Ancient answers
Discovering treasures in Jordan
More than 1,000 students had the chance to meet with 126 employers ranging from the Biltmore Company to Wells Fargo at the fall career fair, held at Minges Coliseum on Oct. 16.  

Photo by Cliff Hollis
Ancient answers
An ECU team unearths priceless treasures in Petra, Jordan.

‘Bold, distinctive and authentic’
ECU’s new strategic plan sets a confident path.

Old-school values
Quietly but consistently, Max Ray Joyner has nurtured East Carolina in much the same way the university nurtured the region.

Coaching home
Cliff Godwin is the latest alumnus who’s come back to ECU to coach.

On the cover: From left, ECU students Mansi Trivedi, Tara Stanko and Kathryn Parker, faculty member Megan Perry and student Laurel Appleton examine artifacts brought back from an archaeological dig in Petra, Jordan. Read more beginning on page 24.

Nina Davuluri, Miss America 2014, challenged ECU students to celebrate their diversity—whatever that may be—and to be accepting of others during her visit to campus Oct. 22.

Davuluri is the first Indian-American and second Asian-American to hold the Miss America title. The Syracuse, New York, native and daughter of Indian immigrants devoted her year of service to a platform of “Celebrating Diversity through Cultural Competency.”

“Everyone has a story, regardless of where the come from,” said Devuluri, “It’s not about agreeing with one another, or all believing the same thing, it’s about finding an understanding between all cultures and being able to communicate in an open and honest manner.”

Growing up as the only Indian-American in her school, Davuluri spoke about being harassed as a child because of her race and religion and the stereotypes she still faces today. “Your words have power,” she said. “Any time you speak, you are influencing someone.”

—Grace Haskin

Photo by Cliff Hollis

Photo by Jay Clark
Max Ray Joyner

Tropical Storm Ernesto was drenching Greenville in September 2006 and threatening to wash out the year’s first performance of the Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival.

Five distinguished musicians who were to star in the festival had arrived in Greenville just before the deluge began and were hunkered down in the homes of several Greenville families.

East Carolina announced that the campus was closing. That seemed to seal the festival’s fate because the musicians would not have a place to practice together before performing.

Festival artistic director Ara Gregorian racked his brain trying to come up with a plan. He called Max Ray Joyner ’55 to ask a favor.

Would the Joyners open their home to all five musicians for the next couple of days? Also, would Max Ray and his wife, Kitty, mind if the musicians also used their home as a practice facility?

Come on, Joyner said.

“That night they all came in around 9 o’clock, two ladies and three men,” Joyner recalls. “We had to move some furniture around and get out the trundle bed, but we got them all settled in.”

“It was like a sleepover at summer camp,” Gregorian says.

“We had a great time,” Joyner says. “They practiced all the next day in the playroom, which Kitty loved because she was a musician herself.”

The storm had blown out of town by Friday evening, and the campus reopened. The show went on.

“And then we did the concert, and to everyone’s surprise we did great because we had been able to practice together,” Gregorian says.

Joyner, who is the subject of our alumni profile in this issue, has nurtured his alma mater in many ways over the decades. He has funded several scholarships, served on the Board of Trustees and led many campus organizations.

He’s an iconic figure to many people at East Carolina. Opening his home to five soggy strangers is just one example why. Please turn to page 34 to read many more.
How do I subscribe?
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The ECU Foundation supports many scholarships. Learn how to help a student struggling with finances at the foundation’s website, www.ecu.edu/ecuf.

Where is your money most needed? The colleges, schools and programs within ECU have defined their funding priorities and posted them here: www.ecu.edu/ecuf/funding-priorities.cfm.

Another way to support ECU is to join the East Carolina Alumni Association and receive the magazine as well as other benefits and services. Minimum dues are $35. Visit www.piratealumni.com to learn how to remain connected.

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CAMPUS SAFETY

STORY REASSURING
I was glad to see the cover story regarding campus security and the sidebar on sexual violence in the latest issue of East magazine. I am sure it is very reassuring to parents, students and alumni. Keep up the good work.

—Martha Logemann, Winston-Salem

A STATUE OF JENKINS NEEDED
I fully agree with the “We Need Another Leo” item in the fall 2014 edition of the magazine but I want to take that concept one step further. I believe that East Carolina University, Greenville, eastern North Carolina and the state of North Carolina should honor Dr. Leo Jenkins with a life-size bronze statue on the campus. Those of us who attended East Carolina College before it even became a major university know what Leo Jenkins did for eastern Carolina. He saved it. And yes, we need to think about how desperate the region would be today had he not worked so tirelessly for that part of North Carolina. Having a statue of this great man on campus is way overdue. We can never repay him for the difference he made in our lives. I am confident a bronze statue of Leo Jenkins would be an inspiration to those who went to ECU, those who are there now and those who will be there in the future.

—T. Jerry Williams, Raleigh

ANOTHER ECU CONNECTION
In the fall 2014 edition of East, on page 49, the picture of Lt. Col. John Shirley ’92 (below) also has another ECU connection. The officer on the left is Maj. Gen. Jack Shanahan. Jack is married to our daughter, the former Laura Ann Green ’97. Laura received her BS degree in nutrition and she is a native of Franklin County. I thought this event was an interesting coincidence. There are many things that I am proud of ECU for, and among them is the quality of the publications that it presents to the public, and East is at the top of the list. Thanks for your efforts.

—John ’60 and Patricia Green ’59, Louisburg

‘YOUR ARTICLE INSPIRED ME’
Thank you very much for writing such a wonderful article about the work we do in my company. We really enjoy our community service activities and already we are working with Junior Achievement to raise money. Next weekend I am running a 5K with 20 of my employees to raise money for the American Heart Association for Central Florida, and we are on track to achieve our third year in a row where we donate $1.5 million in school supplies. Your article really inspired me to keep up the effort, and I wanted you to know my sincere appreciation.

—Tim Gomez ’92 ’95, Edgewater, Florida

We welcome your letters. Send them by email to easteditor@ecu.edu or by mail to East magazine, Howard House, Mail Stop 107, East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C. 27858-4353.

Bedsides and boardrooms
The pencil man makes his mark
A season of firsts
FALL 2014
All eyes on safety
Keeping campus secure
From zero to 142 majors in one year is rapid growth for a new degree program at East Carolina University. The university studies program has experienced that surge because its flexible curriculum appeals to a definite niche of students, officials said.

“We’re getting off to a very strong start,” said program director Rondall Rice. The first four graduates with the university studies degree graduated at the end of summer session. Twenty-three are on track to graduate this winter, Rice said.

ECU created the university studies major in response to the needs of students whose interests and talents don’t easily fit into any major.

Generally speaking, the students he sees come from two academic backgrounds, Rice said. “There are the journey students and the off-ramp students.

“Journey students didn’t find a passion for something, although they took a bunch of courses. “Off-ramp students are those that tried a traditional degree. They got pretty far into the major but changed their minds, so they try to transition into another major.”

The problem for both kinds of students, Rice said, is they sometimes get discouraged and drop out.

University studies takes an individual, personal approach. “We look at what they have taken and then look at what they’re trying to do,” Rice explained. “We try to help them find their inner passion,” he said.

One university studies major is Connor Mangold, a junior from Kinston in the ECU Honors College. He’s what Rice would call an off-ramp student.

“I was a music student, but I decided that wasn’t for me,” Mangold said. He decided his real interest was an emerging field that blends computer science and art.

“My main area of study is sound design...for electronic music,” he said. “So, my major is part computer science, part music and part animation.

“The best thing about this degree is that it allows me to learn many aspects” of sound design, Mangold said. “It’s still early, but I enjoy the fact I get to focus on different fields.”

Students declaring for the university studies major on average arrive with just under 109 credit hours earned, Rice said. “If you consider that most degrees require 120 hours, they’re close to getting a degree.”

Rice said some new students in the program arrive without the 2.5 GPA that most majors require, while others have great GPAs but just couldn’t decide on a major. “The students who are drawn to us probably would have left the university without a degree,” he said.

After an initial introductory course, students meet with advisers who design a “thematic core” of courses that best fit each student’s interests. For the required capstone experience, students may chose to work an internship, complete a project or write a research paper.

For now, the university studies program is a free-standing unit, Rice said. “We are not under any of the colleges. It is under the academic affairs division, and we work directly for (Senior Associate Provost) Austin Bunch.”

The unit operates out of offices in the Old Cafeteria Building.

Among the first four graduates was Katelyn Morris. Rice said her thematic core, titled “adaptive technology,” included courses in communication, technology, leadership, multicultural sensitivity and children’s special education.

She interned with a high-tech company in Charlotte, which hired her after graduation.

Morris said she hopes her degree will allow her to “work towards selling technology that would allow the autistic child to learn to communicate through devices that will give these students a new sense of freedom.”

Rice said one university studies student is conducting research this fall, in concert with the Brody School of Medicine, on how electronic medical records are changing the health care industry.

He said he expects the university studies program will experience another growth spurt next fall. “The next level (of growth) will come from ‘part-way home’ students after we advertise to them. These are ones that dropped out or had other problems. This is specially tailored for former military,” Rice said.

Rice said he expects that by next fall all of the program’s courses will be available online.

—Steve Tuttle
Most people dread root canals and tooth extractions, crowns and dental fillings. But fourth-year students in the ECU School of Dental Medicine have been looking forward to those procedures for three years.

“I was the kid that loved to go to the dentist,” said Brooke Burnette, a Chocowinity native and member of ECU’s first class of dental students. “I know that’s pretty rare. I wanted a career where I could give back…and see people smile again.”

Burnette and the other members of her class left Greenville this fall to engage in applied learning at ECU dental community service learning centers built and staffed in rural, underserved areas across the state.

ECU is pioneering this model for training dental students. Each will complete eight-week rotations at three different clinics as part of their final year of study.

“This is more than just drilling and filling,” said Dr. Greg Chadwick, dean of the dental school. “They’re developing an understanding about people across the state—why they might not have access to care, why they might not hold oral health as a high priority.”

Rebecca Ferguson was in Sylva for only three weeks before she noticed the difference between practicing dental medicine in Greenville and at the mountain clinic. “It’s a totally different patient population,” the Waynesville native said. “There’s definitely a demand and a need (for dental care in western North Carolina).”

Other students agreed it’s not uncommon to see patients at the clinics come in with pain rather than for preventive care.

There are also day-to-day operational differences for the students. During their third year in ECU’s Ross Hall—where the dental school is housed—the average day consisted of a mix of course work and care for about two patients. Now, their days are spent treating twice that many patients, on average.

“I had to figure out how to be more efficient,” Burnette said of her rotation at the Ahoskie clinic.

She said the students also have to make sure they’re asking all the right questions. Many patients are on other medications that could cause issues during the course of dental care and may be unaware of the potential for adverse drug reactions.

“You really don’t know anything about your patients,” said Jorge Arriagada, who completed his first rotation in Lillington. “You have to review everything.”

ECU faculty dentists working alongside the students at each location support their transition to the clinic.

“You get one-on-one teaching for all aspects of dentistry,” said student Jeremy Hyder, a Hickory native on rotation in Elizabeth City. “It’s a unique experience that I don’t think a lot of other dental students—if any—get to have.”

Additionally, the students are all acting as informal ambassadors from ECU and its dental school. Their presence helps attract patients to the clinics. Arriagada said he and his classmates are often stopped as they run errands in their scrubs. People are curious about who they are and why they’ve come to their community, he said.

“Eventually, we’ll be on roller skates going from patient to patient,” Arriagada predicted, laughing. “We’re offering affordable care, and that’s going to be a huge benefit to these communities.”

The students said they’re benefiting, too.

“I was expecting to enjoy it, but it definitely lived up to (my expectations) and surpassed them,” Hyder said. “It’s what life will be like after graduation.”

—Kathryn Kennedy
ECU’s engineering program launched at a perfect time for Kyle Barnes.

The 2004 Roanoke Rapids High School graduate planned to enroll at ECU for two years and then transfer to another university where he could complete an engineering degree.

But Barnes didn’t have to leave to earn his degree. He met Paul Kauffmann, one of the founders of ECU’s engineering department, who encouraged Barnes to apply for the new program. “Everything it offered appeared to be a perfect fit for my needs and interests,” Barnes said.

As one of 35 close-knit engineering students in that first class, Barnes said he “was able to build relationships with students who were undergoing the exact same challenges.”

ECU celebrated the 10-year anniversary of its engineering program during Homecoming weekend in October.

Kauffman, Tarek Abdel-Salam and Phil Lunsford started the Department of Engineering to meet a growing need for degreed engineers to help support a large manufacturing industry in eastern North Carolina. The program has been instrumental in providing a steady pipeline of engineers to support workforce needs, said Hayden Griffin, department chair for engineering.

Barnes, 28, is an engineering manager at Carver Machine Works, a fabrication and welding company in Washington, North Carolina, that serves customers in the aerospace, defense and power-generation industries.

Lindsey Crisp, president and chief executive of Carver Machine Works, said he’s often asked how his company—given its rural location—finds quality employees. “I say all the time to our customers that we are in rural eastern North Carolina, but we serve customers all across the United States,” he said.

“I believe the small classroom size is what sets this program apart from most any other,” Barnes said. “This creates a learning environment that caters to the student and the available time needed for each student to succeed. I hope this student-to-instructor ratio can be maintained with the growth of the program.”

The caliber of students enrolled in the program has evolved with tougher admissions criteria. More than 450 students applied to the program in 2013, and 159 are now enrolled as freshmen for the 2014-15 academic year. Students earn a bachelor of science degree in engineering and can choose from one of five concentrations: bioprocess, biomedical, electrical, industrial and systems, and mechanical. Classes began in August for the program’s first graduate degree, a master of science in biomedical engineering.

The rapid expansion of ECU’s engineering program earned it a step up in academic standing this spring when the UNC Board of Governors approved renaming the College of Technology and Computer Science to the College of Engineering and Technology. The change had the unanimous support of other engineering programs in North Carolina’s public university system.

David White, dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, said the move sends a clear message to companies considering locating here. “Our economic development partners inform us that our new name…is important for promoting economic prosperity in the East, which is consistent with our university mission,” White said. “This name sends a message to prospective business and industry that we can provide the engineering-related talent they need.”

About 95 percent of ECU’s engineering graduates are offered jobs within 90 days of graduation. Approximately 65 percent of them stay in North Carolina—and about half of those in eastern North Carolina.

—Crystal Baity with Steve Tuttle and Margaret Turner contributing
The design team for the university’s new Student Union is going back to the drawing board following input from the Board of Trustees.

Perkins+Will architects presented a model to the Finance and Facilities Committee during the board’s quarterly meeting Sept. 18-19.

Trustees asked that the center, which will front approximately 300 feet on 10th Street, have a more defined presence since it will be so visible from the street. There is no physical entry planned on 10th Street; students will access the center from all other sides.

“We had talked about how this (building) would be one of those ‘front’ doors to campus,” said chairman Robert Brinkley. “It needs more enhancement.”

To try to invigorate the streetscape, some of interior spaces—such as dining seating areas—will be moved from the Sonic Plaza side to the street side. Revised plans for the first and second floors are expected at the November trustees meeting, said Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor for student affairs at ECU.

“We need to take pause,” said Bill Bagnell, associate vice chancellor for campus operations at ECU. “We want to make sure that we do it right the first time.”

Plans call for the student union to cover almost 209,000 square feet with an adjacent parking deck, with construction costing $95.5 million. Furniture, fixtures, audiovisual and other equipment plus design costs and fees will push the total to $122.2 million.

The facility will provide a new home for the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, a new lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender center, student government and student group office space, multi-venue dining facilities, a new bookstore and a dividable ballroom as well as balconies, patios and an outside media screen.

“It will be a transformative building for this campus for decades and decades to come,” said Chancellor Steve Ballard in his remarks to the trustees during the full meeting.

The project includes a 700-car parking deck in same area as the current parking lot south of Mendenhall Student Center. With a short delay in approved plans, officials expect the center to be completed by the 2018 fall semester. Construction will take 24 to 30 months.

Mendenhall Student Center was completed in 1974 when East Carolina had 11,000 students. Since then, the student body has grown more than 145 percent, and an extensive health sciences campus with more than 3,000 students has developed around the Brody School of Medicine.

An almost-72,000-square-foot student union also will be built on the Health Sciences Campus between the East Carolina Heart Institute and Laupus Library. The University of North Carolina Board of Governors and the N.C. General Assembly approved plans for both buildings earlier this year.

In other business, trustees approved final plans for a new $4 million dance building to be built one block west of the corner of 10th and Evans streets. The building’s 16,000 square feet is the minimum amount needed for dance program accreditation. It will include dance studios, a library, courtyard and parking. Bids will be taken in spring 2015 with an estimated completion in early 2016.

—Crystal Baity
A hush swept over the standing-room-only crowd Oct. 21 in Wright Auditorium as Wes Moore bounded to the center of the stage. The author of *The Other Wes Moore* delivered a message that touched on the importance of accountability, opportunity and community.

“You’re here to be heard,” Moore told the group composed of mostly students. “You’re here to give it everything you’ve got.”

He urged them to take advantage of higher education and all it has to offer, to experience it not only for good grades but also to make a positive difference for themselves and for others in college and beyond. “Take this experience, and drive it till the wheels fall off,” he said. “Higher education will never simply be determined by your transcripts.”

Moore visited ECU as part of the annual Pirate Read program, through which incoming freshmen are expected to read and study a selected book before arriving on campus. Students then participate in class discussions, seminars and other activities based on the book’s central themes.

*The Other Wes Moore* explores how the paths of two “Baltimore sons” with the same name diverge based on decisions and circumstances.

The author and the man who shares his name were born blocks apart within a year of each other. The author became a Rhodes Scholar, decorated combat veteran, White House Fellow and business leader.

The other Wes Moore is serving a life sentence for his involvement in the 2000 murder of a Baltimore County police officer.

Moore emphasized the importance of choosing a positive direction in life based on motivation to improve society and how accountability can change individuals and society. The book also shows how factors like socio-economic status and the presence of role models can play a part in how people perceive their strengths and abilities—and what they choose to do with them.

“There are people standing on the edge of greatness,” he said, “and they don’t even know it.”

After considering both Moores’ life stories and whether to write the book, the author decided to write a letter to the imprisoned Moore. The response he received was “one of the most interesting letters I’ve ever read in my life,” he said. It was also one that raised more questions than answers on how two lives could go in such different directions.

Moore stressed that the point of the book is not to “celebrate one” Wes Moore and “castigate the other,” but that one thing he hopes readers get out of the work is “how thin that line is between our life and someone else’s,” he said.

Earlier in the day, Moore met with a small group of selected students for an in-depth discussion of the book and a question-and-answer session. The students peppered Moore with creative inquiries about the title of the book and how the incarcerated Moore felt about its publication.

The author Moore said he would not have moved forward with the
In another sign of technology's continuing impact on student life, a yearlong project to phase out mail delivery to the roughly 5,600 residents of ECU's 14 residence halls has begun.

It's not like the students will miss the six-day-a-week service, according to William L. McCartney, associate vice chancellor for campus living.

"The fact is, they just don't get much mail at all anymore," he said. "Mostly it's junk mail and circulars. If you watch them when they come pick up their mail, it goes straight to the trash can."

Beginning fall semester 2015, McCartney said the process of delivering student mail on campus will be the same as the current system for handling package deliveries.

When a dorm resident gets a box of cookies from home or shoes bought online arrive, the university sends an email and a text message to the student saying the package is available for pick up at the central mail facility behind the Flanagan Building on Main Campus or one of the two Neighborhood Service Offices in the student housing areas.

That system worked fine with the more than 7,000 packages delivered to students last year through the two Neighborhood Service desks alone, McCartney said.

To make picking up packages and mail more convenient for students, ECU plans to open a second delivery center in the new Gateway dormitory complex that will serve the College Hill community.

Space now taken up by post offices in the dorm lobbies will be remodeled for other uses, McCartney said. Some dorms will get larger computer rooms, others will get better lounges or larger gyms, he said.

McCartney said ECU modeled its transition away from residence hall mail delivery on the experience of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, which dropped the service last year. ECU's similar proposal, which carries an estimated $800,000 price tag, was reviewed and approved by the UNC Board of Governors at its Aug. 1 meeting.

The end of mail delivery in the dorms is another of those "back to the future" moments that McCartney said he has experienced working in Campus Living.

"Back in the day, it was a big deal when we replaced the pay phone at the end of the hall with free phones in every dorm room. Now we've taken the phones out of the dorm rooms because every student has a cell phone, and the landline phones were just in the way.

"And guess what's back at the end of the hall on every floor? A public phone."

Cable TV and desks, believe it or not, might be the next dorm fixtures to go. McCartney said surveys have shown students don't watch much TV, and when they do, they just tune in on their laptop computers.

Likewise for desks; McCartney said students tend to sit on their beds to study. "Their desks now are mainly used for piling stuff on, so maybe the desks can go to make room for whatever is the next big thing," he said.

McCartney said there is one trend in campus living that should only grow stronger—the demand for quick access to good food.

"Not too many years ago, there weren't a lot of places you could eat on Main Campus. Now we have 26. And the expectation that most students have is that every one of them will be like going to a nice restaurant."

—Steve Tuttle
Simulation trains students to care for patients outside clinical settings

Al Schreier rocked back in his recliner surveying the three future Pirate nurses who filled his small apartment. They were there, they explained kindly, to follow up on an injury to Schreier’s leg. He needed his bandage changed and a general condition assessment.

He listened patiently for a while, nodding as they advised him to limit his smoking and refrain from drinking while on pain medication. But then something else crossed his mind.

“How have you seen my pet cobra?” he asked. “Or my lizard? Sometimes they escape from the terrarium.”

Fortunately for the students, Schreier was not a real patient. The experience was part of a 45-minute simulation for seniors in the ECU College of Nursing. The fake cockroaches and mice, empty wine bottles and bad habits of their mock patients were intended to convey the unique challenges associated with administering health care in a home setting.

Students encountered three different care scenarios—an adult patient on a small porch, Schreier in his mock apartment and a mother-and-child wellness visit in a mobile home. Each was conducted in the Rehabilitation Center at Vidant Medical Center.

Simulation coordinator Jane Miles, an assistant professor in the College of Nursing, once worked as a home health nurse and knows firsthand how different a home visit can be from a clinical setting.

“You have to function very independently, be ready to respond to any situation,” Miles said. “The information that you get initially may be very different than what you see when you get there.”

She described how her first home health job in Hawaii was far from paradise. Miles encountered very poor living conditions, infestations, dogs and cats, and hostile or defensive patients and family members.

But as health care evolves, she said, it’s important that ECU nursing students have a grasp on many different models for delivering care.

“The trend and prediction as we try to save health care dollars is that we need more preventative care and to keep people out of the hospital,” Miles said. “Nurses who can do (home health visits) are in high demand.”

Home health and hospice nurses work exclusively in patient homes, but Miles said it is not unusual for nurses working in health departments or schools to make home visits, too.

Students emerging from their simulation lessons admitted to being distracted by some of the information provided by the actors and by the setting.

“I knew he would have issues and concerns, but the alcohol threw me off,” said Brittany Locklear after meeting with a mock patient who claimed he drank three bottles of whiskey the night before.

“I wish we could have talked more about (his alcohol consumption),” added Sarah Long, who was in the same simulation group as Locklear. “I felt like we jumped around too much.”

But there are also advantages, students said, in seeing patients in their home environments.

“When patients are in the hospital, they’re under a lot of stress,” said Gabe Pantoja. “But when they get home...they’re more ready to learn. So you get to focus on education rather than acute care.”

—Kathryn Kennedy
ECU recognized for leadership in diversity, inclusion

ECU has been recognized with the HEED award for the third consecutive year for its efforts in diversity and inclusion. The Higher Education Excellence in Diversity award is given by Insight Into Diversity magazine. It annually recognizes U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion.

“ECU continues to be among the leaders of diversity and inclusion efforts and initiatives within higher education, and we’re being recognized for our efforts,” said LaKesha Alston, associate provost for equity and diversity.

Lenore Pearlstein, publisher of Insight Into Diversity, said, “We hope the HEED award serves as a way to honor those institutions of higher education that recognize the importance of diversity and inclusion as part of their everyday campus culture.”

This recognition also aligns with the university’s new strategic plan, Beyond Tomorrow, which includes continuing the commitment to diversity and inclusion and increasing opportunity as two of the seven guiding principles.

“The Office for Equity and Diversity will be collaborating with partners across campus to develop the institution’s diversity plan for the next five years in alignment with the university’s strategic plan,” said Alston.

Working to provide students with a globally diverse and inclusive environment and curriculum is important for success, Alston said. Providing employees with a diverse and inclusive workplace is equally important and both remain a priority in groups at the university, such as the Chancellor’s Diversity Leadership Cabinet.

Also recognized from North Carolina were Elon University and North Carolina State University.

—Jamitress Bowden

ECU to provide early childhood mentoring to eastern N.C. educators

Incoming kindergartners throughout eastern North Carolina will soon be better prepared for classroom learning thanks to a $1.3 million grant awarded to ECU.

The Department of Child Development and Family Relations was selected to receive the funding by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to provide mentoring and evaluation to pre-kindergarten teachers in 46 counties in the region.

Barbara Brehm, coordinator of ECU’s birth-to-kindergarten undergraduate program in the College of Human Ecology, will oversee the Early Educator Support, Leadership and Professional Development project.

“What we have seen over and over again, and what the research shows, is that the more knowledgeable and intentional a teacher is in using developmentally appropriate practices with young children, the higher the outcomes are in social, emotional and academic domains of learning,” Brehm said. “So, that’s the goal. We want children to come to kindergarten ready to learn.”

Targeting 4-year-olds at risk, the state-funded “NC Pre-K” program aims to ensure all kindergartners start their elementary years with a similar foundation. The Department of Public Instruction requires an assigned teacher to mentor and a principal to evaluate for all NC Pre-K classes as part of those efforts.

This is a simple process for public schools, since all principals qualify as evaluators based on their hiring requirements, and there’s also at least one qualified mentor teacher on staff by mandate.

But there are more than 500 non-public NC Pre-K programs in the eastern region alone. Licensed teachers at these schools have had to rely on the state for the required mentoring and evaluation, which led to an extensive waitlist from a lack of resources.

“DHHS is saying, ‘We need to be able to serve more teachers; we have way too many on the waiting list. And we think we can do it through institutes of higher education, rather than just the state government.’ So our charge, our scope of work at ECU, is to serve all the teachers in the eastern half of the state,” Brehm said.

Through the EESLPD funding, independent consultants will be hired, contracted, trained, supported and monitored out of ECU. They must possess specific credentials to be selected, and they will each be assigned a caseload of schools close to their home offices throughout eastern North Carolina.

“The mentors will go out once or twice a month into the classrooms where they’ll offer resources to improve the specific learning methods of the children being taught,” Brehm said. “The evaluators go in four times a year to do an observation and rank the teacher on the state teaching standards.”

Debbie Saperstein has been a mentor-evaluator for NC Pre-K schools near Wilmington for three years under the old system. She says administration of these teacher support services through ECU should be much more effective because the consultants will be focused on one geographical area.

“And having the resources of ECU will help tremendously by making professional development more readily accessible to teachers and EESLPD staff,” Saperstein said.

Funding for the project is renewable every two years and was split evenly with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, which will offer similar services to early childhood teachers in the western half of the state.

—Kelly Setzer
Professors publish book on political humor

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“And in a town meeting in Rhode Island, Bill Clinton said there are ‘powerful forces’ threatening to bring down his administration. I think they’re called ‘hormones.’”

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These are just two of the political jokes listed in Politics is a Joke!: How TV Comedians Are Remaking Political Life, a new book written by two ECU professors, which explains how late-night talk shows have influenced the success of politicians.

Written over the course of two years by Jody Baumgartner and Jonathan Morris of ECU’s political science department and S. Robert Lichter, professor of communication at George Mason University, the book was published in July.

“The primary late-night talk show hosts that we’re talking about are Jay Leno, David Letterman, Stephen Colbert and Jon Stewart. We didn’t set out to restrict ourselves to them, but for the past decade, they have been the major players,” said Baumgartner.

The data for the book has been collected since 1988 from the Center for Media Public Affairs, which Lichter directs.

“(The CMPA) has been collecting jokes from late-night comedy programs and classifying them by whom the joke was targeted at or who said the joke. We used that information, which was over 100,000 jokes,” said Morris.

Baumgartner, who read through the 100,000 jokes, was responsible for selecting which ones to put into the book. “It was tough,” he said, but he managed to narrow them down to about 200.

“We weren’t looking for any kind of bias in the jokes, but we clearly found a tendency for late-night comics to joke about Republicans more than Democrats,” said Morris. This was no surprise to Morris or Baumgartner, who have been studying humor and politics for the past 10 years.

“Presidents are the most frequent targets of late-night comedians. Again, no surprise, but the data shows this,” said Baumgartner. Morris added that former President Bill Clinton is, by far, the most-joked about politician within the past two decades.

“More than one late-night talk show host has said something to this effect: If there was a hall of fame for late-night comedy, Clinton would be the founding guy that they put in because he made their job easier,” said Baumgartner.

Writing a book about political jokes wasn’t intentional, Baumgartner said. “We just stumbled upon a topic that happened to be really popular,” he added.

Morris and Baumgartner came up with the idea to research humor and politics while they were driving to a conference together in 2004. “We have been studying it ever since,” said Morris.

Baumgartner’s latest books include Conventional Wisdom and American Elections” and Laughing Matters: Humor and American Politics in the Media Age, which he co-edited with Morris.

Whereas Laughing Matters was academically oriented, Baumgartner said Politics is a Joke! could be enjoyed by anyone with an interest in political humor.

“We’re hoping to reach a more general audience with this book, but also have it accessible to our colleagues who study political humor to use it as reference,” said Morris. “People who have read the book keep saying that they skip through our analysis and go straight to the jokes.”

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100 YEARS AGO

Students train as coaches

In early 1939, President Leon Meadows angers students when he cuts in half the number of informal dances held in Wright Auditorium from 90 minutes six nights a week to one hour three nights a week. He says the auditorium is needed for other events. At a Feb. 9 mass meeting, students vote to ask Meadows to reconsider, but he says his hands are tied. “What we need is a gymnasium,” Meadows says, but he takes no action to get one built. Meadows touches off another wave of student unrest later in the year when he orders the majorettes to perform in long pants.

75 YEARS AGO

Fewer dances rile students

“A year after the student Athletic Association organizes to oversee basketball, tennis and softball matches, the group takes an important step forward in early 1915 by training students as referees, umpires and coaches. Faculty members—most of whom knew little about sports—had volunteered in those roles. The basketball tournament that fall demonstrated that students have developed no less skill, more initiative, and a better understanding of the meaning of sportsmanlike play than when they saw the game from the viewpoint of the player only,” according to an article in the spring 1915 issue of the Training School Quarterly.

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College of Business named a top business school for 2015

For the eighth straight year, the ECU College of Business ranks among the best in the nation by The Princeton Review. The education services company features ECU in the 2015 edition of The Best 296 Business Schools.

“The College of Business is proud to be honored once again as one of the nation’s most outstanding business schools,” said Stan Eakins, dean of the college.

“Through all that we do, we strive to prepare and challenge our students with the necessary skills to think, act and lead in today’s business world.”

In the guide, the college is featured in a two-page profile highlighting academics, career and placement, student life and admissions information. The profile says “ECU has an intimate feel... Professors know students’ names, and the campus has a friendly atmosphere.” The MBA program “provides students with lots of individual attention and allows them to tailor the program to their needs.”

The Princeton Review compiled the information based on its 80-question survey asking 21,600 students to rate their schools on several topics and report on their experiences. Some school-reported data also was used.

—Jennifer Brezina

Fall brings record number of undergraduates

ECU welcomed its largest number of undergraduate students to campus with the start of the fall semester.

The university enrolled 22,252 undergraduates, which is 744 more than last fall and the largest number in university history, said John Fletcher, associate provost for enrollment services. Enrollment figures are considered preliminary until reviewed and approved by the University of North Carolina General Administration.

The enrollment numbers for ECU reflect a national trend, Fletcher said. Undergraduate enrollment remains strong, while there is a small decrease in the number of graduate students.

Total enrollment is 27,511, which is 624 more than last year and the fourth-largest enrollment in ECU history. In the graduate school, enrollment stands at 4,740, which is 162 less than last year.

The number of new freshmen enrolled — 4,226 — is the third-largest in ECU history.

Also up is the number of new transfer students — 1,779 — which is 451 more than last year. This year’s number of transfer students is the largest in school history, Fletcher said.

“The increase in overall enrollment at ECU represents an acknowledgement from students new and continuing, from North Carolina and outside the state, who recognize the quality of our faculty, the rich culture and traditions of the Pirate Nation and the value for their education dollar,” Fletcher said.

—Jeannine Manning Hutson

College Union sent packing

A remodeling project in 1965 uproots the College Union from its home in the basement of the Wright Building. The union mostly sets up shop in the lobby of Wright. The normally quiet space becomes a hub of activity with TV sets, pingpong tables and seemingly endless bridge and bingo games. The College Union’s return is delayed by a fire that destroys parts of the renovated space.

Campus begins to recycle

ECU gets serious about reducing waste in early 1990 by initiating mandatory recycling programs. The results are surprising at the end of that first year. University Recycling Coordinator George Armistead (in photo left) reports that an estimated 10 tons of cardboard, aluminum, glass, paper and other materials were collected across campus.
Most enzymes spend their lives breaking down proteins to benefit their host organisms, so East Carolina University biochemist Lance Bridges has an apt description for one he's investigating that apparently does nothing. “The Walking Dead—that's the best way I can put it,” Bridges, an assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, says, referring to the popular TV series about zombies in a post-apocalyptic world. “You have a whole family, or class, and then an oddball sticking out. It doesn’t make sense why your body would take the time and energy to make an inactive enzyme.

“They’re in the cells; they’re there for a reason, but no one really knows,” he adds.

He’s in the office of Tonya Zeczycki, another assistant professor of biochemistry. Despite similar job titles, their roles are different. Bridges is a protein expert. Zeczycki is a physical biochemist/enzymologist who specializes in, as she says, “how this little machine works and moves.”

And that's why their presence together is significant. If Bridges' protease actually does something, Zeczycki will figure out what gets it into action.

This type of scientific collaboration has taken hold in research labs around the world and across ECU. Called research networks, they are helping scientists solve more complex problems and gain research funding by bringing together experts in disparate fields who work together to answer specific questions.

“Not only is organizing and developing research networks across campus an institutional priority, research and graduate studies in partnership with other state agencies as well as campus colleges and schools are proactively supporting, promoting, hosting and, in some cases, sponsoring the development of research networks,” says Ernest Marshburn, director of the Office of Research Development at ECU. Those efforts include STEM@Starlight, Research Mingle and research meetings at the Tipsy Teapot cafe.

According to Jason Owen-Smith, a professor of sociology at the University of Michigan who studies network theory, networks are a concrete pattern of relationships. Hubs, or key players, form branches to others. Networks serve as resource and information channels, they can signal that a researcher has status and they can influence other researchers, according to Owen-Smith.

More angles yield fuller answers
Research networks aim to bring together people who have an interest in studying a particular condition or population. They might be local, national or international.

“They have no hesitation of contacting scientists all over the country,” Phil Pekala, chair of the biochemistry department at the Brody School of Medicine, says of his faculty members. “In these days of tight funding...gone are the days of the individual who does everything by himself.”

Part of the reason scientists who study various aspects of metabolism at ECU are getting together is because of the “laboratory without walls” setting on the fourth floor of the East Carolina Heart Institute at ECU, where they work.

“Two people working in very different parts of biochemistry—kinetics and proteins—we’ve never had that proximity of talent before,” Pekala says. “That sort of open laboratory is supposed to promote collaboration and interest among people.”

Scientists working together isn't new. But what used to be dividing the work or sharing research samples is now people with diverse skills working on a problem from different angles.

“You still collaborated. There was never a time when I wasn’t reaching out to find someone to work with,” says Pekala, who joined ECU in 1981 after completing postdoctoral studies. “The collaborations are more dynamic now than they were then. Now these people are co-investigators with each other. They write grant applications together.”

Anne Spuches, an associate professor of chemistry, is an inorganic chemist specializing in ways metals are “trafficked” within cells. Some metals, such as magnesium, are vital to human health. Others are toxic.
Even healthful metals can cause problems when there's too much or too little of them.

For example, calcium plays a role in regulating heartbeat. Last year, Spuches, Joe Chalovich, a biochemist at the Brody School of Medicine at ECU and a heart muscle specialist, ECU chemist Yumin Li and others published a study that looked at calcium binding within heart muscle. She's also working with Dr. Walter Pories, ECU's gastric-bypass surgery pioneer, to better understand if people who get the surgery are absorbing enough nutrients from their meals, and Marty Roop, a microbiologist specializing in the infectious bacteria *Brucella*. She and Bridges plan to start working together.

"The more angles you know...the more of a complete story you'll obtain," Spuches says. "That is the trend I've been seeing several years now."

In the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, scientists worked together to secure a $281,393 National Science Foundation grant to buy an ocean-going robot for coastal and fisheries research. It's part of research by biologist and fish ecology expert Joe Luczkovich, biologist and fisheries expert Roger Rulifson, physicist and acoustics expert Mark Sprague and geologist J.P. Walsh to study sounds fish make, how those sounds travel through sediment and how that can determine where they are, how many there are and what they're communicating.

"Adding a physicist with a background in acoustics to that made all the sense in the world," says Luczkovich, an associate professor of biology. "It's not strictly a biology question. It's a physics question as well as a biology question."

According to Doug Edgeton, president and chief executive of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, which, among other roles, funds scientists in universities and private industry, intensive collaboration is vital today.

"In general, most of the life-sciences problems we're dealing with today don't lend themselves to one disciplinary approach anymore," says Edgeton. That's why in the last 20 years or so, he says, centers and core research facilities such as the heart institute at ECU and the Institute for Regenerative Medicine at Wake Forest University that he helped found have sprouted. They bring people with a depth of expertise in various fields together to tackle cancer, heart disease, obesity and other problems, he says.

Collaboration doesn't end with the publication of the research article, however. "After you solve the problem, now how do you produce this for the marketplace?" Edgeton says. That brings in engineers, businesspeople, marketers and more.

**Technology has changed how scientists work together**

As science is always evolving, so, too, is the technology that allows collaboration and networking. ECU biochemist Saame Raza Shaikh uses the social media platform LinkedIn to make contacts with researchers and companies.

"That led to meeting people at conferences," says Shaikh, an associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology. "Bottom line is right now I'm negotiating a clinical study. The broader concept is that networking is critical for establishing a research track and establishing credibility. Then they start getting interested and talking with you. It's a good way to market and advertise."

He said using modern communications technology to build networks is easier than what his predecessors had to do to build relationships. This year, Shaikh has published articles with scientists at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, WFU and Michigan State University.

"Collaborations are much easier to come by because you can communicate much faster online," Shaikh says. "Science today is more integrated. They fund research teams. They don't fund single individuals anymore."

**Networks yield dollars**

Collaborative projects are drawing favor from funding agencies. Criteria for awarding research grants at the National Institutes of Health include the following question: "If the project is collaborative... do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance and organizational structure
appropriate for the project?”

“These are the ‘big money’ grants that are awarded to investigators whose science is expected to make a significant, paradigm-shifting impact on the field or health and disease research as a whole,” says Zeczycki. “There has been a push to come at a single project from several different aspects, (such as) from a mechanistic and more translational approach—the ‘from-lab-bench-to-bedside’ mentality. Collaborations where a problem is addressed from several different yet complementary research areas seem to do better with the NIH.

“It is one of those things that we hear from program officers and NIH study section members—collaborative grants are more competitive when it comes to funding,” she says.

Barbara Gray, who directs the Office of Sponsored Programs at ECU, agrees.

“Funders, particularly federal government agencies and large private foundations, are increasingly focusing their funding programs on addressing major human or societal problems or on programs that will yield some significant economic benefit,” she says. “The problems are multifaceted, requiring experts from many disciplines to work together to develop and test possible solutions. So we are seeing more complex collaborative proposals with researchers from different disciplines and with researchers from other institutions participating.

“Collaboration between basic and clinical scientists is also an area of current funding emphasis; such collaboration speeds up the translation of new discoveries to practice,” she adds.

Shaikh and ECU physiology faculty member David Brown recently received a $366,744 NIH grant to investigate new ways to protect the heart during a heart attack. Zeczycki has been a co-author with other scientists including Shaikh and Brown on two research articles published this year. Bridges and Shaikh were among the authors on a fish oil study published last year.

Luczkovich just finished working with colleagues to submit another grant proposal to the NSF’s “Physics and Living Systems” program.

Networks extend to students as well. Two doctoral programs, one in biological sciences and the other in coastal resource management, bring together faculty from departments ranging from chemistry to recreation and leisure studies to give students an interdisciplinary education and experience in forming their own networks.

“We all need each other’s help in one way or another, especially in this funding climate,” Spuches says. “Sometimes, the best ideas come from just having a chat with somebody.”

—Doug Boyd
responsible for about 10 percent of all hospital-acquired infections, causing ailments such as pneumonia and urinary tract and surgical wound infections.

It also infects most cystic fibrosis patients at a very early age and causes a chronic pneumonia that is very difficult to cure. Cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease in which patients produce an unusually thick, sticky mucus that clogs their lungs and leads to life-threatening lung infections.

“Pseudomonas infections are difficult to treat because there aren’t a lot of antibiotics that will kill these organisms,” said Pesci. “But scientists are starting to believe that maybe you don’t need to kill them—you just need to interfere with their communication.”

Pesci said he and Coleman are studying the communication system that pathogens use to control their virulence, or ability to cause disease. In particular, they will focus on one chemical intracellular communication signal they discovered when they began collaborating in 1998. They call it the Pseudomonas quinolone signal, or PQS.

“Basically the bacteria use this signal to talk to each other and to tell the whole bacterial population to delay expressing virulence factors until enough bacteria are present to overcome the host’s immune response,” Pesci said. “Once enough of them are gathered, and the environment is ideal, the bacteria will send the signal out that says, ‘Now’s the time to turn it on and get the job done.’”

“If we can figure out how to mess with those signals so they can’t talk to each other, it could lay some groundwork for the development of a therapeutic treatment for Pseudomonas infections,” Coleman said. “That could have a great impact for cystic fibrosis patients, for patients who are on respirators and for burn patients.”

—Amy Adams Ellis

Mimicry in frogs can cause new species to arise

Researchers at ECU have found that certain populations of a South American frog species have changed their appearance to avoid predators through mimicry of other species, and this change has caused the populations to diverge, possibly to the point of evolving into two different species.

Their findings, published in August in the journal *Nature Communications*, could signal a major advance in evolutionary biology.

“The species that we study (*Ranitomeya imitator*, the Peruvian mimic poison frog) is unusual in that different populations of this one species have evolved to resemble (mimic) four distinct ‘model’ species in different geographic regions in northern Peru,” said Kyle Summers, a biology professor and expert in evolution at ECU.

“The different mimetic morphs are very different in appearance, having striped, banded, spotted or ‘Varadero’ color patterns,” said Summers. Varadero is the village near where researchers discovered the frogs.

Summers said the work involved long-term, intensive research on multiple aspects of the species, including morphology, behavior, acoustics, ecology, biogeography, population genetics and evolution. During the past five years, graduate student Evan Twomey, who is lead author on the research article, spent many months in Peru overcoming numerous challenges to gather and analyze data.

“Specifically, the collecting done for this project was difficult simply because the main study site was so remote,” Twomey said. “It could only be reached by river, and it was normally a six-to-eight-hour ride in a motorized dugout canoe. I feel like it’s really a testament to the biodiversity of the region that we’re able to make discoveries such as this.”

The results of this research provide “strong evidence” that mimicry is driving population divergence and new speciation between two populations of the Peruvian poison frog, Summers said. The frogs have evolved to mimic two different model species that are distinct from each other in color and pattern.

“This connection between mimicry and speciation has only been demonstrated in one other group of organisms—*Heliconius* butterflies—and never in a vertebrate,” said Summers. “Hence, the results of this study represent a major advance in evolutionary biology.”

Summers said the next step in the research is to determine exactly what genes have changed and what impact those changes have.

In addition to funding from the National Science Foundation and the National Geographic Society, the research was supported by the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences at ECU.

The research article is online at www.nature.com.

—Doug Boyd and Lacey Gray
Two ECU researchers have received funding for a project that could lead to better quality of life for people living with chronic pain.

Sonja Bareiss and Kori Brewer received a two-year, $300,000 grant by the Craig H. Neilson Foundation to study the development and possible treatments of the debilitating pain that commonly occurs after a spinal cord injury.

Bareiss, an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy in the College of Allied Health Sciences, practiced physical therapy for eight years before earning her doctorate in anatomy and cell biology.

“My clinical experience informs the way I ask the questions,” she said. “When I was practicing in the clinic, I didn’t feel like I had a lot of tools to treat patients with chronic pain. That motivated me to do basic science research so I could better understand what was happening with my patients.”

Subsequently, her doctoral studies focused on pain at the cellular level; specifically, how sensory neurons—which relay sensory information like pain—grow and form connections. She became especially interested in the uncontrolled growth—or “sprouting”—of sensory cells in the peripheral nerves, which are those beyond the brain and spinal cord.

“This branching off of peripheral sensory cells to form new connections in the spinal cord has been recognized in humans who’ve suffered spinal cord injury,” Bareiss said. “It’s thought to contribute to abnormal sensations, including pain.”

Brewer, an associate professor and associate chief of the Division of Research in the Brody School of Medicine’s Department of Emergency Medicine, is well-versed in the basic science of pain. The pair has collaborated since 2010, when they received seed funding from the Harriet and John Wooten Lab for Alzheimer’s and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research, which aims to jump-start Brody faculty on multidisciplinary research projects about molecular and cellular mechanisms involved in neurodegenerative diseases.

They hope their findings will lead to an effective pharmacological treatment for the sharp, burning neuropathic pain commonly experienced by patients after spinal cord injuries. Specifically, they’re trying to determine whether reducing sensory “sprouting”—with a specific drug known to stop it—will combat the pain without sacrificing motor function. Current treatments are ineffective, they said.

“Chronic pain is debilitating, and it affects every facet of life,” said Bareiss. “Once these pain conditions arise, they tend to persist or worsen over time. It reduces quality of life and hinders a person’s reintegration into community and vocation.”

According to the Institute of Medicine and the American Academy of Pain Medicine, chronic pain affects more than 100 million Americans—more than diabetes, heart disease and cancer combined.

Brewer called the team’s research a “novel approach to a long-standing problem” because rather than focusing on the brain or the spinal cord, they are studying the peripheral nerves that carry pain information from outlying areas of the body into the central nervous system. Understanding the cellular mechanisms involved, she said, could have applications for all types of chronic pain. It could also have implications beyond pain relief.

“What if, instead of reducing the sprouting, you were to enhance it, fostering new synaptic connections in brain cells? Could that help with Alzheimer’s? The signal may be the same,” said Bareiss.

—Amy Adams Ellis
Stephen Thomas, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences since 2003, retired in October after 34 years on the East Carolina University faculty.

Thomas came to ECU in 1980 as a faculty member in the rehabilitation studies department. He was named chair of the department in 1998 and became interim dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences in April 2001.

After his promotion to dean in 2003, Thomas led the college through several new endeavors, including the move from its former location in the Belk Building to the new Health Sciences Building in 2006 and a name change from its original moniker, the School of Allied Health Sciences.

At a reception in his honor on Oct. 13, Thomas was presented with a certificate of appreciation for his work with the annual Jean Mills Health Symposium. Thomas also was named dean emeritus and given a gold stole signifying that new role.

The evening closed with the unveiling of a portrait of Thomas by artist Irene Bailey ’93 ’95 to be displayed in the Health Sciences Building.

Before coming to ECU, Thomas held academic, research and administrative positions with the University of Arizona in Tucson, the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie and the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Thomas received his doctorate of education and his master’s degree in rehabilitation studies from the University of Arizona and his bachelor’s degree in psychology and sociology from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

Thomas said he bases his leadership philosophy on a quote by sailor and author John Rousmaniere: “The goal is not to sail the boat, but rather to help the boat sail herself.” Several faculty and staff remarked that they will miss having him as their captain.

Beth Velde, a professor emerita and director of strategic planning in the College of Allied Health Sciences, was inducted into the Academy of Community Engagement Scholarship. The national academy recognized her for the “practice and model of excellence in collaboration with communities and the university while addressing critical issues of mutual benefit.”

Beth Chaney, an assistant professor in the Department of Health Education and Promotion, was appointed by Gov. Pat McCrory to a two-year term on the N.C. Substance Abuse and Underage Drinking Prevention and Treatment Task Force.

Mary Kirkpatrick, who joined the nursing faculty in 1977, retired Sept. 1. She had primary teaching responsibilities in the new master’s of science in nursing program. During her career, she served as department chair, chair of numerous college committees and as the international coordinator for the College of Nursing. She took many students for study-abroad experiences.

Dr. Robert R. Foreman was named associate dean for clinical affairs for the School of Dental Medicine after serving as director of clinics since September 2012. Before coming to ECU in 2012, Foreman served on the faculty of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.

School of Music professor Edward Jacobs was named the Robert L. Jones Distinguished Professor in Music for the 2014-2015 academic year. The Jones Distinguished Professorship, created by Robert L. “Roddy” Jones ’58 of Raleigh, is one of the oldest endowed professorships at ECU. It is awarded for a three-year term and provides startup and/or continuing funding for important music performance initiatives that will significantly impact ECU, the School of Music and the region. Jacobs is a professor of composition and music theory. He is founder and director of the North Carolina NewMusic Initiative, begun in March 2001.

Dr. Walter J. Pories was selected to serve as second vice president of the American College of Surgeons—the highest office in that organization ever held by a Brody School of Medicine doctor. The position is one of five officers in the national organization. Pories previously served the organization as president-elect of the Ohio chapter, president of the North Carolina chapter and two terms on its board of governors. Pories is perhaps best known for modifying a type of weight-loss surgery into the “Greenville Gastric Bypass.” He showed that not only does it result in durable weight loss but also causes a long-term remission of type 2 diabetes in patients who have diabetes and undergo the surgery. Pories, a professor of surgery, biochemistry and kinesiology, joined ECU in 1977. Among other honors, he was the 2001 recipient of O. Max Gardner Award, the highest honor given by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.
Tony, Emmy and Golden Globe Award-winning actor John Lithgow offers a touching and humorous reflection of storytelling as the tie that binds humanity in Stories by Heart.

He invokes memories of his grandmother and father by interspersing his story with two great works that were read to him when he was a child: Uncle Fred Flits By by P.G. Wodehouse and Haircut by Ring Lardner.

The first is the story of a fretful young Englishman who is taken on a wild afternoon escapade in suburban London by his irrepressible uncle. In a hilarious tour de force, Lithgow performs with abandon, portraying 10 distinct, outrageous characters—including a parrot.

By contrast, Haircut is a darkly comic look at Midwestern American implacability. It is a captivating yarn told by a gossipy barber in small-town Michigan as he gives a shave and a haircut to a stranger.

Lithgow performs at 8 p.m. April 18 in Wright Auditorium. The production is part of the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series. Tickets are $65 for the public and $30 for students and available at www.ecuarts.com.
During a three-year run on Broadway, the Swiss troupe Mummenschanz pioneered a new form of visual theatre, paving the way for the likes of modern dance company Pilobolus and the Blue Man Group. Mummenschanz creates a playful yet compelling experience through the inventive use of shadow, light and the creative manipulation of objects. They will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 13 in Wright Auditorium. Tickets are $35 for the public and $10 for students.

Experience choreographer Roni Koresh’s latest innovative work, Come Together, when the Koresh Dance Company performs at 8 p.m. March 20 in Wright Auditorium. The piece juxtaposes Israeli folk dance and contemporary movement alongside Middle Eastern music and classical favorites by Chopin, Beethoven and Ravel. This performance opens with a short Koresh piece performed by ECU dance students. Tickets are $35 for the public and $10 for students.

The ECU Symphony Orchestra with cellist Nina Kotova will take the stage of Wright Auditorium at 8 p.m. April 23 for a special performance. The “fantastically gifted cellist” Kotova has been hailed as “passionate and inspiring” and “a musician of high seriousness and real talent.” She’s performed as a soloist with symphony orchestras around the world, including the Czech, Russian National, Chinese Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic and BBC. She’s performed for the Imperial family of Japan and at Buckingham Palace. Tickets are $25 for the public and $10 for students.

Tickets for the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series productions are available through the ECU Arts website, www.ecuarts.com, or through the Central Ticket Office at 252-328-4788.
ON CAMPUS
Near-death experiences and John Donne poetry are the topics for the spring Voyages of Discovery lectures, sponsored by the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences.

Raymond Moody will present the Jarvis Lecture on Religion and Culture on Life After Life: The Meaning of Near-Death Experiences at 7 p.m. Feb. 24 in Wright Auditorium. Moody is emeritus professor of consciousness studies at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. This lecture is co-sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and Jarvis United Methodist Church. Moody is the author of 14 books, including Life After Life (1975) and Glimpses of Eternity (2010). Moody, who holds a medical degree and a doctorate in philosophy, is best known for his study of near-death experiences and his interviews with people around the world who have had these occurrences. In his lecture, he will discuss the new methods of studying such experiences and the relationship to humanity’s biggest question: What happens when we die?

On March 24, Ilona Bell will discuss Sexual Seduction in John Donne’s Poetry in the Thomas Harriot Lecture at 7 p.m. She is the Samuel Fessenden Clarke Professor of English at Williams College and is the author of Elizabeth I: The Voice of a Monarch and Elizabethan Women and the Poetry of Courtship. She also edited John Donne: Selected Poems.

Complimentary tickets for both lectures are available to all attendees through the Central Ticket Office by calling 252-328-4788 or 800-ECU-ARTS.

MUSIC
Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival
The Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival inaugurates two programs for spring 2015—the Winter Workshop in January and the Chamber Music Dressed Down concerts in February and April.

The Winter Workshop brings string and piano students from throughout the world to Greenville Jan. 5-10 to study and perform chamber music with renowned artists in a focused six-day format. Students and teachers will perform free public concerts Jan. 9 and 10.

Chamber Music Dressed Down concerts include Four Seasons Family Night on Feb. 20 and the Goldberg Variations on April 11. The public is invited to dress casually and should expect to interact with the musicians before, during and after the performances. Family Night is free; Goldberg Variations is ticketed.

Four Seasons spring concerts in Greenville are scheduled for Jan. 15 and 16 and April 16 and 17. The festival visits New Bern on Jan. 17, Raleigh on Feb. 28 and April 19 and Southern Pines on March 2.

Four Seasons Family Night concerts feature returning and current ECU students with faculty and guest artists, are scheduled for Norfolk on Feb. 5, Raleigh on Feb. 7 and Greenville on Feb. 8.

Complete Four Seasons Festival information is online at www.ecu.edu/fourseasons.

North Carolina NewMusic Initiative
The North Carolina NewMusic Initiative brings the innovative duo of clarinetist Christopher Grymes and pianist Xak Bjerken to Greenville Jan. 23 for a concert of contemporary music including a world premiere composition by ECU alumnus Travis Alford. Grymes returns to Greenville to perform with the ECU Symphony Orchestra March 28 in a concert that will include a new work by ECU faculty member Mark Richardson and the winner of the 10th annual orchestral composition competition.

Electronic music takes the stage Feb. 22 as the NewMusic Initiative presents an event in collaboration with the New York-based Circuit Bridges concert series. The Circuit Bridges series connects with communities to foster and promote innovative electroacoustic music and sound. The event will feature North Carolina and New York composers and sound artists.

Other NewMusic concerts include student-performed and/or student-composed pieces presented in Frequencies and Premiere Performances concerts and the ECU Chamber Winds performing a commissioned world premiere by ECU alumnus Aaron Brooks on March 21.

Go to www.ecu.edu/music/newmusicfest for NewMusic concert information and to learn how to support this series.
Symphony Orchestra
Maestro Jorge Richter and the ECU Symphony Orchestra welcome the winner of the 2014-2015 ECU Concerto Competition in performance at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21 in Wright Auditorium. Also on the program are Rachmaninoff’s Vocalise in E minor and Brahms’ Symphony No. 1 in C minor. The Symphony Orchestra performs in Greenville March 28 as part of the North Carolina NewMusic Initiative. These concerts are free and open to the public.

Instrumental Ensembles
The Concert and Symphonic Bands are in concert Feb. 19. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble joins them April 14 for the three-band spring Bandorama. Both concerts are free and in ECU’s Wright Auditorium. The ECU Jazz Combos spring concert is March 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Fletcher Recital Hall. ECU Jazz Ensemble-A will perform with Jon Metzger, percussionist and director of jazz studies at Elon University, and Charlie Young, saxophonist and director of instrumental jazz studies at Howard University, at 8 p.m. April 24 in Wright Auditorium. Both jazz events are free.

Zamba Yawar, the ECU World Music ensemble specializing in traditional music from the Andean highlands and the Creole expressions from the Pacific coast of South America, performs in Fletcher Recital Hall on April 9. The concerts feature vocal and instrumental repertoire using a variety of authentic, traditional non-Western instruments.

The Percussion Ensemble performs Feb. 5, the Percussion Players on Feb. 18 and the Percussion Extravaganza will be loud and proud on April 8; the ECU Trombone Week hosts public concerts March 3 and 4; and the ECU guitar ensemble performs April 28. All are in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

From graceful ballet to bold contemporary and explosive tap will be represented during Dance 2015 presented Jan. 29-Feb. 3 by the ECU School of Theatre and Dance on the stage of McGinnis Theatre. Attendees will see original works and re-creation of masterpieces. Tickets are $15 for the general public and $12 for students. A Day of Dance, featuring ballet, jazz, tap and modern dance classes for dancers 10 and older, will be Feb. 14 in Messick Theatre Arts Center. Call 252-328-4916 for more information.

A mix of cutting-edge choreography from the ECU School of Theatre and Dance faculty and students will be presented in the Contemporary Dance Concert Feb. 28 and March 1 in the Archie Burnette Studio Theatre.

The Senior Chorography Showcase April 25 and 26 will feature ECU senior students who have created unique works for presentation. From the risqué to the ridiculous, the audience should be ready for anything when the shows are performed in the Burnette Studio Theatre. Tickets are available for all dance productions at www.ecuarts.com.

STAGE PRODUCTIONS
A brilliant comedy that explores the difference between classical and romantic temperaments, Arcadia, will be performed by the School of Theatre and Dance Feb. 26-March 3 at McGinnis Theatre. Written by Tom Stoppard, the play features action that moves seamlessly between the 1890 Coverly estate and modern day as Coverly descendants attempt to research possible scandal in their family estate. Arcadia won the New York Drama Critics’ Circle Award and the Olivier Award for Best Play. Parental guidance advised because of mature themes. Tickets are $15 for the public and $12 for students.

The title of the show, Random Acts, describes what attendees can expect from School of Theatre and Dance students March 28 and 29. Dance, musical theatre, poetry and other styles of performance art will be represented in the performance in the Burnette Studio Theatre. Tickets are $5.

William Shakespeare’s political play, The Tragedy of Coriolanus, is a timeless tale of pride, revenge and political chicanery. Its themes remain relevant even today. The School of Theatre and Dance will perform this Roman tragedy by Shakespeare April 23-28 on the McGinnis Theatre stage. Tickets are $15 for the public and $12 for students.

FAMILY FARE
Set sail with ECU Storybook Theatre on a quest to find Captain Flint’s buried treasure. Since he’s a pirate, it’s at a spot marked by an “X.” Robert Louis Stevenson’s classic tale, Treasure Island, comes to life in this coming-of-age story presented at 7 p.m. March 27 in Wright Auditorium.

Curious George always helps his friend Chef Pighetti cook meatballs and serve them to a hungry crowd on “All-You-Can-Eat Meatball Day.” But this year, the crowd has vanished. Something is keeping people away. That something is Phineas Lightspeed’s Meatballs O’Matic machine. Find out the rest of the story when Curious George is presented at 7 p.m. April 17 in Wright Auditorium.

Tickets for either Family Fare Series production are $11 for adults and $8 for children and are available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling the Central Ticket Office at 252-328-4788.

SYMPOSIUM
The College of Art and Design will host Metals Symposium 2015, featuring lectures, demonstrations and workshops. The event, set for Jan. 16-18, will include an art walk and lecture topics such as “Crafting a Community” and “The Descriptive Line: Soldering with Steel.” Details and registration information are available at ecusymposium.wordpress.com.

ON EXHIBIT
The Gray Gallery in the Jenkins Center will host several exhibits during the spring semester, including the Ninth Photographic Image Biennial Exhibit Jan. 22-Feb. 20 and the 2015 School of Art and Design Undergraduate Exhibition March 5-April 3 with the awards ceremony and reception at 5 p.m. March 5. In the gallery, the School of Art and Design MFA Thesis Exhibition will be presented April 17-May 17 with the opening reception at 5 p.m. April 17. The shows are free and open to the public.
Ancient answers

An ECU team unearths priceless treasures in Petra, Jordan.

BY KELLY SETZER
Courtney Canipe ‘14 uses a surveying instrument during archaeology work near Petra, Jordan. She received her master’s degree in anthropology in August.
Long before Indiana Jones was swinging through Petra, Jordan, on the big screen in *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, the city had a story of its own to tell.

East Carolina University professor of anthropology Megan Perry was immediately fascinated by the ancient city’s story when she first visited in 1993. “I’ll definitely have to return for another trip before I can truly see this place,” she thought back then.

And return she did; multiple times over the next 21 years, most recently with ECU students and staff in tow.

Perry is co-directing the Petra North Ridge project with fellow archaeologist and historian Thomas Parker of North Carolina State University. Their task is to piece together the puzzle of an enigmatic people. In doing so, Perry hopes to build a unique cultural competence in her students by exposing them to the larger global society.

Their research has involved group excavations during 2012 and 2014 with another scheduled in 2016.

Petra is an archaeologist’s dream. Beneath the rose-colored rock and sandy cliffs lies the complex story of one of the oldest metropolises in the world. The city was the center of the Nabataean Kingdom until it fell into ruin sometime between 300 and 700 A.D. It remained virtually unknown to the Western world until a Swiss explorer discovered it in 1812, at which point the civilization’s relics were still beautifully preserved thanks to the protective nature of the rock formations.

Since then, researchers like Perry have been asking questions about the lives of ordinary people who lived there.

“To answer these questions, we’re excavating tombs from the first century A.D., which is sort of the height of Petra’s urbanity; it’s the florescence of the city,” Perry says. “And then also domestic structures that date from that period up until about the fourth century, when the city started going into decline.”
The much larger Roman Empire had taken over Petra by then, and a number of economic and political factors led to its fall years later. Tons of artifacts were left behind, though, which allows Perry and her team to look for clues about the Nabataean culture in everything from pottery and coins to bones and beads.

“In the tombs, of course, we’re looking to see what kind of evidence of health and disease we can determine,” Perry says. “We’re doing chemical analysis of the bones to look at diet from that perspective.”

The Petra North Ridge Project focuses specifically on understanding the “invisible” people—the non-elites who weren’t written about in historical sources. Perry says this makes their work even more interesting.

“ Their bones provide intimate glimpses of their life—a chipped tooth, a broken foot, even a fetus not carried to term,” she says.
“I like to imagine how they got that injury, or how they reacted when the mother gave birth to that stillborn baby.”

But more than just an imaginative adventure, the project exemplifies a broader goal of putting human behavior into a global perspective for ECU students, according to Perry.

“It’s important to understand humans in the larger picture, not only through (geographical) space, but also through time,” she says. “And understanding different cultural frameworks that exist and have existed around the world...is a necessary part of the educational experience.”

**Benefits to students**

The most recent excavation took place from June 26 to Aug. 6. Eight ECU students, two alumni and two faculty members took the 6,100-mile trip to participate. They were among 27 total staff and 19 multi-institutional students working together on the dig.

Laurel Appleton, an ECU graduate student in anthropology, jumped at the chance to be a part of the research. Petra’s selection as one of Smithsonian’s “28 Places to See Before You Die” is reason enough to want to go, but she says participating in the excavation was crucial for her career.

“(Ramadan) required many of us to behave differently than we normally would in America,” she says. “We were staying in a small town called Um Seyhoun, and, of course, we stuck out as a group of 50 Americans, so we were always sure to dress, speak and act appropriately to avoid accidentally offending anyone.”

This kind of global awareness and international experience goes beyond tourism to provide an in-depth perspective of another part of the world and enhances what she teaches, Perry says. “Any study-abroad experience is incredibly valuable for ECU students to best engage in a global society.”
Perspectives on death

The group’s 2012 excavation was the first time they were able to systematically dig into houses and tombs. It allowed them to begin building data for grant applications, which would help fund the remainder of the project. In addition to seed money, their efforts earned $290,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In 2014, they focused on specific aspects of the city’s 800 carved tombs.

Both excavations were physically demanding, with long, hot hours of intense work, Appleton says. Petra is situated in a mountainous basin in southwestern Jordan, along the Israeli border. It is a hot, dry and sandy city, as one might expect in the Middle East.

Appleton was an assistant tomb supervisor, which meant she had to be flexible and worked long shifts where she “could be digging, brushing soil away from bones, helping to take elevations or measurements for drawings, or working the sifter to look for artifacts missed while digging,” she says.

At the end of each day, they were sunburned and covered in dust. But through their hard work, researchers quickly noticed a fascinating aspect of the Nabataean culture: Their views on death were unique.

“The link between death and life was different for them; the dead are not as ostracized as they are in our society,” Perry says. “The tombs show us a very multisensory experience. There’s a lot of incense, perfumed oils and jewelry, as well as funerary feasts. It’s an interactive experience that they had with the dead.”

“The fact that their houses were built so close to where they buried the dead, and that they actually had feasts with them, is extremely interesting to me,” adds Eva Falls, another ECU archaeology graduate student working on the project. “They don’t separate the dead from the living, which is so different than us.”

Perry describes an exciting mystery solved in the tombs over the summer. In prior trips, she had found numerous small copper bell-shaped objects located only near the dead. For years, she struggled to explain them. What were these used for? Were they bells? Small cups?

But this year, they uncovered more in a well-preserved burial site at the bottom of a floor shaft. “The ‘bells’ were scattered around the body in roughly a rectangular shape, and one was still adhering to the coffin wood,” she says. “They were stud-like coffin decorations. We would never have known without luck and the careful excavation of the burial by our students and staff.”

Future impact of the project

Artifacts collected from the latest excavation recently arrived at East Carolina and N.C. State from their overseas shipment. The project team will clean, study and preserve their finds over the coming months to continue painting a picture of Petra’s common people from afar.

The anthropology department recently acquired a 3-D scanner, and Perry intends for a student on the project team to scan each of the artifacts so that online users can access dynamic 360-degree views of the objects they’ve found. The virtual artifacts library will likewise provide information on each of the objects’ archaeological context and meaning.

Perry is also hoping to work with ECU’s Department of Geography on a geographic information systems project to compile the Petra North Ridge data into an interactive map of the excavations.

Ultimately, the goal is to partner with ECU’s foreign languages and literatures department and others to aggregate these types of digital projects into one publicly accessible website portal, sharing the university’s research with a larger audience.

Plans for the 2016 excavation are under way as well. Scientific articles detailing the group’s conclusions about the Nabataeans will be released after the final trip, which will help other archaeologists working the region and other urban settlements.

In the meantime, ECU continues to strengthen its international footprint with the project.

“Having ECU running a research project in the largest tourist destination in Jordan, one of the new Seven Wonders of the World, is a really big deal,” Perry says. “It’s not easy to get permits to work there because it’s a World Heritage Site, and (they’re) very strict about what you can do. But we have that recognition, and that says a lot.”
BEYOND TOMORROW
OUR COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE
The next five years will see East Carolina University grow important academic programs, work to address the needs of eastern North Carolina and graduate students who are ready to lead in the workplace and community.

That’s the message of the university’s new strategic plan, titled Beyond Tomorrow: Our Commitment to the Future. “Beyond Tomorrow sets a bold course for the university,” says ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard. “It is a reflection of the values and principles of the university. It also points to one of the defining qualities of East Carolina: our readiness to confront the challenges of today while pushing beyond them toward a better tomorrow.”

Ballard described the plan as “bold, distinctive and authentic.” It’s also aspirational. It aligns with ECU’s mission in three key areas—maximizing student success, serving the public and leading regional transformation—that the plan calls “commitments.”

“It’s not what we do regularly, but what we want to become,” says Austin Bunch, senior associate provost and co-chair of the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee.

Elaine Scott, an associate professor in the ECU College of Nursing, also served as a co-chair. She says part of the purpose of the plan is to set “stretch goals” for the university.

“Part of strategic thinking is where do we need to expand,” she says. “Where do we want to go over five years?”

Work on the underpinnings of the plan began last fall in the form of meetings of faculty, staff members, administrators and students who listed six potential directions and goals along with strategies and action items to meet them. Those were consolidated into three commitments and several related goals and
compiled into a formal strategic plan.

“We have tried to be as inclusive and transparent as possible,” Bunch says. “We’ve really had a lot of input, and with every version the input we received improved the plan.”

William Downs, who joined ECU this year as dean of the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, praised the plan and says his college is ready to be a cornerstone of ECU’s work to achieve its goals during the next several years.

“As a new dean and as a newcomer to East Carolina University, I’ve been impressed by the significance we attach to Beyond Tomorrow,” Downs says. “All universities engage in strategic planning exercises, but here at ECU, I clearly have the sense that we will use our new plan to intentionally and genuinely guide priorities, effort and resources.”

In July, the plan was presented to the ECU Board of Trustees, and the chancellor’s Executive Council approved it in August. During the fall, 25 units within the university worked to develop their own strategic plans based on the broader plan along with action items to accomplish their goals and metrics to measure their success. Those plans will be reviewed by peer groups in the university before being approved by the Executive Council in February.

The Southern Association for Colleges and Schools, which accredits ECU, requires that strategic plans be measured for success in achieving goals.

“We won’t necessarily make every one 100 percent, but at least we have (said) what we want to be as an institution,” Bunch says.

He says ECU’s plan aligns with the goals and directions of the University of North Carolina’s strategic plan, Our Time, Our Future: The UNC Compact with North Carolina, adopted last year.

Along with Bunch and Scott, Interim Provost Ron Mitchelson led the Strategic Planning Committee.
Read the entire strategic plan at
www.ecu.edu/beyondtomorrow
Old-school values

Quietly but consistently, Max Ray Joyner has nurtured East Carolina in much the same way the university has nurtured the region.
East Carolina University and Greenville should be forever grateful that Max Ray Joyner ’55 never had a real hobby.

His late wife, Kitty Smith Joyner ’59, who died in 2011, certainly did. “Kitty had more hobbies than any human being I ever knew,” he says as he looks up at an oil painting of her in the living room of his Greenville home. “I never did. I guess you could say that the college and civic work was my hobby.”

He has quietly engaged in that hobby for nearly 60 years now, becoming a leading citizen of Greenville and one of the university’s most reliable volunteers and most generous donors.

It’s hard to think of a campus group he hasn’t led. He was president of the East Carolina Alumni Association and then the Pirate Club. He was a founding member and president of the ECU Foundation and served on that board for more than 20 years. He served two terms on the Board of Trustees and was its chair for two years.

He started giving money to East Carolina in the 1960s “when you could pay for a scholarship in the business school for around $650.”

In the years since, he has funded an endowed scholarship in the College of Nursing and created the first endowed chair in the Brody School of Medicine. He funded a cash prize to recognize faculty excellence in continuing education. He endowed a University Scholars award and recently funded a second scholarship in the Honors College.

His gifts have entitled him to membership in all of ECU’s major philanthropic groups, including the Leo Jenkins Society, the Order of the Cupola, the Old Austin Society, the Order of Wright Circle and the Polaris Society—the new group supporting the Honors College.

He’s 83 and—after more than five decades—he’s still giving his time and money to the university. Why?

He considers the question as he glances around the living room. This home in the Forest Hills neighborhood is where he and Kitty lived for 50 years—where they hosted many dinners and receptions for ECU, where Chancellor Richard Eakin was first introduced to the community.

He shrugs his shoulders. “It’s not hurt my standard of living any,” he says with a twinkle in his eye.

Thought Leo ‘would be a flop’

Most alumni tell stories about things that happened on campus several years ago. Joyner’s stories are about events that happened several chancellors ago.

Like this one: Joyner was just three years out of East Carolina in 1958 when he raised $50,000 and built Greenville’s first off-campus student apartments, The Collegiate, a 20-unit building at Fifth and Holly streets that’s still in use. It’s now called Sycamore Hill.

When his renters stayed up past 10 p.m. talking in the parking lot (Roddy Jones ’58 of Raleigh and Don Leggett ’58 of Greenville were two), a retired teacher who lived nearby would call the college to complain. And then Joyner’s phone would ring.

“Dr. Messick called me practically every morning, saying ‘Max Ray, Mrs. Clark called me again, and we’re going to have to do something about those boys over there.’”

John Messick was seven chancellors ago.

As his business career blossomed, Joyner became an enthusiastic supporter of Messick’s successor, Leo Jenkins, although at first he thought Jenkins faced a big impediment—his accent.

“When Messick was leaving (as chancellor in 1959), a lot of people didn’t think Leo would get it…because he was from New Jersey,” Joyner recalls. “Back then a lot of people didn’t cater to Yankees. And he sounded like a Yankee. I thought in politics he would be a flop as soon as he opened his mouth. But I was very wrong. Leo was a great leader.”

He and other local business people found it hard to resist when Jenkins invited them to dinner meetings to pitch his pet projects for the college.

“I went to a lot of Leo’s ‘free’ dinners,” Joyner says. “One time he asked a bunch of us to dinner and said he needed $15,000 for something for the school. He said that if 10 of us gave $500 each for three years, he would have it. That was the beginning of what’s now the ECU Foundation.”

As the decades rolled by, Joyner was a quiet presence at seminal moments in East Carolina history. He was on the search committee that picked Jenkins’ successor, Thomas Brewer, and was chair of the inauguration committee for Chancellor Eakin. Joyner served on other search committees that hired a university athletic director, a head football coach and a head basketball coach.

Through the many scholarships he supports
and the gift of his time to lead university and civic organizations, Joyner has become the embodiment of East Carolina’s motto, _Servire_—to serve.

“Max Ray has lived the very goals that ECU seeks to advance for eastern North Carolina with his service and commitment to improving the lives of others,” Eakin says.

**Lifetime connections**

Joyner was a junior at Greenville High School in 1949 when he walked by the home demonstration class one day and saw Kitty Smith for the first time. “She was sitting behind a sewing machine, and she was the most attractive thing I had ever seen. Our first date—she invited me because it was Sadie Hawkins Day. Six years to the day later, we were married.”

In the interval he served in the Army in Korea as a master sergeant with the 987th Armored Field Artillery. Then he came home and completed a degree in business administration in three years. He sold shoes in a downtown store to supplement his GI Bill benefits.

Kitty was from a prominent family. Her mother, Mary Bertolot Smith, taught piano at East Carolina from 1917 to 1926. Her father, Guy Smith, was a local business owner and civic leader for whom Greenville’s baseball stadium is named. A Terpsichordean Club debutante, Kitty went to Duke for her undergraduate degree before returning to Greenville to marry Joyner and enrolling in graduate school here.

Max Ray, as he is called by his legions of friends, was one of seven children. His family lived in the Red Oak community, and his father worked for Guaranty Bank. His older brother, Wilton Joyner ’50 ’53, taught in the ECU education department from 1976 to 1998. He and Wilton are the last surviving siblings.

Joyner went to work for the Jefferson-Pilot Insurance Co. almost straight out of college and stayed with the company for 39 years until retiring in 1995. For 24 years he was Jefferson-Pilot’s manager for the 25 counties in northeastern North Carolina. His agency produced the most life insurance sales in the history of Jefferson-Pilot, which included 75 agencies across the country.

He became a chartered financial consultant, a chartered life underwriter and an accredited estate planner. He was a founder and chair of North State Savings and Loan in Greenville and sat on the local board of Planters Bank.

He developed a keen eye for real estate and invested in several apartment projects, including Tar River Estates in Greenville and Wilson Woods in Wilson. His most recent development is Meridian Park, a 374-unit community in west Greenville.

Over the years, he says, “I would have a little profit in stocks, or I’d sell some real estate, and I’d give the money to the college.”

Why? “While I was attending East Carolina I worked several part-time jobs and also received $110 a month for serving in the Army, and I realized it was tough working your way through college,” Joyner says. “Today, it is nearly impossible for a student to work their way through college. That is the reason that I decided to start giving scholarships.”

He enjoys meeting the students who are awarded the scholarships he funds. “The first one I remember, she was there with her daddy. It was kind of touching because her daddy came up to me and said he appreciated this because, he said, ‘there is no way I could send her to college.’”

He says he didn’t plan to have an endowed chair in the medical school named for him and Kitty. It happened simply because he was asked and the arithmetic looked right.

“We had a new president of Jefferson-Pilot, and I went with Dick Eakin up to (the company headquarters in) Greensboro to meet him. A week later I got a letter saying Jefferson-Pilot would give East Carolina $250,000.

“Then Dick came to me and said, you know, the state will match us one-third to raise the half-million dollars you need for an
endowed chair. So with that quarter-million from Jefferson-Pilot, he said if we just had $87,000 more we could have a chair, the first one at the medical school.

“I thought it was a right good idea, so we did,” he says.

Eakin speaks glowingly of Joyner. “Max Ray has been a supportive and loyal friend to my wife, Jo, and me since our introduction to ECU in 1987. He provided wise counsel as chair of the Board of Trustees while I was chancellor. His dedication to ECU is remarkable.”

‘The best person I know’

Max Ray and Kitty had three children. The middle one, Max Ray Joyner Jr. of Greenville, attended ECU and now is associated with Town Insurance Agency. He serves on the ECU Board of Trustees. He says his dad is “the best person I know, certainly the best role model.”

He points out that his dad helped start the booster club at J.H. Rose High School. “He was at every game, everything that I was involved in growing up,” says Max Jr. “He’s given land for two churches in town and land for a fire station.”

Kitty’s philanthropic interests were in the fine arts. She and Max Ray supported the Four Seasons concerts, the ECU Friends of Music, the Friends of Theatre and Dance, and the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series.

Joyner, who has eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, also supported the local Boys and Girls Clubs and the Boy Scouts.

Daughter Catherine Joyner Hoft ’78 lives in Raleigh. “He has just done so much for so many people,” she says. “My parents were always very open and welcoming to anybody whether they were ECU people or folks from the community. After mother died, I had a lot of people come up to me and say how nice my parents had been to them when they moved to Greenville.”

Daughter Julia Joyner Fulcher lives in Wilson and drives down regularly to check on him. “I value that one day a week that I get to spend with my daddy. Growing up in Greenville, I always felt special knowing I was Max Joyner’s daughter.”

Joyner is sadly contemplating the end of his 20-year business relationship with Leigh Ann Raiford Odom ’91, who manages Meridian Park. She is leaving to follow her husband to his new banking job in Wilmington. “He is the nicest, most considerate and giving man I have ever met,” Odom says.

Joyner says he doesn’t plan any more real estate ventures but he does intend to remain active around town and engaged with the campus. A gregarious, warm-hearted and loyal person, he still drinks coffee most mornings with a group of friends that’s been together for more than 50 years.

He’s also carrying on Kitty’s traditions.

“One night I called him, and he wasn’t home, which worried me,” says daughter Julia.

“Finally I reached him, and he said he had been at a dance recital on campus. He still goes to all those things.”

Habits built up over a lifetime, thankfully, are hard to break.
When he was chair of the ECU Board of Trustees in the early 1990s, Max Ray Joyner initiated a project to compile a list of every building, conference room and lounge on campus that had been named for faculty members, important donors or honored alumni. He wanted to be sure these memorializations weren’t lost over time.

As he looked over the list, it occurred to Joyner that one person had been overlooked, a person who played a key role in East Carolina’s history. But it wasn’t a chancellor, a dean or a rich donor Joyner was concerned about.

It was James Louis “Pop” Williams, who was the campus police chief from 1917 until 1953. For most of those 36 years, Williams was the only campus cop.

“I saw him a hundred times, when I was in high school and later in college. He only worked at night, and he had this big key on a chain around his neck. He would walk around and turn that key in these stations around campus. And sometimes we would talk.

“I just thought there should be some record of someone who had served the college that long, who had done important things but done them away from the spotlight.

“It took me a while to finally get a marker put up in his memory, and I’m glad we got that done.”

The marker is in the parking lot at the corner of Fifth and Harding streets.
Alumni coaches have a bond—to their players and their university.
Coaching

Baseball coach
Cliff Godwin
Coaching legend Paul “Bear” Bryant put it succinctly in 1958 when he explained why he left Texas A&M to coach at his alma mater, Alabama.

“Mama called,” the football coach said. “And when Mama calls, you come running.”

Three current East Carolina University head coaches have answered that call, the most recent being head baseball coach Cliff Godwin '00 '02. He joins football coach Ruffin McNeill '80 and women’s golf coach Kevin Williams '85 as head coaches who also hold ECU degrees. Several assistant coaches are also ECU alumni.

“To be able to go out and coach third base and look up and say, ‘I’m coaching at my alma mater,’ it will be surreal,” Godwin says in his office at Clark-LeClair Stadium. But that’s not why he came to Greenville after assistant coaching stops at the University of Mississippi, Louisiana State University and others.

ECU Director of Athletics Jeff Compher said having a coach of Godwin’s caliber—alumnus or not—want to work at ECU shows how far the program has come.

“To have a nationally recognized coach such as coach Godwin want to come back to his alma mater says a lot about the commitment the university has made to the baseball program or any program,” Compher says.

In the American Athletic Conference, Connecticut baseball coach Jim Penders, Houston baseball coach Todd Whitting and Tulsa football coach Bill Blankenship are also coaching at their alma maters.

Building on a legacy

Godwin, a four-year Pirate letterman at catcher from 1998-2001, has been a part of seven NCAA Regional and two College World Series appearances coaching at the Division I level, including this year’s run by Ole Miss to the College World Series, held each year in Omaha, Nebraska. He became ECU’s 16th head baseball coach in June.

“IT’s not like I needed to come home. It is
East Carolina’s commitment to aiming at the highest level,” Godwin says. “I took this job because I want to get East Carolina to Omaha. I owe it to coach LeClair and the guys I played with. It’s going to be phenomenal.”

Raised in Snow Hill, Godwin played three sports at Greene Central High School. His father, Lewis, coached him on the boys basketball team. His mother, Kathy ’76, an ECU nursing graduate, was the school nurse.

The coach says his status as an alumnus will help on the recruiting trail.

“When I say that teams I played on built this stadium, I think you’re able to see the passion I have when I talk about it,” he says. And recruiting top players is a priority. “I’m a good coach, but I’m a much better coach when I have good players,” he adds.

Former ECU teammate and University of Michigan head baseball coach Erik Bakich calls Godwin “the perfect person” to coach the Pirates.

“He will attack the recruiting trail and develop his players to their maximum potential as students, as athletes and as men,” Bakich says. “Coach LeClair’s dream for East Carolina to go to Omaha will become a reality under Cliff’s leadership. He will make it happen because he is a champion and has been a winner his entire life.”

Women’s golf coach Kevin Williams watches as Frida Gustafson Spang practices.

“Women’s golf coach Kevin Williams watches as Frida Gustafson Spang practices.

No question,” he says. “Coaching at a place you went to school, you have so much pride in and for. Also, it helps you in recruiting when you’re fully invested in the university as a student, graduate and working there. Having walked down College Hill to class every day—they can tell I love the place.”

Williams coached men’s golf from 1995-2005, men’s and women’s golf from 2000-2005 and women’s golf from 2007 to today. He graduated from ECU in 1985 with a bachelor’s degree in history, though he didn’t play golf while in school. He tried out twice but didn’t make the team. He later went on to play in two PGA Club Professional Championships.

He’s guided the Lady Pirates to seven consecutive NCAA East Regional appearances.
He coached the 2013 Conference USA player and freshman of the year, Frida Gustafsson Spang. His players are competitive on the course and in the classroom. In July, the team was recognized for having a collective GPA of 3.635, ranking it 25th nationally.

“I know the area. I know the golf pros. That’s a big asset for us,” says Williams, who’s also worked as a club professional in eastern North Carolina.

Charles Bloom, ECU’s sports information director from 1988 until 1995 and now part of the athletics administration at the University of South Carolina—his alma mater—says when schools hire alumni, the benefits can be wide-ranging.

“When you put your people into the field after they graduate, if they’re qualified to come back, that’s a feather in your program,” says Bloom, who directed the Southeastern Conference's media and public relations efforts for 17 years. “That says a lot about an institution. That’s a very good thing for all the parties involved.”

Compher says he groups alumni student-athletes and former ECU assistant coaches together as people who know ECU and what it takes to win in Greenville.

“It’s very important to have someone… who’s familiar with this region and what it takes to recruit here,” Compher said. Alumni also stir excitement among the fan base. Ticket sales surged for baseball after Godwin's hiring was announced even though the team’s schedule hadn’t been released yet.

“There’s a familiarity there, and people
The following men played sports at ECU and later served as head coaches in football or baseball:

**FOOTBALL**

- Jim Johnson
  PLAYER 1933-1937  
  COACH 1946-1948

- Ed Emory
  PLAYER 1957-1959  
  COACH 1980-1984

- Ruffin McNeill
  PLAYER 1976-1980  
  COACH 2010-PRESENT

**BASEBALL**

- Earl Smith*
  PLAYER 1939  
  COACH 1963-1972

- Hal Baird
  PLAYER 1970-1971  
  COACH 1980-1984

- Gary Overton
  PLAYER 1970-1973  
  COACH 1985-1997

- Cliff Godwin
  PLAYER 1998-2001  
  COACH 2014-PRESENT

*Smith also coached basketball at East Carolina.

Among those, Johnson is part of one of the most unusual stories connected to Pirate athletics, though it occurred after he had retired from coaching. In October 1977, the heavily favored Pirates were playing William & Mary in the Oyster Bowl in Norfolk, Virginia. In the fourth quarter, ECU led by three points. With time ticking away, William & Mary quarterback Tom Rozantz broke loose and appeared headed for a touchdown. Johnson, described by The Virginian-Pilot newspaper as “a portly 65-year-old gentleman in a raincoat,” ran from the sidelines and threw a block tackle on Rozantz just before he reached the end zone. The unusual turn of events silenced the William & Mary fans, and the officials gathered to discuss their course of action. After deliberation, the play was ruled a touchdown, giving William & Mary a 21-17 victory.

Johnson, who also coached baseball and basketball and served as athletic director, died in 2004.
Shane Coltrain’s orthotics practice is seeing an increase of a particular type of patient, and he’s not happy about it. His eight-year-old Greenville company, Orthotics and Prosthetics East, fits individuals who have lost limbs with prosthetic devices. In recent years, he says he’s seen an uptick in patients with diabetes who have lost a foot.

“There are many things in life where the health care outcome is unavoidable—accidents, birth defects. But people with diabetes should not have to lose their feet,” he says.

He gives those patients special attention. “My diabetic patients, we see every four months” to be sure their prosthetic foot continues to fit and wear well, he says.

Coltrain’s specialty is patients who have lost a leg up to and including part of the hip. That’s called a hip disarticulation.

“If there’s a hip disarticulation amputation in this area, typically I see them because I am one. That’s how I am fit.”

That’s one reason why Coltrain and his patients often develop special bonds. He knows what they’re going through.

He was active in sports growing up in Jamesville in Martin County. He especially loved baseball. In 1991 he developed an infection from a cut on his right leg, probably from sliding into second base, he says. The infection got worse. Eventually the leg had to be amputated above the knee. That was a personal tragedy, he says, but from it grew a rewarding career.

“I do things differently than most practitioners simply because I know exactly what the patient is experiencing. A lot of the difficult fits in this area are referred to me.”

He career path has been long and winding.

After graduating from high school in 1993, he got a job working for a prosthetics and orthotics firm in New Bern while attending Craven Community College. Four years later he transferred to ECU. He completed a degree in rehabilitation studies in December 2000.

Then he transferred to Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago to study prosthetics and orthotics. He returned to Greenville two years later and completed a residency at Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics, a national leader in developing and fitting artificial limbs. He opened his Greenville practice in 2006.

He says his field is growing and evolving. Practitioners once depended on internships and residencies to learn their craft, he says. Recently, a more rigorous academic discipline has emerged.

“There are many things in life that’s how I am fit.”

He connects his patients with local support groups. He believes in a team approach that connects his therapy with the patient’s primary care physician and local support groups.

“We fit some of our patients with the C-leg, which has a microprocessor-controlled knee. It’s a mechanical device, so you have to come in and get routine maintenance. “Plus, as people learn to walk better—if they go from a walker to a crutch to a cane—the alignment of the prosthetic needs to change because their gait changes,” he says.

His practice usually sees 100 or so patients each week. He says the key to success in his medical field is keeping up with technology and mastering the Medicare system.

“We situated ourselves from the beginning with electronic medical records. It actually made my life easier. We embraced new technology. I have a 3-D scanner here that I use to get the exact shape and dimension of the area above the amputation, because

we have to tailor the socket—the part of the device that connects to their body—to fit them perfectly.

“The reimbursement issues around Medicare have become more complex. They are doing more audits into patient outcomes, which actually was needed but it’s causing a lot of small practices to go out of business.”

He connects his patients with local support groups and the Amputee Coalition, the nation’s largest organization serving patients with limb loss. He believes in the coalition’s approach to improving the quality of life for amputees and their families.

He hopes technology will soon deliver a mechanical arm as rugged and natural as the C-leg.

“We aren’t there yet because with the hand, you often use that outdoors, in wet weather. And that isn’t a good environment for a complicated device. But the Navy has technology where devices like that operate on ships on the ocean, so surely we can adapt that to making a hand that can pick up a cup of coffee and won’t fry if hot coffee spills on it.”

—Steve Tuttle

Alumni scholarship applications due Jan. 30

The East Carolina Alumni Association is accepting applications for Alumni Scholarships for the 2015-2016 school year through Jan. 30. Scholarships and application details are online at PirateAlumni.com/Scholarships. To receive a scholarship, students must be able to attend the scholarship luncheon April 25.

Class of 1965 reunion May 7-8

Members of the class of 1965 are invited to return to East Carolina for their 50th reunion, when they will be honored as Golden Alumni during commencement weekend. Plan to arrive May 7 for a special dinner with the class of 2015 before leading the graduates into Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium during commencement May 8. More information will be online at PirateAlumni.com.
May 3 at Smyrna Pentecostal Holiness Church, Smyrna. The wedding party included Christopher Alan Baker ’09, brother of the groom, Erin Laura Diamond ’08 ’14, Cory Adam Noe ’14 and Ashton Davis Springle. She is a certified registered nurse anesthetist with East Carolina Anesthesia Associates, Greenville. He is enrolled in ECU’s physical therapy doctoral program. Emily Catherine Cozart wed Andrew Elliot Dowd on April 27 at Yankee Hall Plantation, Greenville. The wedding party included Ginger Hardee. She works at St. Luke’s Presbyterian Hospital, Chesterfield, Mo. Allison Camille Farless wed Ryan Colt Mills ’11 on June 7 at Edenton United Methodist Church, Edenton. The wedding party included Alexander Robert Dunn ’12, Bradley Scott Kimrey ’11, Elizabeth Berry Laughridge ’10 ’11, Sarabeth Moore, KeeHn Ross Page ’10 and Nathan Templeton Perry ’11. In Washington, D.C., she works in the office of U.S. Rep. Scott DesJarlais, Md., and he works for Berman and Company. Air Force Airmen 1st Class David A. Crowe graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. Hannah Marian Fisher wed Mark Robert Blecher on April 12 on the ocean front in Nags Head. She is a physical therapist with Carolina Therapy Services, Wilmington. Kiahna J. Johnson received her master of environmental health degree from the University of St. Francis, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Angela Noblitt is a business teacher in Camden County Schools. She was Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools’ director of community-school relations. Meghan Osborne is public relations and events coordinator for the Jo Ann Carter Harrelson Center, Wilmington. Dr. Jennifer Satterl is assistant professor of physical science in the School of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, Okla. Sally Sutton’s “Food, Farm and Community” paintings featuring flowers and scenes from farmers markets was exhibited at City Art Gallery, Greenville, in August.

Victoria Kidd ’01 of Winchester, Virginia, executive director of OMP Consulting Group LLC, received the Democratic Community Action for Equality Award. The annual award, presented Sept. 6, recognizes individuals living in Virginia who have made significant contributions to advancing the rights of LGBT citizens in the state. She and her partner were among the four couples who successfully sued to overturn Virginia’s ban on gay marriage. Kidd does extensive volunteer work with the USO and is active in Rotary, where she was a Paul Harris Fellow this year.

The museum of the national headquarters of the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity in Charlotte has an addition thanks to four ECU alumni. From left, Mike Terry of Charlotte, Bill Marks ’69 of Charlotte, Ralph Finch ’67 of Midlothian, Virginia, and Dan Ray ’64 of Clinton donated a letter received in 1965 from Simon Fogarty, who was one of three people who founded the fraternity at the College of Charleston in 1904. Fogarty was 78 when he wrote the letter congratulating members of the new chapter. Pi Kappa Phi CEO Mark Timmes said the letter will become “one of the most prized items” in the fraternity’s museum. The four also donated a vintage ECC mug to replace the damaged one that had been a part of a fraternity museum display. The local chapter closed in 2011 and recolonized last spring. It now has approximately 65 brothers.
McLawhorn '10 and Matthew Gabriel McLawhorn '10. She is a parent coordinator with Family Support Network of Eastern North Carolina, Greenville. He is the general manager of Auto Connection, Wilson. Amanda Malkiewicz is head coach in women’s soccer at Concord University, Princeton, W.Va., where she was the assistant coach. Katherine “Kitty” McLeod wed Charles Lofton Johnson '11 on Aug. 2 at Angier Baptist Church, Angier. She is a financial advisor with Edward Jones Investments, Smithfield. He is shipping manager for Smithfield-Farmland, Wilson. Alton Temoto is assistant swimming coach at Williamette University, Salem, Ore. He was coaching age group swimmers at the West Houston Aquatic Team in Houston, Texas.

Emily Hayworth Long wed John Gray Melvin on May 10 at Saint Mary’s Chapel, Raleigh. The wedding party included Jordan Paul Abbott, Donald Eugene Cook III '13, Carl Louis Doughtie '12, Rebecca Danielle Orzechowski, Ashton Elizabeth Turner '12 and Cade Barrett Turner '12. She works at CM Ranch, Dubois, Wyo.

Zakiya Rashida Durojaiye wed James Earl Pierce on June 28 at St. Paul Baptist Church, Rocky Mount. The wedding party included Samantha Brown '00. She works for Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools. Patricia Jane “P.J.” Fidler wed Lindsay Garth Gray Jr. '11 on May 3 at Cape Fear Country Club, Wilmington. The wedding party included Stacy McDonald Cline '11, Bradley Anderson Gray '11, Natalie Adele Hamstead '12, Charles Ryan Harris, Taylor Nichols Herendeen, Ashley Elizabeth Keel '09, Hillary Varner McLawhorn, Taylor Akel Rouse '11, Christopher Ryan Rowlett '12 and Melissa Cotten Wilkerson '12. She was in Alpha Delta Pi sorority and is a travel agent with AAA. He was in Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and is a sales associate with Builder’s First Source. Courtney Ann Harris wed Hugh Therman “Trey” Hardee IV on May 17 at Longstraw Farms, Ayden. The wedding party included Megan Garner ’09, Christin Tew and Jenn Warren ’09. She works at N.C. Health Services and Bayada. Stephanie Laura Lineberry wed Jack Michael New on May 3 at Penn House, Reidsville. The wedding party included her sister, Jennifer Lineberry Carter ’07 ’09, and Ashlee Lawson. She works at Inmar, Winston-Salem. Anne Mann is finance director for the town of Tarboro. She was finance director for the town of Nashville. Meagan Moore McFarland wed Christopher Lee McFarland on Oct. 26, 2013, on Oak Island. She works in the neurosciences department at Mission Hospital, Asheville. In 2013, she was Nash Healthcare’s Nurse of the Year. Greg Pierce is the Wyoming state archaeologist. He is a doctoral candidate in anthropology at the University of Wyoming and

Make a Note
OF YOUR NEWS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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 ecuclassnotes@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, fax: 252-328-4904, or email: murphyk@ecu.edu.

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If you are a member of the class of 1965, mark your calendars for May 7-8, 2015 for your 50th class reunion! Reconnect with your alma mater and fellow graduates during this special time. Reunion activities include campus tours, dinner on the campus mall with members of the class of 2015, a candlelight ceremony, ushering in the class of 2015 at commencement, a luncheon with the university historian, and a reunion dinner and celebration. Registration will open in spring 2015.

PirateAlumni.com/2015GAR  800-ECU-GRAD
coach at Ashley High School, Wilmington. He is a 2003 graduate of Ashley. He was JV boys basketball coach at New Hanover the last three seasons. Dr. Adam Harrell joined the dental practice of Lee, Fussell, Humphreys & Humphreys P.A., Greenville. He received his dental degree at UNC-Chapel Hill. Sierra Jones ’09 ’12 is communications assistant for the Greenville-Pitt County Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Janie Pendleton Taft wed David Clark Strange on Aug. 16 at Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church, Greenville. She is a financial analyst at Flanders Corp., Washington.

Jordan Talley received a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Bradenton, Fla. He is interning at Manatee Memorial Hospital in Bradenton. His medical residency in anesthesiology at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md., begins in 2015.

Phoebe Pollitt published her first book, The History of Nursing in North Carolina. Jeff O’Seary is general manager of Saks Fifth Avenue Greenwich (Conn.). Katherine Cooper Trevathan wed Benjamin James Dorman on July 12 at the home of the bride’s parents in Atlantic Beach. The wedding party included her sister Lauren Trevathan Daigle ’14.

Catherine Leigh Reilly wed Christopher Glenn Wagoner on June 7 in Wallace. The wedding party included Katie Carlhough ’08, Matt Carlhough ’09, Mike Crooke ’08, Mary Kate Harris, Jonathon Honour ’03, Kourtney Landen and Kenny Walters ’08. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. She works at Cheseterbrook Academy, Raleigh. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He works for Brasfield and Gorrie, general contractors.

Lauren Asby, branch manager at the Greenville Medical Center branch of Southern Bank, was recognized as the bank’s top mortgage producer at the bank’s annual Best Bankers event in spring 2014. Dr. Rachel Thomas joined Vidant Internal Medicine-Greenville as part of Vidant Medical Group.

Corinne Spence Dorey and Jamie Dorey had a daughter in 2014. He achieved the Certified Commercial Investment Member designation from the CCIM Institute.

Sarah Ward Lage is a career counselor in ECU’s Career Center. She is a liaison to the graduate school, student-athletes and deciding students.

Dowdy Student Stores are owned and operated by ECU with shops on campus and Pirate athletic venues.

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

At Dowdy, we return profits from sales right back to the university to support scholarships, and campus programs including educational and enrichment projects.

Whenever you’re on campus, whether taking in a show in Wright Auditorium, or watching the Pirates play ball, we hope you’ll shop with us!

Can’t make it to campus? Visit us online at www.studentstores.ecu.edu
Michael Aho returned for his ninth season as the “Voice of the Marching Pirates” for all ECU home football games in the 2014 season. He also began service on the ECU Board of Visitors. Willie James Bell Jr. is Franklin (Va.) City Public Schools superintendent. He was director of instruction for Sussex County Schools. Kate Tillman Brown ’02 ’03 and her husband, André, a student in ECU’s construction management department, had their second child, a daughter, in 2014. She works in commercial real estate in Raleigh. Heather Dail is marketing director for Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge in Greenville.

Col. John D. Slocum ’84 is the new commander of the 127th Wing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Michigan. He will command approximately 1,700 members of the Michigan Guard.

Slocum received his Air Force commission in 1984 and served as an F-4 and F-16 pilot. He joined the Arizona ANG in 1992 and has had several leadership positions at the ANG Readiness Center, most recently serving as the ANG inspector general.

Flying the A-10 Thunderbolt II and the KC-135 Stratotanker, the 127th supports Air Mobility Command, Air Combat Command and Air Force Special Operation Command.

In the photo, Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III (right), director of the Air National Guard, presents Slocum, at the time the director of ANG Safety, with the Air Force Safety Hall of Fame Award during a town hall meeting Jan. 22, 2013, at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. The Air Force Safety Hall of Fame Award is given to a recipient whose achievements have significantly increased Air Force safety by reducing mishaps while improving safety policies, guidance or procedures.

2001

Crystal Lail is principal at Elizabeth Lane Elementary, Charlotte, where she has been a principal fellow since 2001.
August 2013. **Jeremy Woodard** is appearing in Sting’s new Broadway musical, *The Last Ship.*

**2000**

**Jennifer Coleman Nixon** is executive director of the Reidsville Area Foundation.

Ashley Tucker Moore ’00 ’07 wed Laura Elithe Phibbs on Aug. 9 at North Raleigh United Methodist Church, Raleigh. The wedding party included Jason Paul Dorazio ’99, Jennifer Lynn Lippincott ’03, Tony Preston Moore ’87 ’02, father of the groom, Andrew Henry Phibbs ’99, Roy Earl Phibbs ’73, father of the bride, Ryan Fletcher Williams ’97 and Laura Sutton Young ’99 ’01. He works in his family’s business, North Carolina Driving School, in Winterville.

**1999**

**Brian Hill** is an assistant principal at Southwestern Randolph High School, Asheboro. He was teaching health and physical education and serving as the girls soccer coach at Archdale-Trinity Middle School. **Marc Whichard** ’99 ’05 is lead principal for Edgecombe County Public Schools.

**1998**

**Chad Aldridge** is a home mortgage consultant in the Greenville office of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, a division of Wells Fargo Bank N.A.

**Asa Buck,** Carteret County sheriff, was elected president of the N.C. Sheriff’s Association. **Joel Butler** was appointed to a three-year term on the Greenville Utilities Board of Commissioners. He is chief external affairs officer of Vidant Health. **Rick Owens** ’98 ’01 was promoted to vice president of administrative services at Pitt Community College, Winterville. He was assistant vice president of information technology and services at PCC.

**1997**

Elizabeth Anne Brooks Newell

**Kiki Farish** ’06, an adjunct professor at Meredith College in Raleigh, is serving as artist in residence at the N.C. Museum of Art for programs aimed at teenagers. She began the residence in August and will continue in that role through April. Farish will help students explore the artistic process and personal expression through drawing. She also will lead a January teen workshop. Farish, who exhibits her work at Artspace in Raleigh, is one of 13 North Carolina artists chosen for the Line, Touch, Trace special exhibition on display at NCMA through March 8.

When making your estate plans, place East Carolina University among your loved ones.

We all hope to leave our legacy through our family, friends, and loved ones. Ultimately, we hope to leave behind our precious gained lifetime assets to those who are most important to us. East Carolina University always encourages families to take care of themselves first, but if there are other assets remaining after satisfying those goals, please think of leaving your perpetual legacy at East Carolina University.

A bequest provision is among the simplest yet most effective ways to make a long lasting impact at ECU. By naming any of the three ECU Foundations (East Carolina University Foundation Inc., East Carolina University Medical & Health Sciences Foundation Inc., and/or the East Carolina University Educational Foundation Inc. (Pirate Club)) as beneficiary of a percentage or specific dollar amount from your estate, you are investing in the future of young people for generations to come.

Most often, donors consider establishing an endowment that can be named for a special loved one or the family. An endowment for scholarship support can be established for as little as a minimum $25,000 bequest commitment.

Thank you for considering giving deserving students educational support and the opportunity for an outstanding future.

For more information about bequest provisions or any planned giving instruments, please call Greg Abeyounis, Associate Vice Chancellor for Development, at 252-328-9573 or email abeyounisg@ecu.edu. Visit us online at www.ecu.edu/devt.
Gift funds LGBT center

The new student center planned for East Carolina University’s Main Campus will contain an LGBT center as a result of a $500,000 gift from an Atlanta physician.

The donation is the latest gift to ECU from Dr. Jesse R. Peel, who established a University Scholars Award in 1986 in honor of his parents. Peel, a psychiatrist, was among the earliest benefactors of the University Scholars awards, now called the EC Scholars program.

Officials said the $500,000 gift will come from an investment account established by Peel. Separately, Peel made an outright gift of $25,000 to establish the Dr. Jesse Peel Center Endowment.

A native of Martin County, Peel completed his undergraduate and medical studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. However, he has directed his philanthropy to ECU because, Peel said, his parents, the late J. Wollard and Helen Peel, believed ECU was critical to the future of eastern North Carolina.

Among other gifts to ECU, Peel has funded a distinguished professorship in religious studies. He also set up a core competencies program at the Brody School of Medicine.

Through his estate, Peel will establish a distinguished professorship in social diversity in the Department of Sociology; a distinguished professorship in social diversity in the College of Education; a new EC Scholars award in memory of his mother; and an endowment for the Center for Diversity and Inequality Research in the Department of Sociology.

Peel is a member of the Chancellor’s Diversity Council, is an honorary member of East Carolina’s chapter of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society and received the Thomas Harriot College medallion in recognition of service to the college.

Reindeer Dash for Cash

The 10th annual Reindeer Dash for Cash will be Dec. 7 and will start from the Greenville Town Common. The event raises money for a foundation that is sponsoring a scholarship for a health and human performance student.

Christopher Cash, pictured at right, whose two ECU degrees are in health and human performance, was killed in action in Iraq in 2004 while serving with the National Guard.

The fundraiser was started by his widow, Dawn Cash-Salau. She said nearly 1,000 runners participated in the 10k and 5k events the last two years, and she hopes to beat that number this year.

The event, which has raised nearly $210,000 so far, benefits the Captain Christopher Cash Foundation. Cash-Salau said the foundation previously has funded some scholarships in the College of Health and Human Performance. The foundation plans to endow the scholarship next year.

Cato is a home mortgage consultant at the Greenville office of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, a division of Wells Fargo Bank N.A. Amy Edwards of Amy Edwards Family Law, Greenville, is accredited by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to represent on a pro bono basis veterans filing disability claims based on illnesses or injuries that occurred while on active duty.

Frank J. Rygiel is vice president of business development in the Tampa, Fla., office of Batson-Cook Co., general contractors. He was a senior project manager with the company. Natasha Savage is leading business development and account management activities for Metrics Inc.’s Southeastern clients. She was director of business development for Intertek’s Pharmaceutical Services division.

Allison Setser ’96 ’10 is principal at Bethel School. She is the former H.B. Sugg and Sam Bundy assistant principal.

Sam Matheny is executive vice president and chief technology officer for the National Association of Broadcasters in Washington, D.C. He was vice president of policy and innovation at Raleigh-based Capitol Broadcasting Co. Misty Walker ’93 ’00 is principal of Washington High School.

Dr. Teresa Conner-Kerr ’92 ’94 is dean of the College of Health and Science Professions at the University of North Georgia. She was professor and chair of the physical therapy department in the School of Health and Sciences at Winston-Salem State University. Dr. Pamela Susan Lovelace is assistant director for development and extension at the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium. She was manager of the Human Dimensions Research Program at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Hollings Marine Laboratory. D. Paul Powers Jr. ’92 ’94, senior vice president and manager of the Pitt County Commercial Banking Unit for Southern Bank, was recognized as top commercial banker in the region at Southern Bank’s annual Best Bankers event held in Norfolk, Va., in 2014.

Dr. Mary Kirk retired as president of Montgomery Community College, Asheboro, to become a vice president of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, Decatur, Ga. Charlie Langley ’91 ’97 is principal of C.M. Epps Middle School. He was principal at the Greene County Early College High School and former principal of J.H. Rose High School.

Judy Mattocks Taylor, a first-grade teacher at L.C. Kerr School, is the 2014-2015 Jack and Kitty Morisey Teacher of the Year for Clinton City Schools.

Greg Peele is football coach for East Carteret High School. He was physical education teacher, athletic director, football and basketball coach at Southwest Middle School, Jacksonville. Gary Woodlief is chief banking officer for North State Bank.
It was 60 years ago, but F.B. Hall Jr., ‘70 of Alexandria, Virginia, vividly remembers his first-grade teacher, Marion Chesson Coster, ‘54, at Riverside Elementary School in New Bern. He wondered if she were still alive and, if so, he wanted to find her and thank her for sparking his interest in learning.

It took a couple of years to track her down, but last May he visited her at her home in Greer, South Carolina. “How many people ever have the opportunity to thank their first-grade teacher for giving them a great start in their education? She was an excellent teacher who made every aspect of school and learning exciting for me. I am so thankful for Mrs. Coster and look forward to future visits with her,” Hall said.

Hall, who majored in art education at ECU, had a 33-year career in the classroom at schools in North Carolina and Virginia. In 1990, he was chosen by the Washington Post to receive the Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Since retiring in 2003, he has written several books and created many works of art.

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1965
Dr. Jerry E. McGee, president of Wingate University, was inducted into Appalachian State University’s Reich College of Education’s Rhododendron Society, which honors exemplary service to education and community.

1969
Ronald “RV” Vincent, baseball coach at J.H. Rose High School, Greenville, is The Daily Reflector 2014 Coach of the Year. His team had an 11-1 league record.

1970
Bob Rankin’s paintings were exhibited at City Art Gallery, Greenville, in August.

1971
Don Mills was elected secretary of the Greenville Utilities Board of Commissioners. He is the retired plant manager of NACCO Materials Handling Group.

1976
Jerry Brett is senior vice president and eastern regional executive of Albermarle Bank & Trust overseeing the Greenville and Edenton markets.

1978
Herman Boyd Overman Jr., is clinic director of Carolina Physical Therapy Associates Inc., Greenville.

1979
Mark A. Holmes is executive vice president and COO of Select Bank, a merger of Select Bank Trust Co. and New Century Bank. He was president and CEO of Select Bancorp Inc. and Select Bank and Trust Co.

1981
Melissa Colson Miller Cardinali is assistant county manager for finance and administrative services for Cumberland County. She has been the county’s finance director since August 2013 and was financial services director for the city of Sanford for 15 years.

1982
Mark Faithful is dean of construction and technology at Pitt Community College. He was dean of corporate and community development at Edgecombe Community College.

1985
Dr. Tamara Hill, ‘85 ‘89 opened her new practice, Hill Dermatology, Bartlesville, Okla. Diane Villa is curator of design at the N.C. Zoo, Asheboro. She was the zoo’s graphics supervisor for 20 years.

1986
John Minges was elected for his first term as chair of the Greenville Utilities Board of Commissioners. He is president and founding partner of Minges & Associates LLC.

1987
Chris Egan, ‘87 ‘89 is executive director of the N.C. Council on Developmental Disabilities. He is a former clinical assistant professor in the School of Social Work at UNC-Chapel Hill and clinical coordinator for the Developmental Disabilities Training Institute within the Jordan Institute for Families in the School of Social Work. Dawn Hunter ‘87 ‘91 ‘08 is principal of Comfort Elementary School in Jones County. She was principal of Northwest Elementary School in Lenoir County.

1988
Mark A. Holmes is executive vice president and COO of Select Bank, a merger of Select Bank Trust Co. and New Century Bank. He was president and CEO of Select Bancorp Inc. and Select Bank and Trust Co.

1989
Herman Boyd Overman Jr., is clinic director of Carolina Physical Therapy Associates Inc., Greenville.

1990
When he was a student here, Jim Burden, ‘76 was injured while competing as a diver on the swimming and diving team. “On my last college dive at ECU, we were competing against Johns Hopkins and I separated a rib and shoulder,” he said. For divers who must contort their bodies to be able to spin in the air and twist into odd shapes, such an injury can end a career.

Burden, who lives in Poquoson, Virginia, didn’t compete in diving for the next 38 years, although he did coach the sport at the high school level. Then in 2013—when he turned 60—he decided to give diving another try.

He began a limited practice schedule at the Midtown Aquatic Center in Newport News, assisted by Danita Fox (pictured at right), the center’s aquatics director. He entered the Mid-Atlantic Springboard Masters Diving Invitational last November. Then he won two silver medals at the Masters Spring Nationals in Texas. Those performances qualified him to compete in the 60-64 age group at the FINA World Masters Championships held in Montreal in August.

Competing for Team USA at the world masters, Burden won the gold medal in the 1-meter springboard diving event. He also won a bronze medal in 3-meter diving.

He was surprised at how well he performed. “My expectations were essentially to embarrass myself or Team USA,” he said in an interview with a Newport News newspaper.

The absence of competition over the years may explain why he’s now doing so well in the sport. “A lot of older divers are beat up. Diving takes a toll on you,” he said.
Be A Part of Our Team

Proudly Supporting the ECU Campus Community for 24 Years.

“The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.”
-Aristotle
In Memoriam

1930s

Roxie Suit Lincoln ‘36 of Wilmington died July 11 at 99. During WWII, she was a nurse at U.S. Army Camp Butner. She then taught for 35 years.


Marguerite V. H. Greer ‘40 of Whiteville died July 9 at 96. She taught for 40 years at Whiteville High School in Columbus County.

Virginia Riddle Moore ‘43 of Wilmington died Aug. 19 at 92. She retired as an elementary school teacher in Cumberland County.

Aydelle Hoflar “Doc” Perry Jr. ’49 of Virginia Beach, Va., died May 29. During 30 years in the military, he served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. In 1974 he retired from the Marine Corps and went to work as adult parole and probation officer in Portsmouth and Chesapeake, Va., from which he retired in 1989. Alta Tyson Shoe ‘48 of Greenville died June 1. She taught at Chocod School and was a substitute teacher in Pitt County for 40 years.

1940s

Alta Mallard Abernathy ‘56 of Greensboro died July 29. She was a teacher and community volunteer.

Doris Edwards Blevins ‘51 of Elizabeth City died July 21. She was a dietitian for the N.C. School for the Deaf and taught for 38 years at Clarke School for the Deaf in Massachusetts.

Elvin Ray Brewer ’59 of Greenville died June 10. For more than 33 years he owned and operated Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants, growing to 13 restaurants in eight counties, until retiring in 1998. Joseph Speight “Buddy” Collins ’57

1950s

1960s

Bobby Lewis Anderson ’60 ‘61 of Raleigh died July 30. A U.S. Army Korean War veteran, he worked with the N.C. Department of Community Colleges.

Howard “Dan” Williams ’60 died July 13. For 28 years, she was the biology teacher at J.H. Rose High School, Greenville. Walter Clay Rose ’62 of Ocala, Fla., died July 25. He served in the U.S. Army Vietnam War veteran. He retired from the Department of Defense. Grace “Gigi” Dail Smith ’67 of Raleigh died July 4. She taught high school English.

Betty Holden Stike ’63 of Wilmington died June 24 at 95. She taught for 24 years in Brunswick, Harnett and New Hanover County schools. She taught in the Watson School College of Education at UNC Wilmington for more than 21 years, and a learning lab there is named for her. She helped charter the Student N.C. Association for Educators on Campus.

Robert Howard “Dan” Williams ’60 of Hillsborough died Feb. 18. A founder and editor of the ECU Literary Journal and a member of the original Southern Writers’ Conference, he was in book publishing with Doubleday Publishing Co., Time, Appleton Century Croft and Harcourt Brace Jovovnich. In 1989, with his wife, Julia, he founded Tryon Publishing Co., specializing in nonfiction. They also published coffee table histories with noted Southern authors Lee Smith and Clyde Edgerton. In 1995 they moved to Chapel Hill and then Hillsborough, where they opened an independent bookstore.

1970s

Ikie “Ike” Edward Arnold ‘73 of Greenville died Aug. 1. He was an accountant and a Pirate Club member.

Cathy Whitehurst Ellis

Judith Ann Cowart Banks ’80 of Conway, S.C., died June 2. She worked as a library assistant, radio announcer, personnel analyst, community college instructor and nursing home assistant. Susan L. Jeffery Collins ’81 of Brooksville, Fla., died July 7. She worked in risk management for several years. Gordon Commodoore Jr. ’84 of Cary died June 24. Born in London, he moved to the U.S. where he joined the U.S. Marine Corps, serving from 1966-1977, including a combat tour in Vietnam. He obtained his U.S. citizenship in 1971 and later a degree in technical education from ECU. Goldie Morris Eley ’80 of Jackson died May 21 at 90. A lifelong teacher, she developed and implemented one of North Carolina’s first migrant education programs and later the Northampton County school system’s reading and literacy program. Dora Ann Cobb Freeman ’85 ’88 of Cove City died Aug. 2. She taught in Jones, Pamlico and Craven counties. She later became a counselor at H.J. McDonald Middle School, New Bern, until retirement. Nita Hedreen ’80 of Emerald Isle died Aug. 18. An Air Force veteran, she was a registered nurse at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Greenville, for 19 years and most recently worked at the naval hospital at Camp Lejeune. Since 2003, she was an Emerald Isle town commissioner. Yeuvenne Owens Lansinger ’88 of Virginia Beach, Va., died May 9. She was an elementary teacher in Selma and a reading recovery coordinator in Virginia Beach Public Schools. Christopher Donaldo Lewis ’87 of Elkin died July 7. He was a therapist at a mental institution in Atlanta and a race car driver. Karen Moore Medlin ’83 of Durham died July 10. She was an occupational therapy assistant at WakeMed in Raleigh for 12 years. Lt. Col. (ret.) William Stuart Meredith ’80 of Titusville, Fla., died June 4. He served 28 years in the U.S. Air Force. Donna Jean Hicks Nettles ’80 of Lake City, S.C., died Aug. 26. She was a senior vice president and market executive of First Citizens Bank.

1990s

David J. Preve Jr. ’93 of Miami, Fla., died July 19. He worked at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C., for more than 15 years. 2000s

Shawn P. McCarthy ’05 of Union City, N.J., died June 22. He played hockey for the CP Hockey Association. Billie Jean Vaughn McDonough ’01 of Leland died July 18. She was a nurse in hospice care receiving her National Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse Certification in 2012.

FACULTY

Dr. Robert Grifffen Brame of Clemmons died June 14. A pioneer and leader in women’s health care in North Carolina, he was the only obstetrician-gynecologist in the state to serve on the faculty of the medical schools of Duke, Wake Forest, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and ECU. From 1977-1995 he was the first chair of the OB-GYN department at ECU’s medical school. He also served on the faculties of the University of Virginia School of Medicine, the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and Carolinas Medical Center. Dr. Brian Lamont Harris of Washington, N.C., died Aug. 6. An associate professor of German, he taught at ECU from 1982 to 2004, he was known for his love of teaching, his research on Dada and German fiction and essays, his translation of Hugo Ball, his poems and plays, his saxophone playing and his presence on faculty governance committees.

Palmyra “Pia” M. Leahy of Greenville died July 13. She retired in 1997 after teaching geography for 30 years. The ECU Department of Geography official history notes that she was “arguably the most popular geography instructor in the history of the department.” She was the author or co-author of numerous academic books, articles and papers, including A Catalogue of Latin American Flat Maps.

Vincent Conrad Pelletier of New Bern died June 4. He taught at ECU’s School of Medicine and School of Nursing from 1997 to 1999.

Mary Ellen Wojtasiewicz, of Winterville died June 1. She was a teaching assistant professor and director of bioethics at ECU’s Brody School of Medicine. She was the founding advisor of the Brody School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Walter Joseph Zoller of Greenville died July 21. He was a former government documents librarian at Joyner Library.

STAFF

Emily Marie Roebuck Hall Averett of Scotland Neck died June 4. She worked at ECU for more than 30 years and continued to work part time at ECU after her retirement. Thomas Arthur Buck of Greenville died July 5. Darlene Hassebrook Peszko of Greenville died July 16. For more than 20 years, she worked at ECU’s printing services and was one of the three individuals credited with starting the department. Janie Walton Radford of Greenville died July 4. For 19 years she worked at ECU, and she held several positions in the State Employees Association of N.C. Annette Weaver of Beaufort, S.C., died Aug. 9. She was executive secretary for the late ECU president Leo Jenkins, and she retired from BellSouth.

Michael A. Young of Grimesland died July 23. He worked at ECU in the Brody Medical Sciences Building as an air-conditioning and refrigeration technician.

FRIENDS

Rachel Fleming Edwards of Greenville died June 29. In 1963 she and her husband, Jack ’60, started the Book Barn, the forerunner of UBE.
To celebrate his 79th birthday on Jan. 18, 1915, faculty and students at East Carolina Teacher Training School hosted a party for former Gov. Thomas Jarvis in what is now the Old Cafeteria Building. Jarvis, the founder of the school, was a frequent speaker on campus, but this occasion would be the last.

President Robert Wright asked Jarvis to talk about the principles that had guided him through 50 years in public service as a lieutenant governor, governor, ambassador and U.S. senator.

Jarvis had overseen construction of the six original campus buildings and had given generously of his time leading the Board of Trustees through its first eight years. But he began by apologizing for not doing more, according to a transcript of his remarks in the spring 1915 issue of the Training School Quarterly.

“I shall only regret that I cannot render to you the service I would render if the Legislature would let me. Oh, the buildings that would be added here, the numbers of (students) that would come here and the numbers of children that would be helped, if the Legislature would only hear my cry for the children!”

Then he turned introspective.

“I have been analyzing this event and that event—in my boyhood days, in my manhood days and in my more mature years, trying to find the motive that prompted me each time.

“I have debated with myself whether I could truthfully say that from the time I began to know what life meant and to understand the duties and obligations of life, one motive controlled my actions.

“Did I think along the lines of self-interest in doing this, or in refusing to do that, or was I seeking the good of others?

“I stand here, fully conscious of all the responsibility that goes with the statement and truthfully say that I have always tried, as best I knew how, to serve my fellow man. Whether I always judged wisely or not, I cannot say.

“I made the best use I could of the opportunity when I (was) governor, working the best I could for forwarding the people and furthering prosperity, believing firmly that the question of educating the people was the very foundation of prosperity. Without an educated people you cannot have a great state.

“I rejoice in the fact that there are schools where teachers can be trained. I rejoice in the knowledge that it will not be many years before nobody who is not trained will be permitted to teach North Carolina children.

“Some enthusiastic lover of music once said: ‘Let me write the songs of the country, and I care not who makes its laws.’ I will paraphrase that sentiment by saying: Let me train the teachers for the primary schools in my state, and I care not who makes its laws.”

He concluded: “The greatest satisfaction that can come to you is knowing that you have helped some human being. If you want happiness, peace and joy at the end of life, give your life to the service of your fellow beings.”

Six days later, the Raleigh News & Observer published a letter from Jarvis thanking the many people who had sent letters and telegrams congratulating him on his birthday. He wrote:

“I cannot hope to be able to work in this, my chosen field, many years longer, but as long as I am living my theme shall be: ‘Give the children of North Carolina well trained, godly men and women for their teachers.”

Jarvis’ health began failing in April; he died June 17, 1915. Students walked together to Cherry Hill Cemetery for his funeral and stood in a silent circle around the mourners.

In his eulogy, Wright said: “Without children of his own, he loved all the children of all the people in the state.”

Jarvis made a final plea for public schools in his will: “Intelligence and virtue mark the standing of any people in state and nation, and I would therefore urge the people to press the education of their children far beyond anything heretofore attempted.”

—Steve Tuttle
A setting sun colors the sky over Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium on Sept. 20 as the Pirates close out a 70-41 win over the University of North Carolina Tar Heels in front of a crowd of more than 51,000. The Pirates’ 789 total yards set a record and were the most UNC had ever given up. East Carolina’s 70 points were the second-most they’d ever scored and the most the Tar Heels had ever allowed.  

*Photo by Mike Litwin*