Uptown rising  18
Led by Pirates, new businesses are giving uptown Greenville a lift.

Making music  26
Students are crafting compositions from idea to recording.

The principal is my pal  30
Steve Lassiter of Pactolus Elementary is N.C.’s principal of the year.

Receiver and role model  36
Isaiah Jones aims to lead the Pirates on the field and in the classroom.

On the cover: Bianca Gentile Shoneman ’99–08, president and CEO of Uptown Greenville, provides the vision for a thriving center city.

Nearly two weeks of hard work culminated with cheers at nightfall June 26 when ECU students pulled back the walls of a giant kiln that had reached temperatures of 2,100 degrees Fahrenheit to reveal a 7-foot-tall ceramic fish. The sculpture was made possible by the ECU Ceramics Guild, which raised approximately $4,500 for the project, in collaboration with STARworks and the School of Art and Design in ECU’s College of Fine Arts and Communication.

Photo by Cliff Hollis

The magazine of East Carolina University produced in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association
Our new partnership has lit our fire, too

Flip back one page to the table of contents—if you missed it—and be dazzled by the marvelous image of a huge, fiery kiln from which a ceramic fish sculpture emerged on campus in July.

The project was a partnership among the ECU Ceramic Guild, the nonprofit STARworks and the School of Art and Design. It was a summer spectacle, providing students with a one-of-a-kind experience made possible by bringing the right partners together.

That’s a great example of why the university and East Carolina Alumni Association are now partners publishing East magazine. Beginning with this issue, EC Alumni magazine and East have merged into a unified and comprehensive university magazine that serves (and reflects) all our constituencies: students, alumni, faculty, staff and supporters, as well as the communities impacted by the work and reach of East Carolina.

We did that because together, we can do things we could not accomplish separately. We will be able to produce and publish a better quality magazine, improving the production and distribution of the magazine. We will be able to increase the content and improve the quality of the content. We will be able to improve the distribution of the magazine.

In the past, we were able to produce a magazine that cost $25 per issue. Now, we are able to produce a magazine that costs $35 per issue. We are able to increase the quality of the magazine and we are able to increase the number of issues per year.

The new magazine will be produced in the following way:

1. The magazine will be produced three times a year by East Carolina University in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association.
2. The magazine will be produced by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
3. The magazine will be published by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
4. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
5. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
6. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
7. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
8. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
9. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
10. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
11. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
12. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
13. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
14. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
15. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
16. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
17. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
18. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
19. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
20. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.

The new magazine will be produced and distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association. The magazine will be produced in the following way:

1. The magazine will be produced three times a year by East Carolina University in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association.
2. The magazine will be produced by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
3. The magazine will be published by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
4. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
5. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
6. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
7. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
8. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
9. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
10. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
11. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
12. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
13. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
14. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
15. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
16. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
17. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
18. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
19. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
20. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.

The new magazine will be produced and distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association. The magazine will be produced in the following way:

1. The magazine will be produced three times a year by East Carolina University in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association.
2. The magazine will be produced by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
3. The magazine will be published by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
4. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
5. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
6. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
7. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
8. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
9. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
10. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
11. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
12. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
13. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
14. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
15. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
16. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
17. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
18. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
19. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
20. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.

The new magazine will be produced and distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association. The magazine will be produced in the following way:

1. The magazine will be produced three times a year by East Carolina University in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association.
2. The magazine will be produced by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
3. The magazine will be published by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
4. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
5. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
6. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
7. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
8. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
9. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
10. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
11. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
12. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
13. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
14. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
15. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
16. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
17. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
18. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
19. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
20. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.

The new magazine will be produced and distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association. The magazine will be produced in the following way:

1. The magazine will be produced three times a year by East Carolina University in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association.
2. The magazine will be produced by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
3. The magazine will be published by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
4. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
5. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
6. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
7. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
8. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
9. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
10. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
11. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
12. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
13. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
14. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
15. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
16. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
17. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
18. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
19. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
20. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.

The new magazine will be produced and distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association. The magazine will be produced in the following way:

1. The magazine will be produced three times a year by East Carolina University in partnership with the East Carolina Alumni Association.
2. The magazine will be produced by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
3. The magazine will be published by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
4. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
5. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
6. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
7. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
8. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
9. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
10. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
11. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
12. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
13. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
14. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
15. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
16. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
17. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
18. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
19. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
20. The magazine will be distributed by the East Carolina University Alumni Association.
Chancellor Steve Ballard will step down from his role at East Carolina University next July. He made the announcement July 1. Ballard has served as chancellor since 2004.

“East Carolina is a special place that puts its students first, excels at serving North Carolina and is committed to leadership and service for our region,” Ballard said. “Nancy and I will be privileged to be a part of this community for another 12 years. It has been a perfect fit for us.”

The timeline will allow a search for the next leader to take place with the next year as we continue to identify Ballard’s successor. At the conclusion of that search, the board will forward a slate of at least two candidates for the UNC System president for consideration. The new chancellor, upon nomination by the president, must be elected by the UNC Board of Governors. Ballard said he and his wife will devote more time to their son who has a medical condition and spend more time with their 1-year-old granddaughter.

One memory from his time at ECU stands out for Ballard. “In terms of special moments, receiving the Freedom Award in front of thousands of people in Washington, D.C., was a special one that we paid special attention to and that is always a topic of discussion,” he said. “People recognize you for your quality and results, it’s always special.”

Between now and next July, Ballard will focus on refocusing public attention on verified financial footing for the Brody School of Medicine and on continued academic excellence across the university’s programs.

“Last but not least, I intend to be the head cheerleader for our campus community,” Ballard said. “I’ve promised student success and emphasized leadership at all levels. Major steps for ECU during his tenure include enrollment growth from 22,000 to 27,000 students and the development of a College of Engineering and the C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Ballard lauded the commitment and passion of ECU for those choices. “I am grateful to faculty, staff, students and leadership at ECU for your spirit, for your collegiality, for the difference you make to higher education,” he said. “In very many times, you continue to excel.”

Ballard is ECU’s 10th chancellor and is the longest-serving chancellor in the UNC system. Under his leadership, ECU has raised the bar with respect to academic excellence and integrity, service and community engagement and intercollegiate athletics,” Ballard said. “During his tenure, ECU has grown beyond its natural eastern North Carolina footprint and has developed a truly statewide impact. By any measure, Steve Ballard will leave ECU stronger and better than he found it.”

During the past decade ECU has received prestigious national recognitions, including the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award and the C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Ballard said Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina system, said Ballard’s tenure has been a time of growth, excellence and leadership for ECU. “Under his leadership, ECU has raised the bar with respect to academic excellence and integrity, service and community engagement and intercollegiate athletics,” Ballard said. “During his tenure, ECU has grown beyond its natural eastern North Carolina footprint and has developed a truly statewide impact. By any measure, Steve Ballard will leave ECU stronger and better than he found it.”

During the past decade ECU has received prestigious national recognitions, including the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award and the C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Ballard said Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina system, said Ballard’s tenure has been a time of growth, excellence and leadership for ECU. “Under his leadership, ECU has raised the bar with respect to academic excellence and integrity, service and community engagement and intercollegiate athletics,” Ballard said. “During his tenure, ECU has grown beyond its natural eastern North Carolina footprint and has developed a truly statewide impact. By any measure, Steve Ballard will leave ECU stronger and better than he found it.”

During the past decade ECU has received prestigious national recognitions, including the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award and the C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Ballard said Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina system, said Ballard’s tenure has been a time of growth, excellence and leadership for ECU. “Under his leadership, ECU has raised the bar with respect to academic excellence and integrity, service and community engagement and intercollegiate athletics,” Ballard said. “During his tenure, ECU has grown beyond its natural eastern North Carolina footprint and has developed a truly statewide impact. By any measure, Steve Ballard will leave ECU stronger and better than he found it.”

During the past decade ECU has received prestigious national recognitions, including the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award and the C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Ballard said Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina system, said Ballard’s tenure has been a time of growth, excellence and leadership for ECU. “Under his leadership, ECU has raised the bar with respect to academic excellence and integrity, service and community engagement and intercollegiate athletics,” Ballard said. “During his tenure, ECU has grown beyond its natural eastern North Carolina footprint and has developed a truly statewide impact. By any measure, Steve Ballard will leave ECU stronger and better than he found it.”

During the past decade ECU has received prestigious national recognitions, including the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award and the C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Ballard said Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina system, said Ballard’s tenure has been a time of growth, excellence and leadership for ECU. “Under his leadership, ECU has raised the bar with respect to academic excellence and integrity, service and community engagement and intercollegiate athletics,” Ballard said. “During his tenure, ECU has grown beyond its natural eastern North Carolina footprint and has developed a truly statewide impact. By any measure, Steve Ballard will leave ECU stronger and better than he found it.”

During the past decade ECU has received prestigious national recognitions, including the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award and the C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.
In recognition of its commitment to economic engagement, ECU has been designated as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University by the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities. ECU is one of 18 universities named in APLU’s third group of Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities. The APLU describes public universities as economic engines for their states and regions, conducting cutting-edge research and developing the talent to help existing businesses grow stronger and new ones to develop and thrive. The work of the universities extends beyond their campuses into their communities in the form of economic development that creates jobs and improves lives.

All told, ECU had an economic impact of $2.8 billion across North Carolina in fiscal year 2013-14, according to a recent study by the University of North Carolina system. That included $1.8 billion in eastern North Carolina. To earn the designation, ECU conducted an internal and external assessment of its regional economic development efforts and developed a comprehensive improvement plan. A 30-member task force worked through the nearly year-long IEP application process under the leadership of Sharon Paynter, interim director of the Office of Public Service and Community Relations.

ECU was recognized for its economic development initiatives such as the Talent Enhancement and Capacity Building program, an innovative collaborative with the N.C. Department of Commerce that has been recognized as a national model for university-based economic development. “This Innovation and Economic Prosperity University designation is an affirmation of the key role East Carolina University is playing as a leader in the creation of new ideas and new development in eastern North Carolina and beyond,” said ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard.

From 2011 to 2013, ECU brought nearly $100 million in sponsored research support to the region. In addition, ECU has played a key role in service, research and development initiatives such as the School of Dental Medicine’s Community Service Learning Centers, the North Carolina Statewide Telepsychiatry Program, the North Carolina Agromedicine Institute, the Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Academy and the Pharmaceutical Development and Manufacturing Center of Excellence.

Since 2006, the Office of Technology Transfer at ECU has filed 66 U.S. patent applications, had 25 U.S. patents granted and entered into 16 licensing agreements to commercialize ECU inventions.

In addition, ECU is in the early stages of developing a “millennial campus,” where the university will partner with private businesses and industry to develop ideas and technologies. The role of economic development in regional transformation is a key part of ECU’s latest strategic plan, “ECU is positioned to serve the citizens of North Carolina in ways that improve their lives,” said Paynter. “Economic opportunity, job creation and the support of existing businesses and industries in this state create opportunities for North Carolinians, and ECU can and should aid in those efforts.”

Paynter said the APLU designation is a reflection of the hard work and effort the university and its community and business partners are undertaking to support economic development and transformation in the region and statewide. As an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University designated, ECU will work with the APLU Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Economic Prosperity to assess and further develop its efforts by using the commission’s “Economic Engagement Framework” tools for self-assessment and economic impact analysis. Through this partnership, the university will join a growing number of universities that have been designated as Innovation and Economic Prosperity developments.

ECU also qualifies to submit an application for the APLU’s 2015 Innovation and Economic Prosperity University Awards, which will be given out at the association’s annual meeting in November.

“ECU is a research, policy, and advocacy organization representing 234 public research universities, land-grant institutions, state university systems and affiliated organizations.” -Doug Boyd

Rare work of literary giants part of ECU collection

Some of the work and correspondence of celebrated Southern poets and novelists are becoming available at ECU.

Experts are processing, digitizing and exhibiting works of the Stuart Wright Collection, part of Joyner Library’s Special Collections Division. It includes letters, notes, books, photographs and other ephemera that detail the lives and work of the writers, making the collection invaluable to faculty, students, scholars, biographers and historians from North Carolina and beyond.

“We’re working on digitizing more components of the collection so more people can access it online and see them,” said Jan Lewis, director of Joyner Library.

The collection is unique because of the variety and scale of its pieces. Wright, a collector and friend to many of the writers and poets, collected the pieces over the years, and ECU acquired them and has made them available digitally as part of exhibits that feature individual authors. The Stuart Wright Collection, which includes works and writings from Robert Penn Warren, Eudora Welty, Katherine Anne Porter, John Updike, Randall Jarrell, Peter Taylor, Richard Eberhart, Robert Lowell, Barry Hannah, Harry Crews and other notable writers, complements similar collections held by other university libraries.

Lewis said the collection opens doors for graduate and undergraduate students to have unprecedented access to the works of the writers’ minds as they crafted novels and poems and to the correspondence they shared with other writers.

“We’re looking forward to seeing some themes from ECU students that are based on these materials,” she said. “Some of the undergraduate papers are really good.”

Lewis said she also hopes the university can offer more lectures and exhibits that highlight the collection’s contents.

A collection of photographs taken and processed by Welty, a prolific Southern author, was on display through Sept. 1 in the North Carolina Collection at Joyner Library. They are a part of the main Stuart Wright Collection and are an example of the rare view it provides of the lives of the writers beyond the pages of their books or the lines of their poetry.

Those at ECU who have seen parts of the collection are eager for it to be available as widely to students and faculty as possible, which could happen as early as this fall as all the pieces become more accessible.

It’s amazing how it really has expanded,” Lewis said of the collection. “We have seen a tremendous amount of faculty and student engagement, which is what we wanted. We’ve only scratched the surface of what we’re going to be able to do with it.” —Spaine Stephens

ECU graduate student Matt Gallagher, left, talks with Stuart Wright, donor of Joyner Library’s Stuart Wright Collection.
ECU, UNCP to form physical therapy partnership

A new partnership between ECU and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke aims to increase the number of physical therapists working in eastern North Carolina.

ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard and UNCP Chancellor Kyle Carter signed a memorandum of understanding in June that will establish a satellite program for ECU’s Department of Physical Therapy at UNCP.

Under the agreement, ECU will launch an “assurance program” for the 2016-17 school year, which reserves places for up to four UNCP students in each entering class of the doctoral program.

Once there are approximately eight UNCP undergraduate students who meet the entrance requirements—estimated to occur by 2019—the assurance program will transition to a full satellite program at UNCP. At that time, all physical therapy students will attend classes on ECU’s campus for their first and final semesters but will spend the other semesters in the three-year program at UNCP.

All clinical experiences for the satellite students will take place in the clinics and hospitals surrounding UNCP. The program is expected to grow to approximately 10 UNCP students a year.

"Helping other institutions, helping the whole region through workforce development and preparing our students for the future—those are three things we’re committed to," Ballard said.

"My hope is that we train a lot more health professionals in both areas—at Pembroke and ECU. We know these people will get good-paying jobs."

Phyllis Horns, vice chancellor for workforce development and economic affairs at Brody.

"We do this well because our mission of producing primary care physicians—a mission that emerges in three years will be a denser environment with a new signature gateway and ECU’s first parking deck."

The first example can be seen at the top of College Hill, where the new Gateway East and West residence halls are creating a new streetscape along 94th Street. This fall semester, 722 students are expected to call the residence halls home. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for the September Board of Trustees meeting.

With Gateway, the total number of students living in campus residence halls will rise to a record 8,600.

As work on Gateway wrapped up, preparation for another university construction project was beginning that will change the face of the 10th Street side of campus—the $122 million student union building and parking garage.

It’s the largest construction project in the history of ECU’s Department of Physical Therapy.

"The needs of the people living in the area are closely in line with the needs of the area," saidhya McMillan, director of physical therapy at ECU. "We know that students who come from an area are more likely to stay in that area (to work)."

Gross McMillan said she hopes this partnership will lead to more applications from students in the southeast region of North Carolina and from Robeson County in particular.

ECU’s doctorate of physical therapy is one of the most competitive programs offered by the university. It accepts North Carolina residents only, and the average undergraduate GPA for this year’s incoming class was 3.75. Admission is limited to 30 students, and they often attract more than 300 applications for those slots.

Other collaborations between UNCP and ECU include a community service learning center for ECU’s School of Dental Medicine in Robeson County and the UNC system’s first massive open online course via ECU’s College of Business.

Brody ranks fourth

The Brody School of Medicine at ECU has been recognized again for the high percentage of its graduates pursuing residency training in family medicine.

The American Academy of Family Physicians Top 10 Award annually honors medical schools that, during a consecutive three-year period, graduate the greatest percentage of students who chose first-year family medicine residency positions.

Brody ranked fourth on this year’s list—one place higher than the school’s 2014 ranking. It is based on an average of 85.9 percent of ECU medical school students entering family medicine during the last three years. The University of North Carolina medical school received the top award.

"The Brody School of Medicine and the Department of Physical Therapy have a strong history of training primary care physicians, and the unique relationships in the UNC Children’s Network will also contribute to the quality of training we are able to provide for our students," said ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard.

"Helping other institutions, helping the whole region through workforce development and preparing our students for the future—those are three things we’re committed to," Ballard said.

"We do this well because our mission of producing primary care physicians—a mission which we have delivered on for our entire existence," said Dr. Bill Sattler, interim dean of the Brody School of Medicine.

"We also careful to hold the cost of a medical education at a level that allows our graduates to choose their specialty based on their heart, not their pockets."

Approximately one in four of all medical students in North Carolina is family physician, according to AAFP data. That totals nearly 244 million office visits each year—nearly 74 million more than the next largest specialty.

"At a time when the nation is facing a shortage of primary care physicians, AAFP leadership believes filling the family physicians pipeline is vital to the health of Americans."

Building projects alter campus look, density

With construction projects on track and a new campus map, ECU officials are saying the campus through this summer will be a denser environment with a new signature gateway and ECU’s first parking deck.

Architectural drawings show the footprint of the new student union building opening in August in front of the corner of Lawrence Street, where the Baptist Student Union stood, was Wendell Smiley Way—the circular drive mainly used by ECU Transit Buses. It will cover about 20,000 square feet, have four dining options, a large basketball and a 42-foot-wide outdoor jumbo screen, among other features. Dudy Student Store will move there after it opens in summer 2018.

Meanwhile, columns have been added to the corners of Howell Science Complex to reinforce the exterior walls of the aging facility. During a renovation project last year to update the interior of Howell, engineers determined the walls didn’t meet building codes.

Work on the $1.84 million Howell Science Complex renovations will shore up exterior walls.

"I have my work cut out for me,” Howell said. “We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We need to complete the second floor, the third floor and the fourth floor."

"It's going to be a year and a half job,” Howell said. “It’s going to take some time to do this right."

"It’s a huge project,” Howell said. "One of the biggest projects in the history of the university."

"This college and the Department of Physical Therapy have a strong history of training primary care physicians, and the unique relationships in the UNC Children’s Network will also contribute to the quality of training we are able to provide for our students," said ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard.

"Helping other institutions, helping the whole region through workforce development and preparing our students for the future—those are three things we’re committed to," Ballard said.

"We do this well because our mission of producing primary care physicians—a mission which we have delivered on for our entire existence," said Dr. Bill Sattler, interim dean of the Brody School of Medicine.

"We also careful to hold the cost of a medical education at a level that allows our graduates to choose their specialty based on their heart, not their pockets."

Approximately one in four of all medical students in North Carolina is family physician, according to AAFP data. That totals nearly 244 million office visits each year—nearly 74 million more than the next largest specialty.

"At a time when the nation is facing a shortage of primary care physicians, AAFP leadership believes filling the family physicians pipeline is vital to the health of Americans."

"I have my work cut out for me,” Howell said. “We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We need to complete the second floor, the third floor and the fourth floor."

"It's going to be a year and a half job,” Howell said. “It’s going to take some time to do this right."

"This college and the Department of Physical Therapy have a strong history of training primary care physicians, and the unique relationships in the UNC Children’s Network will also contribute to the quality of training we are able to provide for our students," said ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard.

"Helping other institutions, helping the whole region through workforce development and preparing our students for the future—those are three things we’re committed to," Ballard said.

"We do this well because our mission of producing primary care physicians—a mission which we have delivered on for our entire existence," said Dr. Bill Sattler, interim dean of the Brody School of Medicine.

"We also careful to hold the cost of a medical education at a level that allows our graduates to choose their specialty based on their heart, not their pockets."

Approximately one in four of all medical students in North Carolina is family physician, according to AAFP data. That totals nearly 244 million office visits each year—nearly 74 million more than the next largest specialty.

"At a time when the nation is facing a shortage of primary care physicians, AAFP leadership believes filling the family physicians pipeline is vital to the health of Americans."

"I have my work cut out for me,” Howell said. “We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We have a lot of new things to do here. We need to complete the second floor, the third floor and the fourth floor."

"It's going to be a year and a half job,” Howell said. “It’s going to take some time to do this right."

"This college and the Department of Physical Therapy have a strong history of training primary care physicians, and the unique relationships in the UNC Children’s Network will also contribute to the quality of training we are able to provide for our students," said ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard.

"Helping other institutions, helping the whole region through workforce development and preparing our students for the future—those are three things we’re committed to," Ballard said.

"We do this well because our mission of producing primary care physicians—a mission which we have delivered on for our entire existence," said Dr. Bill Sattler, interim dean of the Brody School of Medicine.

"We also careful to hold the cost of a medical education at a level that allows our graduates to choose their specialty based on their heart, not their pockets."

Approximately one in four of all medical students in North Carolina is family physician, according to AAFP data. That totals nearly 244 million office visits each year—nearly 74 million more than the next largest specialty.

"At a time when the nation is facing a shortage of primary care physicians, AAFP leadership believes filling the family physicians pipeline is vital to the health of Americans."

Howell Science Complex renovations will shore up exterior walls.
The institute’s home on Roanoke Island opened in 2013, it is an $83.7 million-foot environmentally sustainable facility built on land surrounded by approximately 240 acres of marsh. Its $32.6 million cost was paid for by state and local funds. ECU was responsible for design and construction oversight and maintains the facility.

Other ECU faculty involved with the institute are economics professor Andy Hazel; Nathan Richards, associate professor of maritime history; and geological science professors Reide Corbett and J.P. Walsh. Faculty members from NCSU and UNCW-Chapel Hill are also in residence at the site.

Research underway at the institute includes innovative approaches to capturing energy from the ocean, methods to restore oyster reefs, the ecological effects of stormwater runoff and sustainable designs for coastal communities.

Local communities are also involved. The institute grew out of the Dare County Task Force on Higher Education, formed in the mid-1990s. It was preceded by a decade of engagement with the community, partnerships, such as those leading to the creation of North Carolina aquariums in the 1980s.

Rolf Blizard, vice president of the institute’s board, said the support of the community was vital to the construction of the institute.

Doug Boyd, a graduate of Millbrook High School in Raleigh, plans to major in biology. "This is a piece of our larger emphasis on coastal science and policy," Mitchell said of ECU’s stronger relationship with the institute. "We are excited about its multi-institutional nature and our access to the coast and colleagues at other schools."

The coastal emphasis is part of ECU’s new strategic plan, unveiled earlier this year. The other parts being worked on are the establishment of a School of the Coast at ECU and a joint doctoral program in coastal and marine sciences with UNC-W.

With ECU being the administrative home of the institute, Chancellor George Martin and ECU Provost Ron Mitchelson will transition to the title of executive director and report to the board of directors in consultation with the board.

The institute’s home on Roanoke Island opened in 2013. This is an $83.7 million, 83,791-square-foot environmentally sustainable facility built on land surrounded by approximately 240 acres of marsh. Its $32.6 million cost was paid for by state and local funds. ECU was responsible for design and construction oversight and maintains the facility.

Other ECU faculty involved with the institute are economics professor Andy Hazel; Nathan Richards, associate professor of maritime history; and geological science professors Reide Corbett and J.P. Walsh. Faculty members from NCSU and UNCW-Chapel Hill are also in residence at the site.

Research underway at the institute includes innovative approaches to capturing energy from the ocean, methods to restore oyster reefs, the ecological effects of stormwater runoff and sustainable designs for coastal communities.

Local communities are also involved. The institute grew out of the Dare County Task Force on Higher Education, formed in the mid-1990s. It was preceded by a decade of engagement with the community, partnerships, such as those leading to the creation of North Carolina aquariums in the 1980s.

Rolf Blizard, vice president of the institute’s board, said the support of the community was vital to the construction of the institute.

Doug Boyd, a graduate of Millbrook High School in Raleigh, plans to major in biology. "This is a piece of our larger emphasis on coastal science and policy," Mitchell said of ECU’s stronger relationship with the institute. "We are excited about its multi-institutional nature and our access to the coast and colleagues at other schools."

The coastal emphasis is part of ECU’s new strategic plan, unveiled earlier this year. The other parts being worked on are the establishment of a School of the Coast at ECU and a joint doctoral program in coastal and marine sciences with UNC-W.
Those experiences—touching both ends of the state—happened in Honors College seminars. These innovative courses designed and taught by ECU faculty members supplement the regular curriculum and feature small classes, guest speakers and field trips.

Honors College students are required to take two of the seminars before they graduate, and several said the courses are a want-to, not a must-do. 

“I want to take advantage of every opportunity I can,” said junior Claire Tuttle, who is majoring in business management.

Junior Claire Tuttle, who is majoring in business management, enjoys the experience of the trail to how toothpaste can be toxic to the environment.

“This year, you realize human impact,” Tuttle said. “We take so much for granted, that’s for sure.”

Tuttle commended Brad Beggs in the ECU Adventure Program and faculty Traci Birch and Mary Beth Corbin for preparing students for the hike.

Sophomore Leah Price of Wilmington had been on only a day hike before taking the class. “I was definitely a beginner,” she said. “I had never even camped before.”

The trip helped Tuttle gain perspective on life, she said. “The history of the trail to how you soldier through hail, snow, thunderstorms and sunshine. It was beautiful nonetheless,” Price said. The trip has inspired her to study abroad. “I feel like I can conquer the world now.”

Students soldiered through hail, snow, thunderstorms and sunshine. “It was beautiful nonetheless,” Price said. The trip has inspired her to study abroad. “I feel like I can conquer the world now.”

Having the chance to learn something new guided ECU junior Trey Cook, a biochemistry major and EC Scholar from Cary. He explored Williamson, Plymouth and New Bern—towns he had never visited—by taking “Cultural Landscapes of Eastern North Carolina in Photography and Writing.”

The documentary journalism course taught by Daniel Karko and Charles Twary was a blend of photography and writing with an emphasis on the history of photography, journalism and photo-editing techniques. Cook said he knew very little about photography before taking the class. “I think the most monumental thing I learned was the concept behind art,” Cook said. “True artists try to create thoughts and feelings in their audiences. Whether it is a painting, a dance or a photograph, what the art is composed of is not as important as the thoughts and feelings it instills in its admirers. That realization has revolutionized the way I look at art and given me a much greater appreciation for artists in all sorts of fields.”

While the class fulfilled fine arts credits that Cook needed, he said the format, professors and design of the class provoked student creativity and innovation. It also exposed him to the culture of eastern North Carolina, which is different from the metropolitan area where he grew up.

—Irystal Batty

Student receives prestigious national scholarship, internship

An Honors College student from Vanceboro is the third consecutive ECU student to be awarded a prestigious scholarship and internship with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Andrew Reid has received the Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship, which provides $16,000 for his junior and senior years and a 10-week paid internship in 2016 with NOAA, the federal science agency responsible for studying the conditions of the oceans and atmosphere, including weather, fisheries and marine protected areas.

Reid, who is majoring in chemistry, is one of 150 recipients from across the country. Only about 10 percent of applicants are selected, said Tim Runyan, Honors College professor and scholarship advisor.

His research interest is ocean acidification and how to prevent it.

—Irystal Batty

Honors College seminars challenge students beyond the classroom

This spring, ECU Honors College students spent time learning way outside the classroom—on the Appalachian Trail, 15 feet underwater and behind a camera lens in eastern North Carolina.

Experiences and Reflections on the Appalachian Trail

She enrolled in “Along the AT: Experiences and Reflections on the Appalachian Trail,” which culminated with a four-day hike in April.

Although Tuttle had been camping many times with her parents, she had no experience backpacking. Still, Tuttle said her biggest fear wasn’t climbing mountains but not knowing anyone in the class when she signed up.

“It was really cool to get to know people,” she said, describing how much she enjoyed talking around campfires, sharing the responsibility of cooking food and setting up and breaking down camp. She read for fun and kept a daily journal for the class.

“It was definitely one of the best decisions I’ve made since coming to college,” Tuttle said. 

The trip helped Tuttle gain perspective on life, she said. She learned new things, from the history of the trail to how toothpaste can be toxic to the environment.

“When you’re out there, you realize human impact,” Tuttle said. “We take so much for granted, that’s for sure.”

Sophomores Leah Price of Wilmington had been on only a day hike before taking the class. “I was definitely a beginner,” she said. “I had never even camped before.”

She saw wild ponies and other wildlife, summited Mount Rogers in Virginia and enjoyed meeting “through-hikers,” those in the process of hiking all 2,175 miles of the trail from Georgia to Maine. It was a bonding experience for her group because there was no cell service, so phones and social media were absent. “Being off the grid for four days is not easy,” she said. “It was refreshing. It was time to wind down from everything.”

Students soldiered through hail, snow, thunderstorms and sunshine. “It was beautiful nonetheless,” Price said. The trip has inspired her to study abroad. “I feel like I can conquer the world now.”

Having the chance to learn something new guided ECU junior Trey Cook, a biochemistry major and EC Scholar from Cary. He explored Williamson, Plymouth and New Bern—towns he had never visited—by taking “Cultural Landscapes of Eastern North Carolina in Photography and Writing.”

The documentary journalism course taught by Daniel Karko and Charles Twary was a blend of photography and writing with an emphasis on the history of photography, journalism and photo-editing techniques. Cook said he knew very little about photography before taking the class. “I think the most monumental thing I learned was the concept behind art,” Cook said. “True artists try to create thoughts and feelings in their audiences. Whether it is a painting, a dance or a photograph, what the art is composed of is not as important as the thoughts and feelings it instills in its admirers. That realization has revolutionized the way I look at art and given me a much greater appreciation for artists in all sorts of fields.”

While the class fulfilled fine arts credits that Cook needed, he said the format, professors and design of the class provoked student creativity and innovation. It also exposed him to the culture of eastern North Carolina, which is different from the metropolitan area where he grew up.

—Irystal Batty

ALWAYS IN SEARCH OF THE BRIGHTEST STARS

A career with ARAMARK provides an opportunity for alumni to be a part of a higher education team that has the ability to positively impact the student experience. Visit www.aramark.com to explore career opportunities at your alma mater.
Major grants push researchers ahead

When the little pin-tailed whydah chirps and flaps its wings in Africa, not much happens in the rest of the world. But what the bird might teach scientists about brain development could have a global impact.

That's what ECU biochemist Chris Balakrishnan and colleagues are looking at, thanks to a National Science Foundation grant of $300,000.

The whydah is one of about 100 species of birds known as brood parasites. That is, they lay their eggs in the nests of other birds and leave their young for those birds to hatch and raise.

What does that have to do with brain development? Though the young whydahs have no contact with their own kind, they nevertheless learn to sing the same songs as the birds with whom they eventually mate. Most birds learn these things from their parents.

"How do these birds learn what they are? How do they not get confused?" Balakrishnan said. "We're trying to understand that. What's different about these birds that aren't exposed to their parents?"

The findings could give insights into the science of neuroplasticity. That's the changes in neural pathways and synapses due to shifts in behavior, environment, neural processes, thinking and emotions—as well as changes resulting from injury. The concept has replaced the notion the brain is a physiologically static organ and explores how—and in which ways—the brain changes during a lifetime.

Balakrishnan is one of several young faculty members at ECU who have recently received major research grants. According to Michael Van Scott, interim associate vice chancellor for research and graduate studies, it's a validation of their credentials and ideas by experts in the field and the funding agencies.

"To receive major federal funding means that the faculty member is demonstrating the highest level of their field and their work addresses significant problems in society," Van Scott said. "Accordingly, these awards are prestigious for the institution as well as the individual faculty member."

The fact that they are faculty members who are relatively recent graduates of their respective doctoral and post-doctoral programs and have joined ECU in the past decade signifies the strength of the university's efforts to get new faculty members' research programs up and running. According to Van Scott, ECU invests $3 million to $5 million each year toward that end. The university also invests approximately $30,000 to $50,000 each year to support new investigative teams with ideas for projects that can compete for extramural funding and to provide time for faculty members to write competitive grant proposals. When faculty members receive extramural funding, ECU returns a portion of the indirect costs recovered from the grants to the faculty and units where the research was conducted.

Balakrishnan's study, "Collaborative Research: Mechanisms of Behavioral Innovation in Brood Parasitic Birds," is a project with scientists at Hunter College in New York. He submitted the grant proposal two years ago, learned it had been approved in the spring and just received the funding in June.

Working with him at ECU are post-doctoral biologist Matt Louder and master's student members to write competitive grant proposals. Balakrishnan said.

"I've been trying all different ideas," he said. "This is my first individual grant success. In terms of getting my individual research going, this is a vital idea."

Another ECU biologist who has received a significant federal grant is Marcelo Ardon. In the spring, he received an NSF CAREER award of $635,000 for his study of ecosystem recovery in coastal wetlands under a changing climate.

CAREER Awards are the NSF's most prestigious awards to junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of their mission or organization. According to the organization's website, this spring, he also received one. The National World College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Early Career Research Award recognizing exceptional performance by tenure-track professors.

Ardon completed his doctorate in 2006 and joined the ECU faculty in 2011. His research focuses on understanding what drives complex ecological dynamics and the impacts these species of nematode. Germline response to environmental stress and the nutrient availability provides a continuous supply of gametes through differentiation, resulting in new germline cells. He received the funding in June.

Another ECU biologist who has received significant federal grants within the past decade is James Perry of the College of Allied Health Sciences has received NIH funds. The whydahs are housed at Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck. Only about 5 percent of grant proposals are funded.

"Balakrishnan said.

"We're trying to understand that. What's different about these birds that aren't exposed to their parents?"

The findings could give insights into the science of neuroplasticity. That's the changes in neural pathways and synapses due to shifts in behavior, environment, neural processes, thinking and emotions—as well as changes resulting from injury. The concept has replaced the notion the brain is a physiologically static organ and explores how—and in which ways—the brain changes during a lifetime.

Balakrishnan is one of several young faculty members at ECU who have recently received major research grants. According to Michael Van Scott, interim associate vice chancellor for research and graduate studies, it's a validation of their credentials and ideas by experts in the field and the funding agencies.

"To receive major federal funding means that the faculty member is demonstrating the highest level of their field and their work addresses significant problems in society," Van Scott said. "Accordingly, these awards are prestigious for the institution as well as the individual faculty member."

The fact that they are faculty members who are relatively recent graduates of their respective doctoral and post-doctoral programs and have joined ECU in the past decade signifies the strength of the university's efforts to get new faculty members' research programs up and running. According to Van Scott, ECU invests $3 million to $5 million each year toward that end. The university also invests approximately $30,000 to $50,000 each year to support new investigative teams with ideas for projects that can compete for extramural funding and to provide time for faculty members to write competitive grant proposals. When faculty members receive extramural funding, ECU returns a portion of the indirect costs recovered from the grants to the faculty and units where the research was conducted.

Balakrishnan's study, "Collaborative Research: Mechanisms of Behavioral Innovation in Brood Parasitic Birds," is a project with scientists at Hunter College in New York. He submitted the grant proposal two years ago, learned it had been approved in the spring and just received the funding in June.

Working with him at ECU are post-doctoral biologist Matt Louder and master's student members to write competitive grant proposals. When faculty members receive extramural funding, ECU returns a portion of the indirect costs recovered from the grants to the faculty and units where the research was conducted.

"Balakrishnan said.

"I've been trying all different ideas," he said. "This is my first individual grant success. In terms of getting my individual research going, this is a vital idea."

Another ECU biologist who has received a significant federal grant is Marcelo Ardon. In the spring, he received an NSF CAREER award of $635,000 for his study of ecosystem recovery in coastal wetlands under a changing climate.

CAREER Awards are the NSF's most prestigious awards to junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of their mission or organization. According to the organization's website, this spring, he also received one. The National World College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Early Career Research Award recognizing exceptional performance by tenure-track professors.

Ardon completed his doctorate in 2006 and joined the ECU faculty in 2011. His research focuses on understanding what drives complex ecological dynamics and the impacts these species of nematode. Germline response to environmental stress and the nutrient availability provides a continuous supply of gametes through differentiation, resulting in new germline cells. He received the funding in June.

Another ECU biologist who has received significant federal grants within the past decade is James Perry of the College of Allied Health Sciences has received NIH funds. The whydahs are housed at Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck. Only about 5 percent of grant proposals are funded.

"Balakrishnan said.

"I've been trying all different ideas," he said. "This is my first individual grant success. In terms of getting my individual research going, this is a vital idea."

Another ECU biologist who has received a significant federal grant is Marcelo Ardon. In the spring, he received an NSF CAREER award of $635,000 for his study of ecosystem recovery in coastal wetlands under a changing climate.

CAREER Awards are the NSF's most prestigious awards to junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of their mission or organization. According to the organization's website, this spring, he also received one. The National World College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Early Career Research Award recognizing exceptional performance by tenure-track professors.

Ardon completed his doctorate in 2006 and joined the ECU faculty in 2011. His research focuses on understanding what drives complex ecological dynamics and the impacts these species of nematode. Germline response to environmental stress and the nutrient availability provides a continuous supply of gametes through differentiation, resulting in new germline cells. He received the funding in June.

Another ECU biologist who has received significant federal grants within the past decade is James Perry of the College of Allied Health Sciences has received NIH funds. The whydahs are housed at Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck. Only about 5 percent of grant proposals are funded.

"Balakrishnan said.

"I've been trying all different ideas," he said. "This is my first individual grant success. In terms of getting my individual research going, this is a vital idea."

Another ECU biologist who has received a significant federal grant is Marcelo Ardon. In the spring, he received an NSF CAREER award of $635,000 for his study of ecosystem recovery in coastal wetlands under a changing climate.

CAREER Awards are the NSF's most prestigious awards to junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of their mission or organization. According to the organization's website, this spring, he also received one. The National World College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Early Career Research Award recognizing exceptional performance by tenure-track professors.

Ardon completed his doctorate in 2006 and joined the ECU faculty in 2011. His research focuses on understanding what drives complex ecological dynamics and the impacts these species of nematode. Germline response to environmental stress and the nutrient availability provides a continuous supply of gametes through differentiation, resulting in new germline cells. He received the funding in June.

Another ECU biologist who has received significant federal grants within the past decade is James Perry of the College of Allied Health Sciences has received NIH funds. The whydahs are housed at Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck. Only about 5 percent of grant proposals are funded.

"Balakrishnan said.

"I've been trying all different ideas," he said. "This is my first individual grant success. In terms of getting my individual research going, this is a vital idea."

Another ECU biologist who has received a significant federal grant is Marcelo Ardon. In the spring, he received an NSF CAREER award of $635,000 for his study of ecosystem recovery in coastal wetlands under a changing climate.

CAREER Awards are the NSF's most prestigious awards to junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of their mission or organization. According to the organization's website, this spring, he also received one. The National World College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Early Career Research Award recognizing exceptional performance by tenure-track professors.

Ardon completed his doctorate in 2006 and joined the ECU faculty in 2011. His research focuses on understanding what drives complex ecological dynamics and the impacts these species of nematode. Germline response to environmental stress and the nutrient availability provides a continuous supply of gametes through differentiation, resulting in new germline cells. He received the funding in June.
ON CAMPUS
North Carolina Poet Laureate
Laurel White
will present
Candles on
Campus Oct. 16 as part of the ECU Contemporary Writers Series. White, an
author of several collections of
poetry and the editor of several books
about poetry, will share her work and
read excerpts from her new work, "The
Senedjeb of Babylon." Free and open
to the public.

THE S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series launches its
2008-09 season with the National Circus and Acrobats of
the People's Republic of China on Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in
Wright Auditorium. From the Great Wall of China to the
Trenton, Delaware, Boardwalk, the circus is free and open
to the public. ECU alumni Roger McVey, pianist, will return to Greenville for a free recital Oct. 17 at 7:30 p.m.
in Fletcher Recital Hall. An assistant professor of
french at the University of Nevada, Reno, McVey has performed as a
piano at the University of Idaho, Montana State University, and open
to the public. Tickets are available at www.ecuarts.com.

FALL ARTS AND EVENTS CALENDAR

The Voyages of Discovery lecture
series, which celebrates the
centennial of the University of
North Carolina at Greensboro, is
available at the ECU Student
Union. The lecture series continues on Oct. 22 and 29.

MUSIC
Opera
Soni Moose, ECU Opera Theater presents "Iphigenia in
Tauris," a comic opera in ten
acts by Domenico Cimarosa, on Oct. 30 and 31 in A.J.
Fletcher Recital Hall.

Soni Moose is a humorous romantic in the
Mozart style that has been performed for more than 200
years. Tickets are $30 general admission, $25 faculty/staff/emeritus, $25 students/children and are
available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling 252-328-4788.

Symphony orchestra
The ECU Symphony Orchestra presents a concert Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. with faculty baritone
John Menard and then enters the whole family with a special
together with the ECU Concert Band, the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the University Choral Society.

The ECU School of Music offers two big band concerts this fall. The Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at ECU's annual child-friendly, family
free concert night. Tickets are $2 at 7 p.m. in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and are
available for $27 for the public, $17.50 for the public, $10 for
and $7.50 for the public, $10 for
euroscience.

Three concerts are at
30. All four
goes to the public.

The ECU Opera Theater presents "Iphigenia in
Tauris," a comic opera in ten acts by Domenico Cimarosa, on Oct. 30 and 31 in A.J.
Fletcher Recital Hall.

Soni Moose is a humorous romantic in the
Mozart style that has been performed for more than 200
years. Tickets are $30 general admission, $25 faculty/staff/emeritus, $25 students/children and are
available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling 252-328-4788.

The ECU School of Music offers two big band concerts this fall. The Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at ECU's annual child-friendly, family
free concert night. Tickets are $2 at 7 p.m. in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and are
available for $27 for the public, $17.50 for the public, $10 for
and $7.50 for the public, $10 for

Three concerts are at
30. All four
goes to the public.

The ECU Opera Theater presents "Iphigenia in
Tauris," a comic opera in ten acts by Domenico Cimarosa, on Oct. 30 and 31 in A.J.
Fletcher Recital Hall.

Soni Moose is a humorous romantic in the
Mozart style that has been performed for more than 200
years. Tickets are $30 general admission, $25 faculty/staff/emeritus, $25 students/children and are
available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling 252-328-4788.

The ECU School of Music offers two big band concerts this fall. The Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at ECU's annual child-friendly, family
free concert night. Tickets are $2 at 7 p.m. in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and are
available for $27 for the public, $17.50 for the public, $10 for
and $7.50 for the public, $10 for

Three concerts are at
30. All four
goes to the public.

The ECU Opera Theater presents "Iphigenia in
Tauris," a comic opera in ten acts by Domenico Cimarosa, on Oct. 30 and 31 in A.J.
Fletcher Recital Hall.

Soni Moose is a humorous romantic in the
Mozart style that has been performed for more than 200
years. Tickets are $30 general admission, $25 faculty/staff/emeritus, $25 students/children and are
available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling 252-328-4788.

The ECU School of Music offers two big band concerts this fall. The Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at ECU's annual child-friendly, family
free concert night. Tickets are $2 at 7 p.m. in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and are
available for $27 for the public, $17.50 for the public, $10 for
and $7.50 for the public, $10 for

Three concerts are at
30. All four
goes to the public.

The ECU Opera Theater presents "Iphigenia in
Tauris," a comic opera in ten acts by Domenico Cimarosa, on Oct. 30 and 31 in A.J.
Fletcher Recital Hall.

Soni Moose is a humorous romantic in the
Mozart style that has been performed for more than 200
years. Tickets are $30 general admission, $25 faculty/staff/emeritus, $25 students/children and are
available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling 252-328-4788.

The ECU School of Music offers two big band concerts this fall. The Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at ECU's annual child-friendly, family
free concert night. Tickets are $2 at 7 p.m. in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and are
available for $27 for the public, $17.50 for the public, $10 for
and $7.50 for the public, $10 for

Three concerts are at
30. All four
goes to the public.

The ECU Opera Theater presents "Iphigenia in
Tauris," a comic opera in ten acts by Domenico Cimarosa, on Oct. 30 and 31 in A.J.
Fletcher Recital Hall.

Soni Moose is a humorous romantic in the
Mozart style that has been performed for more than 200
years. Tickets are $30 general admission, $25 faculty/staff/emeritus, $25 students/children and are
available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling 252-328-4788.

The ECU School of Music offers two big band concerts this fall. The Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at ECU's annual child-friendly, family
free concert night. Tickets are $2 at 7 p.m. in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and are
available for $27 for the public, $17.50 for the public, $10 for
and $7.50 for the public, $10 for

Three concerts are at
30. All four
goes to the public.

The ECU Opera Theater presents "Iphigenia in
Tauris," a comic opera in ten acts by Domenico Cimarosa, on Oct. 30 and 31 in A.J.
Fletcher Recital Hall.

Soni Moose is a humorous romantic in the
Mozart style that has been performed for more than 200
years. Tickets are $30 general admission, $25 faculty/staff/emeritus, $25 students/children and are
available at www.ecuarts.com or by calling 252-328-4788.

The ECU School of Music offers two big band concerts this fall. The Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at ECU's annual child-friendly, family
free concert night. Tickets are $2 at 7 p.m. in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and are
available for $27 for the public, $17.50 for the public, $10 for
and $7.50 for the public, $10 for

Three concerts are at
30. All four
goes to the public.
Matthew Scully ’04 opened his restaurant at the corner of Fifth and Evans streets four years ago with "$15,000 and an idea."
The skyline of downtown Greenville is changing. The iconic clock tower atop the Pitt County Courthouse has been joined by another timepiece in the last year—a clock that sits atop a new 230-space parking deck. Three blocks away, construction of a 550-bed student apartment complex reaches toward the sky.

What’s happening on the ground is changing, too. Visit downtown any Wednesday night during the summer and you’ll find the Umbrella Market—dozens of stalls packed with fresh produce, baked goods or handmade wares. Art exhibits open the first Friday of every month, and before each home football game, Freeboot Friday turns uptown purple and gold with music and vendors.

Live. Play. Eat. Shop. Invest. That’s the mantra of Uptown Greenville, the nonprofit group whose two employees and many dedicated volunteers lead the center-city revitalization effort.

They’ve seen progress on all fronts over the past three years. And leading nearly every program or project is a Pirate, ECU’s Department of Geography, who reshaped the trajectory of her life’s work.

“I’m here because of my mentor,” she says of Edwards, “and his teaching me that my interest in poverty alleviation and economic development could be done in my own backyard.”

Shoneman spends her days on the phone and on the go, walking her district and singing its praises to anyone she encounters. She gives equal time to those who bought into uptown early and prospective tenants, business owners and investors.

She says there are many reasons to invest in downtown Greenville.

“Center-city revitalization matters for economic reasons,” Shoneman says. “It helps with (employees’) retention and recruiting, it helps with (the city’s) image and reputation. Success in uptown does take the public and the private. The public (sector) has said, ‘this matters to us,’ and the private has responded,” Scott Senator ’11, president of the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce, says many people have worked hard to transform the downtown area. That work, and the transformation it is producing, benefits more than just Greenville, he says.

“In recent years, uptown has become a cross-section between economic development, quality of life, the arts and business, which is a great sign for the health and growth of our entire community,” he says.

Performing culinary arts

Ask Shoneman how she knows uptown is evolving, and her response has little to do with dollars or large-scale development. She points to The Scullery. At the corner of Fifth and Evans streets, the lunch spot and coffee shop—which also serves homemade ice cream—is empty only when closed.

“We had $15,000 and an idea,” owner Matthew Scully ’04 says of his business’ humble beginnings. That startup capital came from the city through a grant program to boost investment in uptown and west Greenville.

Scully’s vocal studies degree from the School of Music may not have taught him to write a business plan, but he said it’s been a great help nonetheless. “This is sort of performance art in a way,” he says. “I have to improvise, think on my feet. And composing a meal is not really different than composing a work of art.”

It doesn’t hurt that he grew up in his dad’s kitchen. “We had $15,000 and an idea,” owner Matthew Scully ’03 says of his business’ humble beginnings. That startup capital came from the city through a grant program to boost investment in uptown and west Greenville.

Scullery’s vocal studies degree from the School of Music may not have taught him to write a business plan, but he said it’s been a great help nonetheless. “This is sort of performance art in a way,” he says. “I have to improvise, think on my feet. And composing a meal is not really different than composing a work of art.”

It doesn’t hurt that he grew up in his dad’s kitchen.

“We live in a great area with great ingredients,” Shoneman says. “And we’ve had a lot of support from the community.”

Four years since opening, the city continues to support The Scullery—in the sense that city employees are regular patrons. So are ECU students and staff. Scully received Uptown Greenville’s inaugural Small Business of the Year award in 2014.

Serving students

Like Scully, Holly Garrett ’01 ’05 was an artist before she became a business owner—in her case, a ceramicist with a master’s from ECU’s School of Art and Design. Now she works to ensure others can find opportunities in the art world through Emerge Gallery on Evans Street, which also operates as the arts council for Pitt County.
Sgt. Rudy Oxendine of the Greenville Police Department leads the Center City Unit, which aims to boost economic development by keeping crime low.

"In the fine arts, it’s very hard to be a professional artist or to get a job in the arts," she says. “You need to learn business skills. I wanted to teach classes on the business of art.”

She took that idea to East Carolina’s office of the Small Business and Technology Development Center—a University of North Carolina system program run by N.C. State University that provides management training to benefit the region’s small and mid-sized businesses across the state. They helped her write her first business plan.

“People are people, and there are tons of good people from all backgrounds,” he says. “That’s what I learned at East Carolina.”

Oxendine leads eight officers who make up the center city unit, created in January 2014. He says they’ve made progress already. Greenville Police Statistics show a 34.4 percent reduction in violent crime between 2011 and 2014. All crime was down 25.4 percent in 2014, compared to the previous year.

“Unlike other task forces, we’re doing anything we can to promote economic development,” Oxendine says. “The main way to do that is making sure crime is low.”

“Our downtown is the safest it’s been in many years,” he says.

The gradual departure of some bars and nightclubs from the area has done a lot to improve conditions, Oxendine says. He cites the “superblock project” as an example of a high-crime spot that once housed four nightclubs on East Fifth Street. Now it’s home to a cooiker shop, a clothing store and the ECU Registrar’s Office, which moved from the Wischard Building to a leased 8,062-square-foot space in February. Projects like that can produce a “snowball effect for good,” Oxendine says.

The superblock project was designed, built and managed by CommunitySmith, a Raleigh-based adaptive reuse and historic preservation firm. Shoneman and others say it’s not unusual for investors outside the region to ask about the uptown area these days. But the community continues to rely on the investment of stakeholders inside Greenville.

Enticing people to live uptown

Local developer Jim Ward ’74 and business partner Tom Tall have spearheaded what might be the most visible change to the uptown landscape in recent years—a large student apartment complex south of Reade Circle with easy access to Main Campus.

“The thing that downtown needed was critical mass (of people),” Ward says. He believes their complex, The Boundary, which opened in August, will provide that.

“It’ll really be interesting to see the impact they’ll have on that area—553 residents and three guests,” he says. “The center city is catching on. Walkable, sustainable (living) is in right now.”

Ward is another lifetime Greenville resident, but he admits to being shaped by his time at

---

It adds up

In the last three years, Uptown Greenville reports the district has added the following:

- 700,000 gross square feet of residential development
- 63,000 gross square feet of new and adaptive reuse office space
- 22 new businesses
- 162 new part- or full-time jobs
- 1,248 new public and/or private parking spaces

Additionally, in 2014, Uptown Greenville hosted more than 60 events and engaged 700 volunteers.

---

Upcoming in Uptown

**The Dickinson Avenue Corridor**

The next frontier in downtown revitalization is Dickinson Avenue, says Uptown Greenville President and CEO Bianca Shoneman. A narrow two-way street operated by Bobby Schultz ’13 and Gray Williams ’12 and a new gastropub—backed by ECU alumni Brad Hufford ’00 ’09, Tandil Mahn ’05 and Kristi Southern ’99 ’04, among others—are expected to open in rehabilitated spaces on Dickinson over the next year. Ryan Webb ’95 already operates his Greenville Times publication out of a Dickinson storefront, and you can’t miss the veritable zoo of animals galloping, prancing and crawling in green spaces along the street by artist Jonathan Bowling ’99. Each one is crafted from reclaimed scrap metal.

**The Fifth Street Theatre**

The city received a formal letter from intent of a potential developer/operator for the former State Theater—a performance space that later operated as a movie theater on West Fifth Street from across Five Points Plaza. The goal is to convey the property to the developer by the end of this year and have the theater operational by next fall. Shoneman also says progress is being made toward attracting a hotel to the city center.

**Millennial Campus/ Warehouse District**

ECU is moving ahead with plans to rehabilitate a seven-block area in Greenville’s warehouse district as a millennial campus—a site where the university can collaborate with others to commercialize research discoveries and offer advanced training to benefit the region’s high-tech industries.

—Kathryn Kennedy and Steve Ruttle
Don Edwards has been doing business in downtown Greenville for 46 years. Though not an alumnus himself, Edwards has seen the impact East Carolina University and its alumni have had on the area.

Edwards owns University Book Exchange and several other properties downtown. His father opened U.B.E. in 1968, and Edwards began working there in 1969 when he was a junior in high school.

“When I first started, the downtown was vibrant and fun, with lots of retail shops,” he said. “But in the 1970s and 1980s, there was tremendous decline with the coming of malls and urban sprawl. Since revitalization efforts began in the 1990s, I’ve continued to see steady improvement in the area.

“We’ve got a great mix of retail, residential, restaurants, galleries,” he says. “The downtown is a strong center for the East Carolina community. It creates a sense of place right at the campus edge. Greenville is becoming a fabulous college town. I’ve seen dramatic growth recently.”

“Town and gown’ work in tandem

Don Edwards has been doing business in downtown Greenville for 46 years. Though not an alumnus himself, Edwards has seen the impact East Carolina University and its alumni have had on the area.

“Town and gown’ work in tandem

East Carolina in particular, specifically, by former Chancellor Leo W. Jenkins.

“I saw firsthand what a never-say-die attitude can do,” Ward says. “What a wonderful example he set for an impressionable young man like me.”

The new complex will include 10,000 square feet of business space on the first floor. And Taft and Ward have announced plans to develop a second multi-million-dollar “campus-edge” property on 10th Street across from the future ECU student center.

“We have a love for Greenville. We see the energy that’s taking place,” Ward says. “There are a lot of places we could go, but we wanted to make a difference—as best we could—for Greenville.

“I hope I can be an ambassador for the uptown dynamic,” he says. “I’ve now put my money where my mouth is. We’re hoping it’s the tide that lifts all boats.”

East Carolina in particular, specifically, by former Chancellor Leo W. Jenkins.

“I saw firsthand what a never-say-die attitude can do,” Ward says. “What a wonderful example he set for an impressionable young man like me.”

The new complex will include 10,000 square feet of business space on the first floor. And Taft and Ward have announced plans to develop a second multi-million-dollar “campus-edge” property on 10th Street across from the future ECU student center.

“We have a love for Greenville. We see the energy that’s taking place,” Ward says. “There are a lot of places we could go, but we wanted to make a difference—as best we could—for Greenville.

“I hope I can be an ambassador for the uptown dynamic,” he says. “I’ve now put my money where my mouth is. We’re hoping it’s the tide that lifts all boats.”

East Carolina in particular, specifically, by former Chancellor Leo W. Jenkins.

“I saw firsthand what a never-say-die attitude can do,” Ward says. “What a wonderful example he set for an impressionable young man like me.”

The new complex will include 10,000 square feet of business space on the first floor. And Taft and Ward have announced plans to develop a second multi-million-dollar “campus-edge” property on 10th Street across from the future ECU student center.

“We have a love for Greenville. We see the energy that’s taking place,” Ward says. “There are a lot of places we could go, but we wanted to make a difference—as best we could—for Greenville.

“I hope I can be an ambassador for the uptown dynamic,” he says. “I’ve now put my money where my mouth is. We’re hoping it’s the tide that lifts all boats.”
Making music

ECU is immersing students in the creation of musical compositions

BY CRYSTAL BAITY PHOTOGRAPHY BY CLIFF HOLLIS
The North Carolina NewMusic Initiative is giving students experience in answering the question of how long a piece should be, when should it be delivered, what it will cost, who will play it, who will listen to it and more.

Getting involved in all these steps of music creation—and crafting a unique education model for musicians—helps set students on a stronger path to a career in music.

The program is an evolution of the 15-year-old NewMusic@ECU Festival, which was dedicated to contemporary music. The NewMusic Initiative includes a commissioning program to involve ECU students in all phases of creating new works.

ECU’s expansion from the typical performance and study of standard repertoire to the creation and commissioning of new music is breaking new ground.

“What’s unique is that students experience the process before the works’ completion,” says Ed Jacobs, the Robert L. Jones Distinguished Professor of Music at ECU and director of the initiative.

From idea to finished work

Since 2005 when the festival began, students at ECU have performed new music and learned about music’s evolution since the 18th and 19th centuries. They’re also listened to hundreds of guest composers, soloists and ensembles, bringing expertise and perspectives into the learning environment at Greenville.

Now, the program is going further by having students choose and collaborate with composers, negotiate contacts, and play and record new music.

Florrie Marshall ’15, a graduate student in the School of Music, says the NewMusic Initiative teaches students in the most effective way: by doing.

The “structure is set up so that we are working hands-on from the initial contact with a composer, inspiring the genesis of a work, throughout the entire process of creation, to the end result of producing a professional-level recording,” Marshall says.

She says the steps involved in taking an idea to an audience don’t exist in isolation; they build on each other.

“To learn the language of composing is crucial,” Marshall says. “You could have a brilliant piece of music on paper and not be able to convey it to other people. NewMusic Initiative helps you learn the language of composing—it’s an irreplaceable skill, no matter your intended career path within music.”

It’s a unique approach, says Christopher Ullifers, director of the School of Music.

“This new initiative is really meant to have the students at the center of it,” Ullifers says. “Students will see it from the inception of an idea to the commission to the performance and the recording. In the end, a student can say, ‘I helped create that.’”

Marshall’s friends who attend other music schools or conservatories tell her ECU’s learning environment is rare.

“It absolutely makes me a more well-rounded student,” Marshall says. “Even though I’m not a composition student, I’m a part of it.”

Integrated into the curriculum

Each element of the commissioning process will be part of the academic year’s activities, resulting in a four-year, four-stage continuously overlapping cycle.

In the first year, students will choose and negotiate with a composer. The composer will collaborate with student performers in the second year. In the third year, the composer will deliver the music to premiere at ECU. The music will be recorded in the fourth year. Students also will be involved in writing grants to support the project.

Each new class that comes in will start the process over. “Our students will see a real progression of music to see how all of that works as a cycle from inception to realization all the way through,” Ullifers says.

All music majors—performance, education, composition or therapy—can participate. The intent is when ECU students graduate, they are more prepared for their professions.

“When post-graduation reality hits, and bills are due, musicians need to be equipped with skills to make the most of every opportunity. Most musicians make their living by being versatile and engaging,” Mobberley says. “I don’t want to write a piece that’s like everything else they’ve done.”

The music will be performed by a sinfonietta, which is a small orchestra with only one player per section. “It’s really challenging to write. Having a chamber ensemble with this many players is something I’ve never done before,” Mobberley says.

He met with students via Skype this spring, will visit campus this fall and will meet with them periodically over the next few years.

“In order for music to stay alive, people have to keep creating,” Marshall says. “It’s important to show students who might think ‘I can just order a piece of music’ that this is a way to build a relationship and actually create something.”

Graduate student Sarah Hemminger ’15 estimates more than 25 students have been involved in the process so far, but she expects the number to grow as the initiative expands and more people hear about it.

Building skills

Hemminger, who is studying music theory and composition and would like to teach one day, says being exposed to negotiating contracts and great writing is helpful—and applicable even outside of music.

“This is a safe place where we have people telling us how to do it. You get to go through the things that maybe you haven’t considered,” Mobberley says. The most attractive part of the initiative is that students are involved in every aspect of creating music, even if they don’t plan to be a composer.

“I can’t help thinking when students leave the program, they will have a better picture of what it means to bring in a composer,” Mobberley says.

Sponsorship opportunities are available to support the New Music Initiative. The total cost for commissioning and recording music ranges from $5,000 to $30,000.

“These projects serve much more than to broaden our students’ education,” Jacobs says. “They create a series of works with ECU emblazoned above the title as the commissioner.”

I N P E R F O R M A N C E

ECU’s North Carolina NewMusic Initiative opens the 2015 fall season with violinist and violist Miranda Cuckson in a solo concert Sept. 10. Cuckson is acclaimed for her performances from a wide repertoire, from music of early eras to the most current creations. She has been praised for her “undeniable musicality” by The New York Times and her “command of line and naturalness of expression” by Gramophone.

On Oct. 3, the NewMusic Initiative welcomes Yarn|Wire, a piano-percussion quartet admired for the energy and precision they bring to performances of today’s most adventurous music. Two percussionists and two pianists allow the ensemble the flexibility to slip effortlessly between classics and modern works.

The NewMusic Initiative focuses on the music of ECU students Nov. 5 for Première Performances, featuring world-premiere performances and dedicated to fostering the newest ideas of young composers. All fall North Carolina NewMusic Initiative events are in ECU’s A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. More information is at www.ecu.edu/music/newmusic or by calling 252-328-4280.
Steve Lassiter was chosen North Carolina’s best principal because his passion for learning inspires students and teachers.

BY STEVE TUTTLE     PHOTOGRAPHY BY CLIFF HOLLIS
Lassiter relishes moments like this, which is of words and sharing the joy of learning. They’re three people experiencing the power leader, and they’re not just two youngsters. envelops them. He’s no longer the school better, and soon a comfortable rhythm begins reading they lean in to see the pictures. Lassiter chuckles and the boys giggle. As he too,” he says with a grin. One of the boys glances up at Lassiter and says, “You look funny, you look funny, too,” he says with a grin. Lassiter chuckles and the boys giggle. As he begins reading they lean in to see the pictures better, and soon a comfortable rhythm envelops them. He’s no longer the school leader, and they’re not just two youngsters. They’re three people experiencing the power of words and sharing the joy of learning. Lassiter relishes moments like this, which is one reason he’s the 2015 Wells Fargo N.C. Principal of the Year. “One of my passions is working with beginning teachers as well as struggling readers,” says Lassiter, who is the first member of his family to graduate from college. Lassiter says he drops in on classrooms so he can spend time with students and talk with teachers. At these standup meetings, he shares ideas for helping struggling students while gaining from teachers practical advice on what works in the classroom. He wants to know what teachers experience when they are working with fourth- and fifth-graders who read on a first-grade level. The most important part of his job, Lassiter says, is getting everyone at the school to work on a first-grade level. “In years past the principal was typically expected to just manage things and make sure the daily operations of the schools were successful. Now (the job is all about) instructional leadership,” he says. “One term I use with teachers is, I’m the lead learner. I’m learning, and you’re learning. If I’m not learning, you’re not learning either, and it’s important that we learn and understand instruction together.” He attributes his leadership skills to the values he acquired at ECU. “I’m appreciative of East Carolina University and all that I did learn there,” he says. “The education I received has been invaluable. It has been the best decision that I ever made in my life.” The most important thing that ECU taught him, he says, is that “we have to have a heart and a willingness to serve people.” Although no one else in his family had gone to college, Lassiter felt certain he would. “I knew in middle school that I wanted to go to college, and I knew that I wanted to become a teacher,” he says. “Education has always been a passion of mine.” Lassiter, who grew up in Edenton, knows a good teacher can change a student’s life, because one changed his. “I had a math teacher, Mrs. Shirley Powell, in ninth grade who really just changed my life. I struggled with math in elementary school and middle school. But when I got to ninth grade, it just clicked; it made sense,” he says. School always was a central part of his family. “My mother started driving the bus at our elementary school when I was born. She has driven the exact same bus route for 34 years.” When he was 16, he attended a summer program administered by the ECU College of Education, the N.C. Legislators’ School for Youth Leadership Development. The program aimed to encourage students to get an education and then return to their rural communities as leaders. It included a speech by Ron Clark ’94, who has written two best-selling books on innovative educational strategies. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in elementary education, Lassiter taught fifth-grade at WH. Robinson Elementary and sixth-grade language arts, social studies and science at E.B. Aycock Middle School in Greenville for four years. Teaching was a great experience, he says, but he believed he could contribute more to the public schools as a principal. In 2008, he applied to the master of school administration program at ECU and was selected to receive a North Carolina Principal Fellows scholarship. The scholarship, which is structured as a loan, pays $30,000 toward the cost of the first year of graduate school and about $40,000 for the second year. Fellows do not have to repay the loan if they work as a public school administrator for four years. The most important thing that ECU taught him, he says, is that “we have to have a heart and a willingness to serve people.” Inspired to teach

Principal U

East Carolina University’s master of school administration program is the conduit educators move through to go from the classroom to the principal’s office. And it’s a successful program—the only one in North Carolina accredited by the Educational Leadership Constituent Council. Estimates are that one in seven of the state’s school leaders are graduates of the program. Art Rouse, who chairs the ECU Department of Educational Leadership, says the process of producing successful principals begins with a rigorous recruitment effort. The program targets eastern North Carolina as far west as Durham and asks school superintendents in the region to recommend teachers who have leadership qualities. The program requires a valid North Carolina teaching license, which teachers receive only after three years in the classroom. Undergraduates cannot go straight into the graduate program. “It’s hard to be a successful building-level administrator if you’ve never been a successful teacher,” Rouse says.

The 42-semester-hour program educates students in instructional, managerial and human resource leadership, diversity and other areas. Students—many of whom study part-time while working—learn in ECU classrooms as well as alongside principals in the region.

The program has about 130 students at any one time. Ninety-five percent of graduates stay in North Carolina to work, Rouse says. Typically, they work as assistant principals for three or four years before moving up.

Rouse says producing school leaders is a vital role ECU performs for eastern North Carolina. “This department mirrors the mission of the university,” Rouse says. “Leadership is a service role. You have to serve your community, serve your students and serve your parents.” —Doug Boyd
In 2011, Lassiter began studying for a doctorate in education at N.C. State University as a Walseck-Hodnett doctoral fellow. The fellowship, which comes with a $31,000 scholarship, is reserved for educators who demonstrate the capacity for significant or creative leadership. He’s writing his dissertation and plans to complete the program next spring.

And he’s still teaching. Pactolus School is a practiveum and internship site for students in ECU’s MSA program, allowing Lassiter to pass what he has learned to the next generation of school leaders.

A.G. Cox Middle School Principal Tracy Cole ’02 grew up with Lassiter in Edenton, though he was a few years behind her in school.

“Steve has a passion for teaching and learning,” Cole says from her Winterville office. “Everything he learns, he brings back and works it to fit his school.”

As an example of his desire to help students, Cole says Lassiter worked with Pactolus eighth-graders on their applications for Pitt County Schools’ new Early College program. He also helped them with interviewing skills. As a result, 80 percent of Pactolus students who applied were accepted.

“He worked very hard, yet he’s humble and doesn’t mind sharing,” Cole says. She attributes that attitude to lessons Lassiter’s parents taught him and his siblings.

“They were there to say, ‘You can do this,’ and encouraged them through faith,” Cole says.

Recognized for results

About 10 miles east of Greenville and bordered by farm fields and U.S. 264, Pactolus School enrolls approximately 630 students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. About half are African-American and a quarter are Hispanic. More than 80 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

Lassiter’s selection as principal of the year in May brought welcome attention to the school and the accomplishments of the students and faculty. Every year since Lassiter arrived, the school has met expected growth status in the Department of Public Instruction’s annual report card. Teacher turnover has been cut in half, to 12 percent. Candace Hines, who is treasurer and former president of the Pactolus School PTA, says Lassiter encourages students and faculty to focus on success.

“He is always asking, ‘What can I do for you?’ He believes every student can succeed, and he helps them in any way possible to reach their goals,” she says. “I believe that’s where he has had a positive impact on the school and the community, because he goes everyone something to look forward to.”

An example is the school’s music program. Hines says, “We have always had music programs, and we are one of the only schools in the area that has a steel drum program. He supports the music program because he tells students, ‘If you can do this, you can accomplish anything.’”

Lassiter said he loves his job because he loves kids and wants to see them succeed.

“Every morning when I wake up, it’s exciting to come to school and work with great teachers and serve these wonderful children in the Pactolus family,” he says. “I learned from ECU that service is critical, especially here in rural eastern North Carolina.

Lassiter, who is 34 and single, says a good principal must have a vision. It’s clear what his vision is for Pactolus School.

“This school in the next three to five years will look like a 21st-century learning commons where children come to school ready to learn and can share their ideas freely, where there’s a wide variety of technology available to them to use in their classrooms, a place where they’re able to be free thinkers,” he says. “Our vision at this school is having teachers that are passionate about coming to work every day and… consistently going the extra mile.”

“I envision Pactolus being a flagship school that others can come and see and learn from,” Lassiter says.
Receiver and role model

Junior receiver Isaiah Jones aims to lead the Pirates on offense, on the field and in the classroom

BY DOUG BOYD    PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAY CLARK
It starts with me,” the junior receiver says. “I really want to do it to make my mother proud.”

“The elder Jones agrees and sounds like many other parents who crowd bleachers and stands to cheer on with him and Kirk. They’re a lot alike, just like Shane and Justin were a lot alike. "He’s just a fan of us," he says of himself. "I really want to do it to make my father proud.”

“By the spring, he had really become a good, physical blocker," Kirkpatrick says. "He never takes a play off. He really takes that to heart.” That might go back to the advice his father gave him. “It brings so much joy to watch him play. I grew up in a household with two parents who stressed academics and sports," he says, “It is important to have feel for each other, and it is important to have a team. You will see it in the fall how the hard work together helped us be where we are.”

The team will be adjusting to new offensive coordinator Mike Norvell, who’s now with the Atlanta Falcons. “I kind of see that coming out of nowhere and smacks them. He should be proud,” Kirkpatrick says. “Coach McNeill knew the work ethic was there.”

Isaiah Jones says he feels ECU wanted him for who he was and who he could become, not for who his father was. He also says he’s a football player because he doesn’t take a play off. He really takes that to heart.”

T he sports family

From 1988-91, Robert Jones starred at ECU becoming one of the greatest players in school history to be named a consensus All-American. His senior season, he teamed with quarterback Jeff Blake—now Isaiah Jones’ uncle—to lead ECU to an 11-1 record and a 37-34 victory over N.C. State in the Peach Bowl.

Jones played on three Super Bowl-winning teams with the Dallas Cowboys (1993, 1994, 1996), was a 1994 Pro Bowl selection and was inducted into the ECU Hall of Fame in 2004. Meanwhile, Blake played for seven NFL teams over a 13-year career and was a 1995 Pro Bowl selection.

Cousin Torre Blake plays for the ECU volleyball team, and another cousin, Evinry Blake, caught a touchdown pass in the 2010 Bowl Championship Series national championship game while playing for Auburn and spent a couple of seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster. Older brother Caylen Jones is a wide receiver for the Arizona Wildcats. A younger brother plays high school football in Austin, and a younger sister plays volleyball.

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

T ore Blake

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

Cousin Torre Blake plays for the ECU volleyball team, and another cousin, Evinry Blake, caught a touchdown pass in the 2010 Bowl Championship Series national championship game while playing for Auburn and spent a couple of seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster. Older brother Caylen Jones is a wide receiver for the Arizona Wildcats. A younger brother plays high school football in Austin, and a younger sister plays volleyball.

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

T ore Blake

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

Cousin Torre Blake plays for the ECU volleyball team, and another cousin, Evinry Blake, caught a touchdown pass in the 2010 Bowl Championship Series national championship game while playing for Auburn and spent a couple of seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster. Older brother Caylen Jones is a wide receiver for the Arizona Wildcats. A younger brother plays high school football in Austin, and a younger sister plays volleyball.

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

T ore Blake

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

Cousin Torre Blake plays for the ECU volleyball team, and another cousin, Evinry Blake, caught a touchdown pass in the 2010 Bowl Championship Series national championship game while playing for Auburn and spent a couple of seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster. Older brother Caylen Jones is a wide receiver for the Arizona Wildcats. A younger brother plays high school football in Austin, and a younger sister plays volleyball.

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

T ore Blake

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

Cousin Torre Blake plays for the ECU volleyball team, and another cousin, Evinry Blake, caught a touchdown pass in the 2010 Bowl Championship Series national championship game while playing for Auburn and spent a couple of seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster. Older brother Caylen Jones is a wide receiver for the Arizona Wildcats. A younger brother plays high school football in Austin, and a younger sister plays volleyball.

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

T ore Blake

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

Cousin Torre Blake plays for the ECU volleyball team, and another cousin, Evinry Blake, caught a touchdown pass in the 2010 Bowl Championship Series national championship game while playing for Auburn and spent a couple of seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster. Older brother Caylen Jones is a wide receiver for the Arizona Wildcats. A younger brother plays high school football in Austin, and a younger sister plays volleyball.

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

T ore Blake

Robert Jones

Jeff Blake

Cousin Torre Blake plays for the ECU volleyball team, and another cousin, Evinry Blake, caught a touchdown pass in the 2010 Bowl Championship Series national championship game while playing for Auburn and spent a couple of seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster. Older brother Caylen Jones is a wide receiver for the Arizona Wildcats. A younger brother plays high school football in Austin, and a younger sister plays volleyball.
Academics and leadership

While Robert Jones prefers to let ECU’s coaches do the football coaching, he does the life coaching.

“I do feel like every other parent,” Jones says. “You want your kids to do better than you.” For him, the first step in achieving that is finishing college.

“Having a degree and having an education is really important,” he says he tells his six children. “It’s vital. You can be whatever you want to be if you have that degree.”

He says that when he retired from football, every job in the NFL league office required at least a bachelor’s degree. Today, he and his wife own a business selling cleaning products.

“People want to see you finish,” he says. “Those kinds of things people look at from a job perspective.”

Isaiah Jones is a communications major with a 3.58 cumulative GPA. In the classroom, he has earned ECU Honor Roll and Dean’s List status while also receiving 2013-14 Conference USA Commissioner Honor Roll accolades.

Making his parents proud isn’t his only motivation to do well in school and complete his bachelor’s degree. He also wants to be a role model for younger players.

“I want them to see it can be done,” he says. “They can come to college, whether they’re on scholarship or walking on, and do whatever things they choose to do.”

In the classroom, he has earned ECU Honor Roll and Dean’s List status while also receiving 2013-14 Conference USA Commissioner Honor Roll accolades.

Making his parents proud isn’t his only motivation to do well in school and complete his bachelor’s degree. He also wants to be a role model for younger players.

“I want them to see it can be done,” he says. “They can come to college, whether they’re on scholarship or walking on, and do whatever things they choose to do.”

He talks of what he has learned in classes about interpersonal and organizational communication and theories of persuasion and how professors have had an impact on him.

Brian O’Hara, assistant director of student development in the ECU athletic department, says Jones has been committed to his studies since he arrived on campus.

“He came in ready for college and really motivated,” O’Hara says.

Jones says the coaching staff, and in particular coach Ruffin McNeill, stress schoolwork. And at ECU, leadership is valued as integral to academics. It’s another role Jones is eager to take on.

“I try to push myself,” he says. “You can’t lead if your self is not ready to go through what your team is about to endure.”

Coaches agree. “He is obviously just an awesome young man in every way … he’s a great student, totally outstanding, a natural leader,” Kirkpatrick says. “He’s the kind of person young people just like and gravitate toward.”

“He has a little bit of an aura about him,” Kirkpatrick says. “You know he’s going to be something special.”

Or, as Robert Jones says: “Do everything 100 percent. Strive for the best.”

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 merchandise and apparel in our stores!

At Dowdy, we return profits right back to the University to support scholarships and campus programs.

Whenever you’re on campus, whether taking in a show at 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

Find us on Facebook
“ECU Dowdy Student Stores”

Extended hours & relaxed parking adjacent to the store on Saturday game days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>Towson</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 12</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 19</td>
<td>at Navy</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 23</td>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>SMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>at Brigham Young</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 17</td>
<td>Tulsa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>Temple</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td>at Connecticut</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 7</td>
<td>USF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>at UCF</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 28</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

East 2015 ECU FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

PIRATES IN THE PROS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WILLIE SMITH</td>
<td>2006-10</td>
<td>Washington Redskins</td>
<td>Offensive tackle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAM WORTHY</td>
<td>2012-14</td>
<td>Baltimore Ravens</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.J. WILSON</td>
<td>2006-09</td>
<td>Oakland Raiders</td>
<td>Defensive end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWAYNE HARRIS</td>
<td>2007-10</td>
<td>NY Giants</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHANE CARDEN</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Chicago Bears</td>
<td>Quarterback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERRY WILLIAMS</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Chicago Bears</td>
<td>Defensive line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINVAL JOSEPH</td>
<td>2007-09</td>
<td>Minnesota Vikings</td>
<td>Defensive tackle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUSTIN HARDY</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Atlanta Falcons</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANCE LEWIS</td>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>New Orleans Saints</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEVEN BAKER</td>
<td>2007-11</td>
<td>St. Louis Rams</td>
<td>Tackle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRIS HONOS</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Minnesota Vikings</td>
<td>Defensive line</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

East Academics and leadership

2015 ECU FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

While Robert Jones prefers to let ECU’s coaches do the football coaching, he does the life coaching.

“I do feel like every other parent,” Jones says. “You want your kids to do better than you.” For him, the first step in achieving that is finishing college.

“Having a degree and having an education is really important,” he says he tells his six children. “It’s vital. You can be whatever you want to be if you have that degree.”

He says that when he retired from football, every job in the NFL league office required at least a bachelor’s degree. Today, he and his wife own a business selling cleaning products.

“People want to see you finish,” he says. “Those kinds of things people look at from a job perspective.”

Isaiah Jones is a communications major with a 3.58 cumulative GPA. In the classroom, he has earned ECU Honor Roll and Dean’s List status while also receiving 2013-14 Conference USA Commissioner Honor Roll accolades.

Making his parents proud isn’t his only motivation to do well in school and complete his bachelor’s degree. He also wants to be a role model for younger players.

“I want them to see it can be done,” he says. “They can come to college, whether they’re on scholarship or walking on, and do whatever things they choose to do.”

He talks of what he has learned in classes about interpersonal and organizational communication and theories of persuasion and how professors have had an impact on him.

Brian O’Hara, assistant director of student development in the ECU athletic department, says Jones has been committed to his studies since he arrived on campus.

“He came in ready for college and really motivated,” O’Hara says.

Jones says the coaching staff, and in particular coach Ruffin McNeill, stress schoolwork. And at ECU, leadership is valued as integral to academics. It’s another role Jones is eager to take on.

“I try to push myself,” he says. “You can’t lead if your self is not ready to go through what your team is about to endure.”

Coaches agree. “He is obviously just an awesome young man in every way … he’s a great student, totally outstanding, a natural leader,” Kirkpatrick says. “He’s the kind of person young people just like and gravitate toward.”

“He has a little bit of an aura about him,” Kirkpatrick says. “You know he’s going to be something special.”

Or, as Robert Jones says: “Do everything 100 percent. Strive for the best.”

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 merchandise and apparel in our stores!

At Dowdy, we return profits right back to the University to support scholarships and campus programs.

Whenever you’re on campus, whether taking in a show at 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

Find us on Facebook
“ECU Dowdy Student Stores”

Extended hours & relaxed parking adjacent to the store on Saturday game days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WILLIE SMITH</td>
<td>2006-10</td>
<td>Washington Redskins</td>
<td>Offensive tackle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAM WORTHY</td>
<td>2012-14</td>
<td>Baltimore Ravens</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.J. WILSON</td>
<td>2006-09</td>
<td>Oakland Raiders</td>
<td>Defensive end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWAYNE HARRIS</td>
<td>2007-10</td>
<td>NY Giants</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHANE CARDEN</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Chicago Bears</td>
<td>Quarterback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERRY WILLIAMS</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Chicago Bears</td>
<td>Defensive line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINVAL JOSEPH</td>
<td>2007-09</td>
<td>Minnesota Vikings</td>
<td>Defensive tackle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUSTIN HARDY</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Atlanta Falcons</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANCE LEWIS</td>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>New Orleans Saints</td>
<td>Wide receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEVEN BAKER</td>
<td>2007-11</td>
<td>St. Louis Rams</td>
<td>Tackle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRIS HONOS</td>
<td>2010-14</td>
<td>Minnesota Vikings</td>
<td>Defensive line</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Buccaneer Buffet

Join fellow alumni and fans for tailgating fun before each home football game at ECU. Enjoy a variety of food from local restaurants, beverages, live music and entertainment, door prizes and more. Our tailgates often get visits from the ECU Cheerleaders and PeeDee. Located at the ECU Soccer Stadium, Buccaneer Buffet begins three hours before kick-off and lasts two hours. Our tailgates are open to any friends and fans of East Carolina. For members of the alumni association, tickets are $12 for ages 13 and up and $6 for ages 8-12. For non-members, tickets are $10 for ages 13 and up and $5 for ages 8-12. Children 7 and under are free.

Price includes food, beverages and entertainment. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Some tailgates do sell out quickly, so plan to register in advance. Tickets are sold at the door only if space is available.

Many thanks to our Buccaneer Buffet season sponsors: Aramark, Carolina Ice Co., Coca-Cola, Dowdy Student Stores, Liberty Mutual, RA Jeffreys and WITN. For more information, visit PirateAlumni.com/tailgate or call 800-ECU-GRAD (252-328-4723).

Away game tailgates

The East Carolina Alumni Association is partnering with the Pirate Club to host two away-game tailgates this season. The cost is $35 for ages 13 and up and $15 for ages 8-12. Children 7 and under are free.

Sept. 5 vs. Towson
Aramark, GK Cafe

Sept. 26 vs. Virginia Tech
Aramark, Abrams, Mama’s Sweet Baby Cakes

Oct. 17 vs. Tulsa
Aramark, Queen Street Deli & Bakery

Oct. 22 vs. Temple
Aramark, Brown’s Sweet Treats

Nov. 7 vs. UAB
Aramark, Sandi’s Creative Cakes

Nov. 28 vs. Cincinnati
Aramark, Sweet Memories

JoCo Pirates, winners of the 2014 ECU Alumni Scholarship Classic, represented ECU in the Acura College Alumni Team Championship in Pinehurst and won 1st place net.

Golf tournament

A tradition among Pirate golfers, the ECU Alumni Scholarship Classic golf tournament sponsored by the Hilton Greenville will be Sept. 25 at Ironwood Golf and Country Club. This four-person scramble tournament offers tee times at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., breakfast and lunch. The 2015 event is part of the Acura College Alumni Team Championship. Player packages and sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information, contact Director of Alumni Programs Shawm Moons ‘91 ‘98 at 252-328-5775 or moonshe@ecu.edu or visit PirateAlumni.com/golf.
Networking events
The alumni association is planning networking events in several cities this fall. Meet fellow Pirates in your area and expand your professional and social networks. These events feature successful alumni who are leaders in their industries and communities. Advance your career and stay connected with your alma mater wherever you are. Advance registration is required. Members receive a discount on registration.

Aug. 29 Carolina Mudcats, Zebulon
Sept. 19 Brews Cruise, Asheville
Nov. 14 Mother Earth Brewery, Kinston
Mother Earth Brewery, Kinston
Dec. 1

For more information, visit PirateAlumni.com/NetworkingEvents.

Career Fair corner
The Career Center is now Career Services. We’re changing names to keep up with the times. The name better reflects the broad array of services available to alumni and students. Along with a name change is a deeper partnership between Career Services and the East Carolina Alumni Association.

“Plans are now underway to make connecting with Career Services even easier for ECU alumni,” said Marcy Romary, interim associate vice chancellor for alumni relations.

Partnership activities include the following:
ECU CareerNET provides students and alumni free access to an exclusive database of jobs, internships and co-ops posted by employers and by Career Services staff.

For employers, ECU CareerNET is an opportunity to reach out to the almost 28,000 students and 155,000 active alumni with employment opportunities. Job postings and the resources and assistance of Career Services are free to all employers.

Career fairs Career fairs offer an opportunity for alumni who are employers and alumni who are job seekers to connect with other alumni, recent graduates and current students to fill their needs for full-time jobs, part-time jobs, internships and co-ops. Alumni association representatives contribute during Career Services’ annual Career Fairs in an effort to reach out to alumni who return as employers and as participants in the fair.

Coming soon “Who’s Hiring” is a weekly wrap-up of selected postings on the Career Services website, www.ecu.edu/career, along with information about upcoming career fairs, networking events, and information sessions and on-campus interview schedules. Once website updates are complete, Career Services will be accessible with a click in the section titled “Career Corner.” To schedule a meeting to discuss how your company can connect with alumni and students at information sessions, career fairs, ECU CareerNET and more, contact Curtis Street at Career Services by calling 252-328-6050.

Home Course of the East Carolina University Pirates*
Member Managed & Operated • Legacy and Student* Memberships Available • Premium Style Clubhouse • Offering Men’s Breakfast, Lunch & Evening Dining, as well as a Member Bar/Lounge • Active Social Calendar • Wedding, Banquet & Meeting Spaces • Lighted Competition Tennis Courts

Competition Site Pool • Home to ECU Men’s & Ladies’ Golf Teams • Lee Trevino Golf Course Voted “Best Place to Play” by The Greensboro Times

Bring the Whole Crew
Our new series of family and social events continues this fall. All alumni, students, parents, friends and family members including children are invited to sporting events, amusement parks, outdoor activities, social mixers and more. These events provide opportunities for Pirates and their families to get together outside of professional networking events and football tailgates. For more information, visit PirateAlumni.com/BringtheWholeCrew.

Legacy Brunch
Join us for the Pirate Alumni Legacy Brunch on Sept. 27. This event honors families of students with two or more generations of Pirates. For more information, visit PirateAlumni.com/2015LegacyBrunch.

Home Course of the East Carolina University Pirates*/
Member Managed & Operated • Legacy and Student* Memberships Available • Premium Style Clubhouse • Offering Men’s Breakfast, Lunch & Evening Dining, as well as a Member Bar/Lounge • Active Social Calendar • Wedding, Banquet & Meeting Spaces • Lighted Competition Tennis Courts

Competition Site Pool • Home to ECU Men’s & Ladies’ Golf Teams • Lee Trevino Golf Course Voted “Best Place to Play” by The Greensboro Times

Play where the Pirates play! Mention this ad when you schedule your tee time for a Pirate Discount! 10% off your green fees.

Legacy Memberships and “Student” Memberships Available — Call 252-752-6699 today for details!
Greenville Convention Center
6 p.m.
Hilton Greenville
Programs Shawn Moore ’91 ’98
contact Director of Alumni
recipients. For more information,
see pages 49-51 for
Awards at the East Carolina
Awards and Outstanding Alumni
Service Awards, Honorary Alumni
Join us as we present the 2015
Presented by
Ceremony and Dinner
Alumni Awards
Alumni Award recipients!
Cheerleaders, local bands,
Marching Pirates, the ECU
Parade. See PeeDee, the
Join us at the Taylor-Slaughter
9 a.m., Fifth Street
Homecoming Parade
before the parade.
Gather with fellow
ECU fans of East Carolina.
open to all friends and
Buccaneer Buffet is
and entertainment,
beverages, live music
and gifts at sale prices,
in the latest Pirate gear from
Get decked out for Homecoming
information, call 252-328-6387.
Dowdy Student Stores
Alumni are invited to work
Recreation Center during
Alumni reception
College of Nursing
Homecoming Breakfast
College of Allied Health Sciences
Homecoming Event
Seth Brinkley (first floor)
Free, RSVP by Sept. 30
Contact: Jeff Dunn, 252-744- 1719 or dunville@ecu.edu
College of Arts and Sciences Homecoming Social
Oct. 15, 8:30 a.m.
On the lawn near the Whidby
Building
Free, no RSVP required
Contact: Lauren Monson at monsonla@ecu.edu or
252-328-6249
Department of Biology Homecoming Lunch Oct. 16, 12 p.m.
Locast 10A
Free, no RSVP required
Contact: Hall Hinson at
hinsonh@ecu.edu
College of Business Homecoming Social Oct. 17, 8–9:30 p.m.
On the lawn between
Chancellors Way and Fifth Street
(across from the intersection of
Fifth and Student streets)
Free, no RSVP required
Contact: Anne Fisher 252-328- 4396 or fishera@ecu.edu
College of Education Breakfast on the Ranch Oct. 17, 9 a.m.
Steak and Eggs
Free, RSVP by Oct. 9
Contact: Elizabeth Hecker at
heckerel@ecu.edu
Department of Mathematics, Science and Instructional Technology Education Oct. 17, 9:30 a.m.–noon
Flanagan Building
Free, RSVP requested
Contact: Joy Carnes 328-9353
carnesjo@ecu.edu
College of Engineering and Technology Alumni Homecoming Pre-Parede Breakfast Oct. 17, 8–9 a.m.
Science and Technology Building atrium
Free, no RSVP required
Contact: Scott Sneed at
sneedsc@ecu.edu or 252-328-8500
College of Fine Arts and Communication Breakfast on the Terrace and Parade Watching Oct. 17, 8:30 a.m.
Music, and Theatre and Dance are
Alumni of the schools of Art
School of Music
Oct. 17, 8:30–9:30 a.m.
Student Fine Arts Center Terrace
Free, RSVP requested
Contact: Mary Jane Shumaker
shumakm@ecu.edu or
252-328-6249
Religious Studies Program Homecoming Picnic and Party Oct. 17, before the football game
at Brinkley Field and Athletic Complex
Free, RSVP requested by Oct. 10
(Invitation also welcomed)
Contact: Lee Johnson at
johnsonl@ecu.edu
College of Literature, College of History and Social Sciences, College of Education Alumni Homecoming Social Oct. 17, 3 p.m.
A.J. Fletcher Music Center
Free, RSVP requested
Contact: Chloe Pink at
pinkch@ecu.edu
School of Music Alumni Reception Oct. 17, 4–6 p.m.
ECU Alumni Center
Free, RSVP requested
Contact: A.J. Fletcher Music Center
FREE, no RSVP required
Contact: Chloe Pink at
pinkch@ecu.edu
Alumni Reception Recital Oct. 17, 7 p.m.
A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall
Free, RSVP requested
Call 252-754-8300 and use block Inn Express on Moye Boulevard.
fee. The host hotel is the Holiday are NOT included in the reunion Football tickets are $30 each and Marching Pirates polo shirt.
the Friday night social, breakfast for non-members, which includes association members and $55 the Friday night social, breakfast, three hours before kick-off Pregame performance March to stadium, one hour 45 minutes before kick-off Combined band rehearsal, three hours before kick-off Lunch, two-and-a-half hours before kick-off March to stadium, one hour 45 minutes before kick-off Pre-game performance, 10 minutes before kick-off -The reunion fee is $45 for alumni association members and $55 for non-members, which includes the Friday night social, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and a Marching Pirates polo shirt. Football tickets are $10 each and are NOT included in the reunion fee. The host hotel is the Holiday Inn Express on Moye Boulevard. Call 252-754-8300 and use block code 053 to reserve rooms by Sept. 25.

GREEK REUNIONS

Zeta Tau Alpha
ECU ZTA Alumnae Homecoming Event Oct. 15, time TBA Location TBA Fees: $50/meal or email Contact: ztaalumnaeeventZTAECU@gmail.com

Alpha Omicron Pi
Alumnae Social Oct. 16, 7-9 p.m. Window’s Tavern, 120 W. Fith St., Greenville Free, no RSVP needed
Alumnae Breakfast Oct. 17, 7:15 a.m. AIOH House, 805 Johnston St., Greenville Fees: RSVP by Oct. 10 Contact: Erin Parker, 910-990-5574 or aoii2014@ecu.edu

Panhellenic Sororities
50th Anniversary Luncheon Oct. 16, noon-1:30 p.m. Club Level, Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium Contact: Office of Greek Life, 252-328-4235

Black Alumni Reunion
The Black Alumni Chapter of the East Carolina Alumni Association presents the 2015 Black Alumni Reunion. The BAC is composed of alumni and friends who advocate for the mission of the university and the alumni association. In addition to a reunion every year, the BAC enhances access to and advancement of education for African-American students through raising funds for scholarships and providing networking opportunities with alumni. For more information and the full schedule, visit PirateAlumni.com/0015BAC. In addition to the alumni association’s general events, the BAC is hosting the following events:

BAC Golf Outing Oct. 16, Ironwood Golf and Country Club, 8-11 a.m. Enjoy some serious but friendly golf competition with fellow Pirates and friends at the second annual BAC Golf Outing. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Laura Leary Elliott Endowed Scholarship.
Reunion Information Desk Oct. 16, Holiday Inn Express, 909 Moyer Blvd., 4-6 p.m. The lobby of the Holiday Inn Express is the one-stop shop for all Black Alumni Reunion’s BAC-related events. Reunion committee members will be available to answer questions, provide updated information about homecoming events and make sure you have everything you need for a great weekend.
MBA: The Class of 2010 and Great Oct. 16, Shogun Japanese Restaurant, 8-11 p.m. Cash bar Come socialize with friends and reconnect with fellow Pirates and friends to kick off a great homecoming weekend.
BAC Business Meeting Oct. 17, Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, 10 a.m.

After the alumni association breakfast and parade viewing, join in the discussion about important topics relevant to furthering the BAC. Your voice is needed as we discuss raising funds for the Laura Leary Elliott Endowed Scholarship; expanding opportunities for students, growing the BAC membership and presence; and the 2015 schedule of events.

Homecoming Football Game Oct. 17, Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, time TBA, $10 The BAC will have a block of seats for the game to cheer coach Buddy Michell 100 and our Pirates to victory. Block purchase details are available at PirateAlumni.com/0015BAC.

BAC Awards Banquet and Gala Pirates Parking with a Purpose Oct. 17, Hilton Greenville, 6 p.m., $1-40 for members, $50 for non-members. Join us as we come together to honor the recipient of the first Laura Leary Elliott Endowed Scholarship and recognize the recipients of the Dr. Andrew Best Trailblazer Award, the Laura Marie Elliott Courageous Leader Award and the Ledia D. Wright Outstanding Faculty/Mentor Award. To nominate individuals for these awards, visit PirateAlumni.com/BlackAlumni for criteria and nomination forms. The evening will begin with a cocktail reception (cash bar) at 6:00 p.m. and awards dinner at 7:00 p.m., followed by a festive gala with music that spans the decades. The attire is business professional. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Laura Leary Elliott Endowed Scholarship.

Ecumenical Service Oct. 18, Mendenhall Student Center Great Rooms, 9-11 a.m. Join fellow alumni and speaker the Rev. Ken Hammond, 73 ‘83 ‘85 and other ECU alumni, family and friends for the second annual ecumenical service.

Luncheon Oct. 18, Window’s Tavern, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., $40 for members, $50 for non-members. Join us as we come together to honor the recipient of the first Laura Leary Elliott Endowed Scholarship and recognize the recipients of the Dr. Andrew Best Trailblazer Award, the Laura Marie Elliott Courageous Leader Award and the Ledia D. Wright Outstanding Faculty/Mentor Award. To nominate individuals for these awards, visit PirateAlumni.com/BlackAlumni for criteria and nomination forms. The evening will begin with a cocktail reception (cash bar) at 6:00 p.m. and awards dinner at 7:00 p.m., followed by a festive gala with music that spans the decades. The attire is business professional. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Laura Leary Elliott Endowed Scholarship.

EAST CAROLINA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ECU Alumni Association Oct. 16, time TBA Fees: $100 per person Contact: Office of Greek Life, 252-328-4235

Alumni AWARD RECIPIENTS

Beverly Cox ’67 is an emeritus member of the ECU Women’s Roundtable Board of Directors and held several leadership positions in that organization from 2008 to 2014. Because of her career in the arts and museum field, she was named one of 100 incredible ECU Women in 2007. She retired in 2011 as the director of exhibitions and strategic management after a 43-year career with The National Portrait Gallery, a museum of the Smithsonian Institution. She is an anchor for the Pirate Nation in the Washington, D.C., area, recruiting alumni, hosting events for the Women’s Roundtable and speaking to students about ECU. She is a major supporter of the ECU Honors College and serves on the college’s advisory council. She regularly hosts Honors College students at the National Portrait Gallery, giving behind-the-scenes tours and leading discussions. She was married to the late Norman Cox ’66, whom she met at ECU. She resides in Arlington, Virginia.

Max Ray Joyner ’55 and his late wife Catherine “Kitty” Joyner ’59 (posthumously) have given exemplary service to ECU for decades. Max has held numerous leadership positions at ECU, including chair of the Board of Trustees, chair of the East Carolina Alumni Association Board of Directors, president of the Pirate Club and president of the Foundation. Before her death in 2011, Kitty was a leader in many organizations at ECU, including the Women’s Roundtable, Friends of the School of Music, Friends of the Summer Theatre and Friends of Joyner Library. Together, they have supported scholarships, awards and fundraising campaigns. They have funded scholarships in the College of Business, the College of Nursing, the Honors College and athletics. They endowed the Catherine and Max Joyner Distinguished Professorship in Primary Care Medicine, the first endowed chair at the Brody School of Medicine. They have three children, Catherine Joyner Hoft, Max Joyner Jr. and Julia Joyner Fultz.
Jeff Charles has served as the Voice of the Pirates for 28 years, having announced more than 1,300 football, basketball, and baseball games for ECU. He also defeated cancer in time to be named the North Carolina Sportscaster of the Year for the second time in 2014. As the director of electronic media for the Pirate IMG Sports Network, Charles is the voice and face of ECU athletics, programming before, during, and after the games. He hosts several programs on Pirate Radio 1250 & 930 AM. He has hosted more than 800 coaches’ call-in radio shows and more than 800 coaches’ TV shows. In November 2012, he was honored during halftime on the field at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium for 25 years at ECU. He and his wife, Debby, set up and continue to fund a stadium for 25 years at ECU.

Dr. Mary Raab was one of the first medical oncologists to practice in eastern North Carolina. Now retired, she worked for 33 years as a professor and administrator at the Brody School of Medicine. She was also an attending physician for more than 25 years at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, now Vidant Medical Center, serving as the first female chief of staff.

W. Kendall “Koti” Chalk ’68 is a leader in the banking industry and at ECU. In his 33 years at BB&T, he helped build the company from a local eastern North Carolina bank to a top financial institution in the Southeast. He retired in 2008 after 25 years in the position of senior executive vice president and chief credit officer. He is the co-chair of the BB&T Center for Leadership Development at ECU, established in 1983.

Dr. Mary Raab was one of the first medical oncologists to practice in eastern North Carolina. Now retired, she worked for 33 years as a professor and administrator at the Brody School of Medicine. She was also an attending physician for more than 25 years at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, now Vidant Medical Center, serving as the first female chief of staff. She and her late husband, Dr. Spencer Raab, played a pivotal role in the Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center. Their arrival in Greenville ushered in a new era in cancer care in eastern North Carolina. Before they arrived, patients had to travel to Durham, Chapel Hill or Winston-Salem for care. Now, state-of-the-art care is available locally. She and her second husband, Dr. William McConnell, established the McConnell-Raab Hope Lodge, dedicated in 2002. Located in Greenville with 20 guest suites, it has provided housing for 900 families with a member undergoing cancer treatment. Raab and McConnell live in Greenville. Together they have seven children and nine grandchildren.

Michael C. Aho ’02 is a professor with the U.S. Department of State. He has addressed several international issues through his policy work for the federal government at the United Nations. Aho began his career as a political analyst for the executive branch of the U.S. government in 2005. After joining the Foreign Service in 2011, he served from June 2012 until July 2014 as a political officer at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York. While living there, he hosted a dinner for ECU students visiting the city in spring 2014 as part of Forever Pirates, the alumni association’s student membership program. He is now working in Washington, D.C., on European security issues. Aho and his partner, Joe Esparza, live in McLean, Virginia.

Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Clark ’84 is the director of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, having assumed command in September 2013. He was promoted to major general in June. A graduate of the Brody School of Medicine, Clark’s 30-year career in military medicine has led him through combat and non-combat deployments around the world. He served as a senior medical officer during Operation Desert Shield/Storm. While in command of the 21st Combat Support Hospital, he led unit deployments to New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. He and his wife, Sue Clark ’80, a graduate of ECU’s nursing program, live in Bethesda, Maryland. They married in September 1982 and have three children, Anna, Warren and John.

Jeremy Woodard ’01 is a successful Broadway actor whose roles include rock star Stacee Jaxx in Rock of Ages as well as roles in traveling productions of Miss Saigon and Hairspray. He has also appeared on several TV shows, including Smash and Crossing Jordan. Woodard also plays a leading role in the New York Metropolitan Chapter of the East Carolina Alumni Association. He has helped with Pirate Sandbags, football viewing parties, networking events and fundraising for the Richard Holt Memorial Scholarship for ECU students from the New York area. He often returns to campus to speak to students about his acting career. He lives in New York.
Sarah Ellen Boswell and Joshua Mylan Anderson ’12 on April 25 at First Baptist Church, Wilson. The wedding party included Zachary Michael Anderson ’12, twin brother of the groom; Lucian Thomas Hughes ’12; Texas Rose McManus ’13 and Steven Robert Royal Jr. ’12. She teaches 11th-grade history at Beddingfield High School, Wilson. He is an operations manager with Cummins Engine, Rocky Mount. Dale Buie, Southern Pines Elementary principal, was named Principal of the Year of Moore County Schools. Army Pfc. Tevin D. King graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, S.C. 2013

Kiahna J. Johnson is the health educator and preparedness coordinator for Lenoir County Health Department. Ina Rushing received the Mississippi College Law Alumni Award, presented to one or two current students on the basis of scholarship, leadership and potential as a member of the legal profession.

Doris B. Creech ’57 ‘85 presented the award. Retired Nash Community College NCC president J. Reid Parrott Jr. ’60 ’62 of Rocky Mount received his Long Leaf Pine award during a ceremony May 14 at the Benvenue Country Club. Parrott was president of NCC from 1980 to 2000. He is a longtime member of the Pirate Club and a former board member of the East Carolina Alumni Association. He was awarded NCC’s President Cup in 2008. He received the ECU Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2010. Among those attending the ceremony was his son, Benjamin Parrott ’93 ’98.

Three alumni recently received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award, which is presented by the governor to individuals who have a proven record of service to the state. Created in 1963, the award is considered the highest honor the state bestows on private citizens.

Professor Emeritus Wilton Glenn Joyner ’50 ‘53 of Greenville received his Long Leaf Pine award on April 6 in a ceremony at Immanuel Baptist Church, Greenville. Joyner taught education at ECU from 1976 to 1998. He is married to Carrie Smith Joyner ’51. Attending the ceremony was his granddaughter, Leah Joyner ’14. Doris B. Creech ’57 ‘85 presented the award.

Debra Dixon Doss ’75 of Burlington, who served for 20 years as executive director of the Southeastern Association of School Business Officials, received her award during the annual SASBO conference in April. She began her career as a food service director for the Burlington City Schools, then became chief financial officer for the school system. She also was associate superintendent for human resources for the Wake County Public Schools. She retired with 30 years of service to North Carolina’s public schools and community colleges.

Marquita Hall ’08, nurse specialist, cardiovascular sciences, is the ECU Physicians 2013 Nurse of the Year. Finalists included Jameson McPhail ’04, nurse manager, internal medicine, and Jennifer Meeks ’05, staff nurse, pediatrics.

Jennifer Stalls, sixth-grade science teacher at C.M. Eppes Middle School, Greenville, was selected for the 2015-16 Kenan Fellows class. Her project is titled “Students Discover: Symbiosis in the Soil.” She is working toward a master’s degree in middle grades education with a concentration in science. Earlier this year, she received the N.C. Science Teachers Association’s District One Outstanding Science Teacher Award. Erin Madison Wrenn was Jeffrey Lloyd Johnson on Oct. 11 at the Wrenn Farm, Roxboro. The wedding party included Katie Apple. She works at Central Regional Hospital, Butner.
Catherine Starr Davis went on to pursue a master’s degree and is an eighth-grade science teacher at E.B. Aycock Middle School.

2009

Paige Elizabeth Diddy went to Tyler Cameron Davis for her eight-hour Learning Tree, Bailey. The wedding party included Jacob Wayne Best ‘10, Allison Marian Holland ’10, Travis Keith Houston, Jordan Gray Jones ’12, Charles Bryant Pope ’10 and Sheryl Watson Williams. In Wilson, she teaches third grade at Margaret Hemsley Elementary School, and he works with SPC Mechanical. Aleks Tecosky is an agent with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Southern Coast Real Estate, Charleston, S.C.

2008

David William Tripp went to Rhonda Michelle Casey on April 17 on the beach in Canada on the banks. The wedding party included Jake Dunn ‘07 and Ben Stover. He works with Power Products and Solutions, Charlotte.

2007

Dr. Amy Laneyest Gagnon ‘07 ’08 and Taylor Gagnon ’08 ’09 had a daughter in 2014.

2006

Joshua B. Mauney was honored with the Triangle Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 Leadership Award. He is president of Paragon Building Group and Paragon Safety Group, Raleigh.

2005

Cynthia Jenkins is planning director for Edgecombe County.

2004

Linda Hexter was selected as the 2005 O.C. Association of Educational Office Professionals. He is assistant superintendent for academics and student services with the Sampson County Schools District. Larry Williford is the Daily Defender’s Boys’ Coach of the Year. He coaches the Farmville Central High School boys basketball team.

2003

Reggie Cobb ‘96 ’99, Nash Community College biology instructor, was selected as the 2015 recipient of the J. Edgar and Pepper T. Moore Excellence in Teaching Award. Joseph Jeffrey Hill, former Sampson County manager, was the interim county manager. Heath Nabie ’96 ’10 is a vice president of First Bank’s Greenville loan production office.

2002

Michael Creolin, assistant superintendent of finance for Pitt County Schools, was named Central Office Administrator of the Year by the N.C. Association of Educators.

2001

Caroline Rust was named the NCUSF Center Affiliate Artist in Residence in Paint. Ms. S.C., this summer, where she continued her exploration of women’s effects and practices and their impact upon self-image and sense of self.

2000

OCTOBER 16, 2015 • 6:00 P.M.
GREENVILLE CONVENTION CENTER

Join us as we present the 2015 Virgil Clark ‘50 Distinguished Service Awards, Honorary Alumni Awards, Outstanding Alumni Awards at the 2015 Alumni Awards Ceremony on October 16, 2015. Register at PirateAlumni.com/2015AwardRecipients and learn more about the recipients on pages 49-51 or at PirateAlumni.com/2015AwardRecipients.

2015 Alumni Awards Ceremony

2012

Cameron Scott Pfiest went to Erin Elizabeth Hester on Oct. 4 at the home of Ronald and Beatrice Whitt, Hurdle Mills. The wedding party included Matt Blanchard, Dustin Pfiest ’08 and Andrew Norris ’12. He is a nurse anesthesia program in school administration and is an eighth-grade science teacher at E.B. Aycock Middle School.

2011

Olivia Hall is Teacher of the Year at Elizabeth-Selkirk Middle School, Sampson County, where she is a teacher. Mark B. Burleson Barnes Thompson ‘11 went to Brynn Taylor Mckins Jr. on April 11 in Pinecrest Church, Wilson. The wedding party included Elizabeth Odell Vail and Matthew Tyler Price. In Greenville, she teaches sixth-grade math at C.M. Eppes Middle School, and he is pursuing a master’s degree in school administration and is an eighth-grade science teacher at E.B. Aycock Middle School.

2010

Stephanie Edwards ‘04 ’06, a Titanic reading teacher at Brinson Memorial Elementary School, is the 2015 Educator of the Year for Craven County Schools. Kelly Korte Hartline ’02 ‘03 now works for the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Education Management. Office of Strategic Resources and Student Services, Brevard, Va. Michael David Holt, vice president and commercial lender in Greenville, was recognized as a top commercial banker at Southern Bank’s annual Best Bankers Event.

2009

William Thomas “Tom” Fite was elected to the Wilson City Council in 2014. And wife, Christy ’92, own Land of Learning Child Care centers in Winterville and Wilson.

2008

Debbie Everett Hinton is the former chairman of the ECU Foundation. He is married to Talk of the Town. morning show called 2015 October 16, 2015 • 6 PirateAlumni.com/2015AwardRecipients.

2007

Heath Nisbet ’96 is Harnett County manager.

2006

Andrew Norris ‘08 and Cameron Davis of Newport Elementary School in Carteret County Public School Assistant Principal of the Year.

2005

Jody McClenny of Newport Elementary School in Carteret County Public School Assistant Principal of the Year.

2004

Tommy Macon Col. is planning director for Edgecombe County.

2003

Elizabeth Hester Cameron Scott Pfiest went to Erin Elizabeth Hester on Oct. 4 at the home of Ronald and Beatrice Whitt, Hurdle Mills. The wedding party included Matt Blanchard, Dustin Pfiest ’08 and Andrew Norris ’12. He is a nurse anesthesia program in school administration and is an eighth-grade science teacher at E.B. Aycock Middle School.

2002

Reggie Cobb ‘96 ’99, Nash Community College biology instructor, was selected as the 2015 recipient of the J. Edgar and Pepper T. Moore Excellence in Teaching Award. Joseph Jeffrey Hill, former Sampson County manager, was the interim county manager. Heath Nabie ’96 ’10 is a vice president of First Bank’s Greenville loan production office.

2001

Michael Creolin, assistant superintendent of finance for Pitt County Schools, was named Central Office Administrator of the Year by the N.C. Association of Educators.

2000

Joshua B. Mauney was honored with the Triangle Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 Leadership Award. He is president of Paragon Building Group and Paragon Safety Group, Raleigh.

1999

Cynthia Jenkins is planning director for Edgecombe County.

1998

Reggie Cobb ‘96 ’99, Nash Community College biology instructor, was selected as the 2015 recipient of the J. Edgar and Pepper T. Moore Excellence in Teaching Award. Joseph Jeffrey Hill, former Sampson County manager, was the interim county manager. Heath Nabie ’96 ’10 is a vice president of First Bank’s Greenville loan production office.

1997

Michael Creolin, assistant superintendent of finance for Pitt County Schools, was named Central Office Administrator of the Year by the N.C. Association of Educators.

1996

William Thomas “Tom” Fite was elected to the Wilson City Council in 2014. And wife, Christy ’92, own Land of Learning Child Care centers in Winterville and Wilson.

1995

Elizabeth Hester Cameron Scott Pfiest went to Erin Elizabeth Hester on Oct. 4 at the home of Ronald and Beatrice Whitt, Hurdle Mills. The wedding party included Matt Blanchard, Dustin Pfiest ’08 and Andrew Norris ’12. He is a nurse anesthesia program in school administration and is an eighth-grade science teacher at E.B. Aycock Middle School.

1994

Andrew Norris ‘08 and Cameron Davis of Newport Elementary School in Carteret County Public School Assistant Principal of the Year.

1993

Jody McClenny of Newport Elementary School in Carteret County Public School Assistant Principal of the Year.

1992

Stephanie Edwards ‘04 ’06, a Titanic reading teacher at Brinson Memorial Elementary School, is the 2015 Educator of the Year for Craven County Schools. Kelly Korte Hartline ’02 ‘03 now works for the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Education Management. Office of Strategic Resources and Student Services, Brevard, Va. Michael David Holt, vice president and commercial lender in Greenville, was recognized as a top commercial banker at Southern Bank’s annual Best Bankers Event.
Scholarship honors first African-American undergraduate

Joseph Bryant, a junior from Greensboro, is the first recipient of the Laura Marie Bryant Elliot Memorial Scholarship, which was created in memory of the first African-American to receive an undergraduate degree from East Carolina University.

Betty Minton

The scholarship was created to encourage estate planning like this because, “it secures funding now to bank against anticipated growth in scholarship needs,” he said.

Laura Marie

Banquet and Gala on Oct. 17 as the Black Alumni Chapter Awards African-American to receive an endowed. Notable donors who gave $1,000 or more include, but are not limited

Joseph Bryant

Parents Association.

to, science, mathematics, engineering and technology. Bryant is majoring in chemistry.

Laura Marie

He’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

Joseph Bryant with parents Annette and Gralin

Laura Marie

My father and mother and I moved into this house in 1937 when the Dail House (now the official residence of ECU presidents and chancellors for six decades—was actually known as the Young House. Ratledge made his $10,000 gift to the foundation to honor an aunt and uncle—the late Anne and Willoughby F. “Red” Young. A prominent Greenville family, the Youngs owned what is now called the Dail House for 10 years. When he graduated from high school in the Winston-Salem area in 1947, Ratledge’s parents enrolled him in ECTC and shipped him off to live with his aunt and uncle in Greenville. As a small-town boy, living in the mansion on Fifth Street was a cultural shock.

“Jim Ratledge

I remember walking into their house for the first time, and I was just so used at how big it was and how tastefully it decorated it,” says Ratledge. “They were such a nice people, always helped somebody. They took me in and gave me and really made college possible for me. Looking back on it now, it was their help and loving support that put me on track so well in college.”

Dail House

Valeria Lassiter said she picked the EC Scholars program memory of Pierce.

Gibbons

For 30 years he also was the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

Dail House

Ratledge was back on campus as they had done for Ratledge. About a dozen young women lived in the mansion to East Carolina and Durham to be close to their daughter, Battle Ann Young...

Dail House

Ratledge was back on campus for an event and asked about seeing the house, which he lived in for two years. The landlord was Dick Eakin, then, and when I called him, he was amenable, and he gave me a tour of the place. And it looked exactly like it did in 1947 when I first walked through the door.

—Steve Tuttle

Ovid Pierce

Very close in vision, he accepted to the Honors College annually, 20

Dail House

It’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

A gift to the ECU Foundation by James L. “Jim” Ratledge $50,000, a gift with a note that shines light on why the Dail House (now the official residence of ECU presidents and chancellors for six decades—was actually known as the Young House. Ratledge made his $10,000 gift to the foundation to honor an aunt and uncle—the late Anne and Willoughby F. “Red” Young. A prominent Greenville family, the Youngs owned what is now called the Dail House for 10 years. When he graduated from high school in the Winston-Salem area in 1947, Ratledge’s parents enrolled him in ECTC and shipped him off to live with his aunt and uncle in Greenville. As a small-town boy, living in the mansion on Fifth Street was a cultural shock.

My father and mother and I moved into this house in 1937 when the Dail House (now the official residence of ECU presidents and chancellors for six decades—was actually known as the Young House. Ratledge made his $10,000 gift to the foundation to honor an aunt and uncle—the late Anne and Willoughby F. “Red” Young. A prominent Greenville family, the Youngs owned what is now called the Dail House for 10 years. When he graduated from high school in the Winston-Salem area in 1947, Ratledge’s parents enrolled him in ECTC and shipped him off to live with his aunt and uncle in Greenville. As a small-town boy, living in the mansion on Fifth Street was a cultural shock.

“I remember walking into their house for the first time, and I was just so used at how big it was and how tastefully it decorated it,” says Ratledge. “They were such a nice people, always helped somebody. They took me in and gave me and really made college possible for me. Looking back on it now, it was their help and loving support that put me on track so well in college.”

Ratledge was back on campus as they had done for Ratledge. About a dozen young women lived in the mansion to East Carolina and Durham to be close to their daughter, Battle Ann Young...

Ratledge was back on campus for an event and asked about seeing the house, which he lived in for two years. The landlord was Dick Eakin, then, and when I called him, he was amenable, and he gave me a tour of the place. And it looked exactly like it did in 1947 when I first walked through the door.

—Steve Tuttle

Scholarship to honor Ovid Pierce

He’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

The scholarships won’t be awarded until after their deaths. Advancement officials encouraged estate planning like this because, “it secures funding now to bank against anticipated growth in scholarship needs,” he said.

The scholarships won’t be awarded until after their deaths. Advancement officials encouraged estate planning like this because, “it secures funding now to bank against anticipated growth in scholarship needs,” he said.

Betty Minton

The scholarship was created to encourage estate planning like this because, “it secures funding now to bank against anticipated growth in scholarship needs,” he said.

Laura Marie

He’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

Betty Minton

The scholarship was created to encourage estate planning like this because, “it secures funding now to bank against anticipated growth in scholarship needs,” he said.

Laura Marie

He’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

Betty Minton

The scholarship was created to encourage estate planning like this because, “it secures funding now to bank against anticipated growth in scholarship needs,” he said.

Betty Minton

The scholarship was created to encourage estate planning like this because, “it secures funding now to bank against anticipated growth in scholarship needs,” he said.

Laura Marie

He’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

“Jim Ratledge

I remember walking into their house for the first time, and I was just so used at how big it was and how tastefully it decorated it,” says Ratledge. “They were such a nice people, always helped somebody. They took me in and gave me and really made college possible for me. Looking back on it now, it was their help and loving support that put me on track so well in college.”

Dail House

Valeria Lassiter said she picked the EC Scholars program memory of Pierce.

Gibbons

For 30 years he also was the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

Dail House

It’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

A gift to the ECU Foundation by James L. “Jim” Ratledge $50,000, a gift with a note that shines light on why the Dail House (now the official residence of ECU presidents and chancellors for six decades—was actually known as the Young House. Ratledge made his $10,000 gift to the foundation to honor an aunt and uncle—the late Anne and Willoughby F. “Red” Young. A prominent Greenville family, the Youngs owned what is now called the Dail House for 10 years. When he graduated from high school in the Winston-Salem area in 1947, Ratledge’s parents enrolled him in ECTC and shipped him off to live with his aunt and uncle in Greenville. As a small-town boy, living in the mansion on Fifth Street was a cultural shock.

“Jim Ratledge

I remember walking into their house for the first time, and I was just so used at how big it was and how tastefully it decorated it,” says Ratledge. “They were such a nice people, always helped somebody. They took me in and gave me and really made college possible for me. Looking back on it now, it was their help and loving support that put me on track so well in college.”

Dail House

Valeria Lassiter said she picked the EC Scholars program memory of Pierce.

Gibbons

For 30 years he also was the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.

Dail House

It’s not well remembered on campus today, but people believe Ovid Pierce was the most well loved faculty members throughout the 1960s and ’70s. A best-selling novelist and a winner of the O. Max Gardner Award, Pierce also taught. For 30 years he was also the adviser to the Kappa Alpha fraternity and mentored hundreds of KA brothers.
East Carolina's first football game played under the lights—on the evening of Oct. 5, 1940, at Greenville's Guy Smith Stadium—should have been a moment for the college band to strut its stuff. Wearing new uniforms the student body had paid for through a voluntary 50-cent increase in the activity fee, the band was scheduled to lead the team into the stadium and perform at halftime.

Instead, that first night game was filled with darkness and grief for the band. Its charismatic director, music teacher Dean C. Tabor, who was just 35, had been injured in a car wreck downtown the previous Saturday. He died following surgery on Tuesday.

On Thursday, a grieving campus honored him at a service in the auditorium of Old Austin. A delegation then accompanied the body, along with Tabor’s widow and 6-year-old daughter, on a funeral train to his hometown of Providence, Rhode Island.

It’s not known if the band mustered the composure to play at the Saturday night game. Stories in the Greenville Daily Reflector and the Tecoan student newspaper describe many activities before, during and after the game, but make no mention of music or a halftime show.

ECTC didn’t even have a band until 1938 when Tabor arrived on campus. In two years, he transformed a ragtag bunch of volunteers into a cohesive unit of enthusiastic musicians. “This organization has aroused much enthusiasm among the students by playing at the sports events, special programs on the campus, and parades,” the 1940 yearbook said. “We are proud of the development and interest shown in our band.”

But even as East Carolina’s musical heart was dying in October 1940, the school’s first sports legend was being born.

The Pirates were awful in football throughout the 1930s and had not won a game in nearly two years. Then a new coach, John Christenbury, arrived in early 1940 with a head full of new plays and a novel approach to sports.

While a student at Davidson College, Christenbury was an all-star on the basketball, football and wrestling teams. As a coach he brought elements of wrestling and basketball to the football field. He taught his Pirate linemen to block like wrestlers. He drilled his quarterbacks and receivers to run what in basketball would be called a fast break.

In his first game, Sept. 30, 1940, Christenbury led the Pirates to a shocking 14-6 victory over a tough Kutztown (Pennsylvania) State team.

Next on the schedule was St. Andrews and East Carolina's first night game. The somber mood of the crowd at Guy Smith Stadium soon was lifted as East Carolina ball carriers sped through gaping holes and receivers bolted downfield to catch long bombs. Christenbury pulled his first string when the score reached 40-0. The magic continued the following week when the Pirates stunned William and Mary on the road, 18-0. It was the first time East Carolina had won three football games in a row. The team ended the year with the school's first winning season in football.

Christenbury then led the 1941 football team to the school’s first—and still only—undefeated season. He also coached the basketball and baseball teams and never had a losing record in any sport.

But like Tabor, Christenbury died young and tragically. Volunteering for military service after the ’41 season, Christenbury was killed July 17, 1944, during a horrific munitions explosion at a Navy shipyard in California. He was 37.

Christenbury Memorial Gymnasium, which opened in 1952, was dedicated to him and alumni who died in the war.

—Steve Tuttle
ECU won its first American Athletic Conference baseball championship May 24 in Florida as the Pirates defeated the Houston Cougars 9-1. Senior shortstop Hunter Allen was named the conference tournament’s Most Outstanding Player. Following play in the NCAA tournament, the Pirates completed the season with a record of 40-22 in coach Cliff Godwin’s first season.

Photo courtesy American Athletic Conference/Ben Solomon