become a presenting sponsor was an easy one, according to W. Ray McKeithan, vice president of ECU and the manager of public and government affairs for PotashCorp Aurora.

“The alumni base is a loyal, influential, passionate group devoted to success at East Carolina University and throughout the region,” McKeithan said. “It speaks to the value of shared experiences and the quality of an ECU education.”

Sponsorships allow more proceeds from events to go to our scholarship fund and other programs, so the benefits go right back to students and alumni,” said Shawn Moore ’91 ’98, director of alumni programs.

To learn more about sponsoring an alumni association event, contact Moore at mooresh@ecu.edu or 252-328-5775.

Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability
Employees, the driving force of our operations
We’re more than a mining company. With more than 800 employees and an annual payroll of $75 million, PotashCorp Aurora helps drive eastern North Carolina’s economy.

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.
#PirateNationGives
December 1, 2015
#GivingTuesday

East Carolina Alumni Association

Dinner, and the Pirate Alumni Road Race and Fun Run.

ECU Alumni Scholarship Classic, these include Buccan...
The recipients of the alumni awards were recognized during Homecoming weekend at the Awards Ceremony and Dinner, in the Homecoming Parade and during halftime of the football game. This year’s recipients (l-r) Beverly Cox '67, Max Ray Joyner '55, and Catherine “Kitty” Joyner '59 (posthumously) received the Virgil Clark ’50 Distinguished Service Award; David Brody, Jeff Charles, Ray Martinez (not pictured) and Dr. Mary Beab received the Honorary Alumni Award; and Michael C. Aho ’02, W. Kendall “Ken” Clark ’81, Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Clark ’84 and Jeremy Williams ’01 received the Outstanding Alumni Award.

The Black Alumni Chapter Awards Banquet and Gala was held during Homecoming weekend. From left to right, the award recipients are Tarrick Cox ’96 ’07, Ledonia S. Wright Outstanding Faculty/Staff Award; Brig. Gen. James B. Graham ’81, Dr. Andrew A. Best Trailblazer Award; and Danny R. Scott ’84, Laura Marie Leary Elliott Courageous Leader Award.

Danny R. Scott ’84, recipient of the Laura Marie Leary Elliott Courageous Leader Award; Rachel Elliott Byers, daughter of Laura Marie Leary Elliott; Joseph Bryant, recipient of the first Laura Marie Leary Elliott Endowed Scholarship; and Reginald Elliott, son of Laura Marie Leary Elliott.

Hundreds of fans attended the away-game tailgates hosted by the East Carolina Alumni Association and Pirate Club at Florida and Navy.

The East Carolina Alumni Association and Office of Parent and Family Programs hosted the second annual Pirate Alumni Legacy Brunch during Family Weekend. This event recognizes families with two or more generations of Pirates.

PeeDee recently visited Charleston, South Carolina, to participate in an ECU-themed scavenger hunt with alumni.

Two flights of golfers battled rainy weather Sept. 25 to participate in the ECU Alumni Scholarship Classic sponsored by Hilton Greenville and PotashCorp Aurora. This year’s winners, who will represent ECU at the Acura College Alumni Team Championship in Pinehurst, were the “Old Pros,” Brian Edgerton, Stephen Latham ’13, Eric Miller and David Watkins.
Dennis and Barbara Pelletier have been in eastern North Carolina for nine years, but they’ve been supporters of their education since second grade. Dennis worked for many years as a second-grade teacher in Howard County. When it came time to retire, they looked at five states before deciding on North Carolina and then searched all over the state before settling in Chocowinity, 30 minutes east of Greenville.

“We wanted university culture, continuing education opportunities and, of course, the medical school was a big draw,” Dennis said.

“At the time, both of our children were living in the suburbs of Washington, DC,” said Barbara. “Now our son is in Charleston, and our daughter is in Richmond. It’s great to be so close to family while enjoying the community here. It’s remarkable, and we’re very fortunate how everything worked out.

The Pelletiers wanted to stay active during retirement, so they looked to ECU for opportunities.

“One of the things we saw that was needed at ECU was more options for continuing education,” Dennis said. ECU had offered free classes for seniors before, but they were discontinued during budget cuts. So, Dennis helped start the Lifelong Learning Program at ECU. The Lifelong Learning Program provides affordable courses, seminars and trips to local adults 50 and older so they can continue to enjoy learning without tests or grades. Dennis served on the program’s board for three years. Then he got an email saying the College of Education was looking for volunteers to evaluate scholarship applications.

“That was a natural fit for me,” Dennis said. “That was what started the idea to fund a scholarship.”

The first scholarship from the Dennis and Barbara Pelletier Teacher Education Scholarship Fund will be awarded in the 2016-2017 school year, thanks to an additional contribution from the Pelletiers while the original endowment grows. The scholarship will go to an upperclassman first-generation college student in financial need from North Carolina who wants to stay and teach in the state.

“We were able to customize it to how we wanted to help,” Dennis said.

The Pelletiers were the first in their families to graduate from college. Originally from New York, they met at State University of New York at Oneonta. Like ECU, Oneonta started as a normal school for teachers.

“We have an appreciation for what our education gave us. We see the benefits of public education,” Dennis said.

“We know how tough it is to be a public school teacher,” Barbara said. “We like the idea of helping someone get started. It’s so important to have good teachers. If we can help them get ready for their careers, we can also help so many children that need them.”

Though they did not attend ECU, the Pelletiers have enjoyed supporting and getting involved with the university. Many of their neighbors who grew up with them are also involved with ECU.

“It’s important for the community to support the university,” Dennis said. “The community gains so much more from the university. It’s only fair to give back.”

I would recommend getting involved with the university,” Barbara said. “It helps current students, it enriches life here. It’s a win-win for everyone.”

—Jackie Drake

For people who recover from major heart surgery, the main goal is getting back to normal. But East Carolina University alumnus Travis Burt wanted to do more than get back to normal. After recovering from bypass surgery in 2016, Burt and his wife, Cassie, wanted to give back to the Brody School of Medicine, whose doctors had provided such excellent care for their family.

The Burts established a distinguished professorship in honor of Dr. J. Mark Williams, chair of the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, who performed Burt’s surgery.

After an initial $50,000 endowment, the Burts wanted to increase their gift and found that the state of North Carolina will provide a 12-match for professorships starting at $333,330.

“The state’s match will be $167,000 for a grand total of $500,000,” Dennis said. “When we were reviewing our options, and the professorship came up with the match from the state, it was a no-brainer for us,” Burt said.

The Travis and Cassandra Burt Distinguished Professorship will be used to recruit outstanding faculty to the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, who will go on to educate East Carolina’s next generation of heart doctors.

“The heart center can use these funds to benefit other people’s lives 20-30 years from now,” Burt said. “We are very thankful and humbled at the opportunity to help in this way.”

While the Burts have been loyal supporters of the Pirate Club for 30 years, this was their first gift to endow a professorship. The Burts decided to add an additional $283,000 over the next five years to reach the match requirement. The state’s match will be $167,000 for a grand total of $500,000.

“People here in Carteret County always went to Duke or Raleigh, and they’ll continue to go if they don’t see other options,” Cassie Burt said. “We want to make sure people know East Carolina is the best option.”

The Burts have two children who attended Campbell University. Travis is a member of the Campbell University Board of Trustees, and Cassie recently joined the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation Board of Directors.

“The Burts' endowed professorship marks the beginning of a planned ‘grateful patient’ program at ECU,” University Advancement is in the process of hiring a new gift officer, preparing written materials and building relationships for this program, “East Carolina provides excellent care, so we have many grateful patients who are looking for a way to give back,” said Mark Notestine, president of the Medical & Health Sciences Foundation. “Our main goal is to help patients figure out the best way they can help based on their interests and our needs. It’s important to cultivate other sources of revenue so we can continue to provide a high level of care.”

Patients who would like to support the Medical & Health Sciences Foundation at ECU may contact Notestine at 252-744-5480 or notestinemk@ecu.edu.

—Jackie Drake
EAST CAROLINA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

He taught ‘Daredevil’ how to see without eyes

Actor Charlie Cox gives the credit to Joe Strechay ’01 for the good reviews of his performance as Matt Murdock, a blind lawyer who is imbued with extraordinary senses, in the new Netflix series Daredevil.

Streichay, who works for the American Foundation for the Blind, was a consultant to the producer when Daredevil began filming. He spent several days teaching Cox the subtle movements needed to be convincingly in the role.

The show debuted in April and quickly gained an audience. Netflix has signed up for 12 new episodes for 2016.

Student and teacher were back together in June for the 2015 Healin’ Keller Achievement Awards in New York, where Cox was recognized for raising public awareness about the blind.

“It is a genuine guy and he portrays a positive role model any way you look at it,” Strechay says about the British-born actor who first attracted attention in the 2007 film Standout.

Cox says the hardest acting lessons came when Strechay blindfolded him and led him on brisk walks down busy New York City sidewalks. “He was kind of freaked out, but he didn’t tell me that initially,” Strechay says. “I just wanted to show him how I travel.”

Streichay came to ECU from New Jersey with his twin brother, Daniel Strechay ’01. He says he lost most of his eyesight to a congenital condition during his freshman year. He and his brother pledged Sigma Pi and were majored in communication, with interests leading to political science.

After graduation, Joe enrolled at Florida State University for a master’s degree in methods to improve employment prospects for people with limited vision.

He joined AFB in 2008 and lives in Huntington, W.Va. He remains attached to campus through CommCrew, an alumni support group for the ECU School of Communication. His brother is manager of sustainability communications for PepsiCo and lives in the New York area.

Joe Strechay believes jobs are improving for people with limited vision.

“What I say is, we haven’t reached the pinnacle yet, but I can see progress being made.”

—Steve Totten, as quoted by Charlie Cox and Joe Strechay

Shellexus Dancy is a HealthCorps counselor at Latham Heights, Atlanta. Olisa. Jarrod Dennis is assistant superintendent for Person County Schools. He was director of technology services at NC State.

Dr. David Lawson works in the offices of Drs. Michels and Harrington, Greenville. He is an officer of the Alumni Association.

Jarrod Dennis ’07, Sister Oakes ’82, and Lisa Royal ’78, administers infrastructure services group in eastern North Carolina. He is an office and library assistant at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Michael Copeland is assistant events manager at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens, Charleston, S.C. Air Force Airman 1st Class Kyle T. Hedgepeth graduated military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Katie Kirk repeated as Carolina Women’s golf champion at Appalachian State University.

Hannah Troutman ’13 and Kick Brooks Miron on July 12 at White Leaf Baptist Church, Raleigh.

Trent Coley Barker ’11 of Lamond Ruth-Keith “Kiki” Moore at MacPherson Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, on June 15.

Adria Finch is project manager for the Office of Innovation, Sina, N.C. She was an economic development specialist at the Downtown Committee of Sina.

L. Royal is an office and library assistant at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

EAST CAROLINA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2015

Kathryn Carpio ’03, ninth-grade science teacher at Hope Middle School, Pitt County Schools’ Teacher of the Year. Finalists are Carrie Nolin ’08, CM, Epps Middle School; Matt Robinson ’09, Northwest Elementary; and Jill White ’31 ’39, Embroid Elementary.

Michael K. Brantley is assistant superintendent for Person County Schools. He was promoted to vice president of Bands at Rocky Mount High School.

Trent Coley Barker ’11 of Lamond Ruth-Keith “Kiki” Moore at MacPherson Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, on June 15.

The wedding party included C. M. Thomas Sallenger ’12, sister of Bands at Rocky Mount High School.

Nick and the Babies: Rob Wank, Graham Bailey, Nick Bailey and Dall Reed

You may not have heard the music that Nicholas Bailey ’03 plays at night with his band, Nick and the Babies, but you probably have heard the music he writes at his day job.

Bailey composes the theme music used on many cable TV shows. His music can be heard during Duck Dynasty, The District, Crime 360, My Deadly Appetite, Pit Bulls and Parolees and Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. He contributed musical passages to the 2014 PBS show The Editor and the Dragon, narrated by Morgan Freeman.

These pieces run from 30 seconds to two minutes long and set a musical mood to match the script without distracting from the action on screen.

“If you notice the music, something is not right,” says Bailey, who lives in Raleigh. “I try to enhance the vibe of the show without overdoing it. I’m just trying to sonically frame what is happening on the show.”

He got started in the TV theme music business seven years ago when a piece he wrote was chosen for an episode of 39 Kids and Counting. He eventually wrote music used on 48 episodes of the show. “I never really watched this show, but it was great to see it on the novelty chart,” he says with a laugh.

Writing TV theme music pays the rent while Bailey pursues a bigger musical dream. He wants to get back out on tour with Nick and the Babies, the Americana rock band he formed in 2008 with twin brother Graham Bailey ’03. Also in NATB, as the band is known, are Robert Wank ’03, Dall Reed, and Nick and the Babies and Wank and Matt in high school in New Bern.

NATB contributed a song to the 2011 Christmas album My Favorite Gifts, which also features the Avett Brothers. The band’s 2014 seven-song CD, Morning Light, is available on iTunes. The band has been off the road lately to rest and write new material while Nick crafts out TV theme music.

He says NATB has acquired a different sound. “For a long time we were doing strictly acoustic shows,” he says. “The venues that we were booking were more of a listening room atmosphere, and now we’ve gone fully electric and just playing as loud as possible. We’re definitely not restraining ourselves.”

NATB contributed a song to the 2011 Christmas album My Favorite Gifts, which also features the Avett Brothers. The band’s 2014 seven-song CD, Morning Light, is available on iTunes. The band has been off the road lately to rest and write new material while Nick crafts out TV theme music.
2009

Steven Anderson was named one of the 67 Influential Educators Who Are Changing the Way We Learn by Noble Education. He is a speaker and consultant who helps educators understand technology and social media. Amanda Kay Fosythe and Benjamin Guy Bell are on JetBlue’s Chapel Baptist Church. Kettle. She works at Martha Path Medical Center, Henderson. Megan Leigh Garner ’14 ’16 won a regional Edward R. Murrow Award for outstanding report on a tobacco farm in rural eastern North Carolina. She has been surrounded by country folk and their colorful language all his life. Beaman chronicles this long history in a forthcoming collection of the region’s most down-home sayings.

2008

Jim Matheny ’99 won a regional Edward R. Murrow Award for outstanding report on a tobacco farm in rural eastern North Carolina. He has been surrounded by country folk and their colorful language all his life. Beaman chronicles this long history in a forthcoming collection of the region’s most down-home sayings.

2007

Kelli Herrell ’07 ’10 is an assistant softball coach at the University of Louisiana. Montgomery College, 1011 N. Alabama Street, New Orleans, is her first female dentist. She was a member of the first class of the ECU School of Dental Medicine.

2006

Grant Caraway is manager for the Walter Davis Center at the N.C. Maritime Museum, Beaufort. Jill Druke (left) is senior director of public engagement at the Chicago Academy of Sciences and its Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. Keith Moore is vice president of analytical services at Metrix Contract Services, Greenville. Kristin Ann Mourning and James Ross Simon, Sr. are on ABC at LaGrange Christian Church, La Grange. She is a speech pathologist at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington. Brandon Needham is a project manager with SouthPoint Building Group.

2005

Tommy Spaulding ’81 ’86 is a professor and department head of Communications at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Frank L. Blum Construction, Lague Building, Salisbury. Jamie Rochelle is head boys basketball coach at Topaz High School, Hampstead.

2004

Lucy Grid is senior district executive for the Boy Scouts of America Southwestern Council, which includes more than 1,000 scouts in 10 counties from central to western North Carolina. Kristen Hedderly Souza was David Lee Barham on May 16 at The Umstead. The wedding party included Lauren Ravens Crabtree ’03 and Melissa Ritchie Riggle ’11. She teaches special education in the Wake County Public School System.

2003

Andrew Harris is CEO of Northeast Carolina Academy of Aerospace and Advanced Technologies, a charter school in Elizabeth City. Christopher Meadows ’89 ’90, N.C. Principal of the Year in 2014, was selected as principal of Pamlico High School, Bayboro. He was principal of Jones Senior High School, Trenton. Charles Parson is dean of the Edenton-Chowan campus of the College of the Albemarle. He was CDA’s State Board of Community Colleges and I.J. Reynolds Teacher of the Year in 2002.

2002

Mike Davis is a reporter with Bay Times and Record Observer, Centerville, Md. Caroline Gedeen is principal of Burgess Middle School, Pender County. She was an assistant principal and a curriculum specialist for grades 6-12 in Bladen County. Michael R. Macek, a senior forensic scientist with Matrics Contract Services, Greenville, was a principal process expert with Sonda. Preston Mitchell ’10 ’13 is a Redicksville city manager. He was Nashville town manager. Nick Petillo is an assistant strength and conditioning coach at Virginia Military Institute. Lexington. Kimberly Wade is a family nurse practitioner at Physicians Immediate Care. She is a staff nurse in the critical care unit at Lenox Memorial Hospital. Aaron Walker is strength and conditioning coach ataff High School, Gaffney, S.C.

2001

Billy Beaman ’75 of Elsen is raising a family of six on a tobacco farm in rural eastern North Carolina. He has been surrounded by country folk and their colorful language all his life. Beaman chronicles this long history in a forthcoming collection of the region’s most down-home sayings.

2000

Authentic leaders lead from the heart, according to Tommy Spaulding ’81. In this, his second book, he works that the values and principles that guide our lives and shape our ability to lead others are far more important than our title, our ability to crunch numbers or the impressive degrees we display on our walls. Illustrated with stories from his own life and from some of the leaders he has met and worked with over the years, Spaulding unpacks what those qualities mean, tells the almost loveless journey from the head to the heart and back and the way that intuition and emotion come to inform our leadership decisions.

1999

Editor’s note: Phil Beaman ’75 of Elsen is raising a family of six on a tobacco farm in rural eastern North Carolina. He has been surrounded by country folk and their colorful language all his life. Beaman chronicles this long history in a forthcoming collection of the region’s most down-home sayings.

1998

The Heart-Led Leader

Crimson Business

ISBN: 055341903X

144 pages, $9.99

1997

Mike Davis is a reporter with Bay Times and Record Observer, Centerville, Md. Caroline Gedeen is principal of Burgess Middle School, Pender County. She was an assistant principal and a curriculum specialist for grades 6-12 in Bladen County. Michael R. Macek, a senior forensic scientist with Matrics Contract Services, Greenville, was a principal process expert with Sonda. Preston Mitchell ’10 ’13 is a Redicksville city manager. He was Nashville town manager. Nick Petillo is an assistant strength and conditioning coach at Virginia Military Institute. Lexington. Kimberly Wade is a family nurse practitioner at Physicians Immediate Care. She is a staff nurse in the critical care unit at Lenox Memorial Hospital. Aaron Walker is strength and conditioning coach ataff High School, Gaffney, S.C.
2001
Pernell Griffin is assistant principal at New Life Christian Academy, Rocky Mount.

1998
Julie Finch is principal of C.G. Credle Elementary School, Oxford. Robin Faith High ’98 ’06 and Lemuel Green Jr. on May 2 at the Legacy Restaurant, Elm City. She works at the Pitt County Public Health Department. Deborah Kirkland Hunter was promoted to social work supervisor for the care coordination team at the Edgecombe County Health Department.

1997
Bryant Buck is executive director of the Mid-East Commission, a regional council of governments organization based in Washington, N.C. Kim Clayton exhibited her baskets in the Apple Gallery of the Stokes County Arts Council, Walnut Cove, in summer 2015. Erik Harris is a middle school administrator at Faith Christian Academy, Rocky Mount, where he plans to establish a band program. He was director of bands at Northern Nash High School, Rocky Mount, for 18 years. Bobby Simon is principal at West Perham High School, Burgaw. Gregory Sida was named to the board of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Greensboro and Port Hueneme, Calif. He is a strategic business development professional with Booz Allen Hamilton in Camarillo, Calif.

1996
Allan J. Garten is co-vice president of the American Association for Women Podiatrists. She is a podiatrist with Foot and Ankle Specialists of the Mid-Atlantic LLC, Washington, D.C. Scott Chase is town manager for Swansboro. Cheryl Sharp ’96 ’01 of Annapolis, Md., was one of several individuals recognized by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration with a 2015 Voice Award. She works for the National Council for Behavioral Health in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes SAMHSA employees and media professionals who educate the public about behavioral health.

1995
Michael Cowin ’95 ’01 is assistant city manager with the city of Greenville. He was Pitt County Schools’ assistant superintendent of finance. Dr. William S. Yancy Jr., associate professor in the Department of Medicine at Duke University Medical Center, is program director for the Duke Diet and Fitness Center. Dr. Michael Watterson is a rheumatologist with Summit Medical Group at Rheumatology Associates of East Tennessee, Knoxville. Terry Chris Whittaker is a mortgage loan consultant in the mortgage division of Four Oaks Bank, Raleigh.

1994
Michael Perry ’94 ’02 is superintendent of Westmoreland County (Va.) Public Schools. He was superintendent of Hertford County Public Schools.

1992
Sherrie Burns ’92 ’94 is principal at Mary Potter Middle School, Oxford. She was assistant principal for the past four years. Dr. Charles “Kerr” Dunham ’82 ’98 ’03 has

---

Harold Varner III ’12 made his PGA Tour debut in October at the Frys.com Open in California, where he stayed near the top of the leaderboard for most of the tournament. Varner moved up to the major tour after finishing in the 25th spot on the Web.com Tour’s 2015 money list.

---

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

Home Course of the East Carolina University Pirates
Member Managed & Operated • Legacy* and Student** Memberships Available • Plantation Style Clubhouse • Offering Members Breakfast, Lunch & Evening Dining, as well as a Member Bar/Lounge • Active Social Calendar • Wedding, Banquet & Meeting Spaces • Lighted Composition Tennis Courts • Competition Size Pool • Home to ECU Men’s & Lady’s Golf Teams • Lee Trevino Golf Course Voted “Best Place to Play” by 36-Golfweek Times

Play where the Pirates play! Mention this ad when you schedule your tee time for a Pirate Discoun t’ll off your green fees.

* Legacy Membership and **Student Membership. Call 252-328-6611 today for details.

---

Ironwood Golf & Country Club
Community College, received

Mark Potest, department head of the visual and performing arts program at Western Piedmont Community College, received second place in “Carolina’s Got Art, The Salon Show,” at Elder Gallery, The Salon Show,” at Elder Gallery, received second place in “Carolina’s Got Art,
Community College, received

Your Breaking News & Weather Authority

Lynnette Taylor
News at Six
Weeknights

Your Breaking News & Weather Authority

Your Breaking News & Weather Authority

B. L. I. V. E. G. I. V. E.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY
visit ECUPirateClub.com
or call 252.737.4540

ON BEHALF OF OUR
OVER 400 STUDENT-ATHLETES,
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
DEDICATION AND GENEROUS
SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT,
PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US.
The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.

The U.S. aquatics team coached by Grover Truslow held in Greece.
Want to create an East Carolina legacy and have a secure source of fixed payments for life? We can help with that.

Make a lasting impact by funding a Charitable Gift Annuity at ECU.

Benefits:
- Receive fixed payments to you for life
- Receive a charitable income tax deduction
- Benefit from payments that may be partially tax-free

Membership in the Leo W. Jenkins Society

Further the charitable work of one of the four supporting foundations for East Carolina University (East Carolina University Foundation, Inc., East Carolina University Health Sciences Foundation, Inc., East Carolina Alumni Association Foundation, or the East Carolina University Educational Foundation, Inc. (Pirate Club))

Contact us for more information or visit scaleup.ecu.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single Life</th>
<th>Two Lives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further charitable giving of East Carolina University

Want to create an East Carolina legacy and have a secure source of fixed payments for life? We can help with that.

Make a lasting impact by funding a Charitable Gift Annuity at ECU.

Benefits:
- Receive fixed payments to you for life
- Receive a charitable income tax deduction
- Benefit from payments that may be partially tax-free

Membership in the Leo W. Jenkins Society

Further the charitable work of one of the four supporting foundations for East Carolina University (East Carolina University Foundation, Inc., East Carolina University Health Sciences Foundation, Inc., East Carolina Alumni Association Foundation, or the East Carolina University Educational Foundation, Inc. (Pirate Club))

Contact us for more information or visit scaleup.ecu.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single Life</th>
<th>Two Lives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further charitable giving of East Carolina University

Want to create an East Carolina legacy and have a secure source of fixed payments for life? We can help with that.

Make a lasting impact by funding a Charitable Gift Annuity at ECU.

Benefits:
- Receive fixed payments to you for life
- Receive a charitable income tax deduction
- Benefit from payments that may be partially tax-free

Membership in the Leo W. Jenkins Society

Further the charitable work of one of the four supporting foundations for East Carolina University (East Carolina University Foundation, Inc., East Carolina University Health Sciences Foundation, Inc., East Carolina Alumni Association Foundation, or the East Carolina University Educational Foundation, Inc. (Pirate Club))

Contact us for more information or visit scaleup.ecu.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single Life</th>
<th>Two Lives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further charitable giving of East Carolina University
Paul Julian must have been shocked when he took his first look around the East Carolina dining hall in the spring of 1947. Examining the cooking and refrigeration equipment, which was more than 20 years old, he could see why a batch of spoiled milk had sickened several students recently.

“Student complaints about food and service at the college dining hall are loud and numerous,” the Tecoan student newspaper reported May 16, 1947. President John Messick had recruited Julian to run the dining hall for one reason: Julian knew how to serve good food for a crowd, fast. Most recently he had owned theFairwater, a popular seafood restaurant in Norfolk, Virginia.

Julian saw the dining hall was cooking and serving food the same way it had for 40 years. Only one or two entrees were prepared for each meal. When enrollment doubled, recipe amounts were doubled. Everyone ate the same bland, overcooked food. Students had to hurry because the dining hall was open just 90 minutes for lunch and dinner.

Julian persuaded the school to buy new ovens, freezers and steam tables. Then he trained the staff to operate the kitchen as a cafeteria with a broader menu and open longer hours. He moved into a basement apartment near the kitchen to lead the transition.

The conversion occurred during the break between the end of spring quarter and the start of summer school.

“With the new cafeteria set-up,” the Tecoan reportedJune 27, 1947, “the students are offered a larger variety of foods to select from, and because smaller quantities are cooked, better food is prepared.” Students soon were lining up to fill their plates. Particularly popular was an exotic new dish Julian added to the menu—spaghetti.

Many work-study students had jobs in the cafeteria. Julian’s son, Lt. Col. (Ret.) Robert Julian ’55 of Goldsboro, said his dad had a soft spot for students with empty stomachs and wallets. “Let’s just say there were one or two free meals served after the cafeteria closed,” he said with a wink.

With enrollment pushing 4,000 in 1959, the school unveiled a two-story addition to the old cafeteria. Students thought the new South Dining Hall was a modern marvel, with self-serve soda fountains and conveyer belts whisking away dirty plates. Today, it houses the school’s financial aid offices.

Julian continued running the cafeterias until he retired in 1968. He died in Greenville in 1981 at age 81.

Today, ECU has two cafeterias on Main Campus—Todd Dining Hall on College Hall and West End Dining Hall—and 26 other places where students can get a bite to eat.

— Steve Rumble
Approximately 4,700 guests, including more than 1,500 prospective students, visited campus during fall Open House. Presented by the ECU Office of Undergraduate Admissions, the event gave future Pirates an opportunity to gather information on admissions, financial aid, campus living and dining, as well as the academic and student life aspects of campus. Visitors enjoyed campus tours, a peek inside residence halls and lunch at one of several campus eateries.

Photo by Patrick Fay