THE DAILY CLIPS

January 25, 2010

News, commentary, and opinion
compiled by the East Carolina University News Bureau from:

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Music from the heart
By Kathryn Kennedy
The Daily Reflector
Saturday, January 23, 2010

Mark Taggart describes the December night he heard the world premiere of his “Symphony of Spirituals” as overwhelming. He mouthed the words to the spirituals, each carefully selected, paired, threaded together. His eyes never moved from the stage. Lost in the music, Taggart was making mental notes about things that need fixing, altering. A large portion of the thunderous applause at the orchestra’s performance came from Taggart himself. He wheeled forward and reached up to the stage from his wheelchair to hand flowers to vocalist Louise Toppin. He was beaming.

While Taggart was watching his work, I was watching Taggart. The composition professor at East Carolina University exudes an eye-catching energy. The bald pate and comedic facial expressions don’t hurt either. He translates that energy naturally into the classroom. He spent Wednesday morning leading a freshman class through how to write dissonance into their music.

Free of the wheelchair for now, he gesticulated passionately while cracking jokes about divas and The Three Stooges. He noticed when students were unnaturally quiet and inquired why one was wearing a wrist brace after class. Taggart seems to always be thinking of others. Ask him about the “Symphony of Spirituals” and he’ll give you a list of others who were essential in the collaborative process — Toppin and ECU Symphony Orchestra Conductor Jorge Richter, for instance.

“It’s a collaborative effect,” Taggart explained. “It’s a mutual effort. You cannot have music without performers or an audience. There must be that interaction. It’s crucial or it doesn’t mean anything. I am not the 19th-century ivory tower.”

Taggart came to the university in 1985, and though he’s composed numerous works, the “Symphony of Spirituals” is unlike the others. First of all, black spirituals are not in his tradition. He was led to them by fellow music professor Toppin — they are the soprano’s specialty. Eight years ago she asked him to set a spiritual to a new arrangement for her and three musicians to perform. He got dozens of spirituals from her but didn’t get something written in time. He wasn’t sure how to let them shine in a new way.
Then came 9/11. He already had the melodies swirling in his head, and Taggart said one just fell into place.

“I remember ... watching the video and the skies so darkened and the ash and people just trudging through that dark, bleak landscape. ‘Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child.’ It was like, boom! Wow!”

Taggart wrote the first movement, Peace, in memory of all those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks. He coupled it with another, “Balm in Gilead,” in hopes of starting the healing process. He, again at Toppin’s suggestion, didn’t decide to expand the piece into an entire symphony until later. It was a labor of love. Well, actually, it’s a labor of peace, hope, faith and love — the name of each movement.

It was supposed to be complete over a year ago for recording, but Taggart wasn’t ready. Toppin says it was worth the wait.

“I wanted that piece that came from his heart, his spirit, his experience,” she said. “I feel he wrote the right piece. It’s the best set of spirituals ever written by a non-African American composer. He gets it. He really got those spirituals. He spent years with them.”

Taggart describes the symphony as “good boy music.” Three of the movements are dedicated to someone important in his life: A former colleague, a dear friend, his wife. “Bad boy music” is when he writes in more snark and attitude, as in pieces based on a difficult search for a marching band director — a waltz composed for tuba — or the baseball strike.

He has a quiet room in his house where he can compose, but more often Taggart composes on his feet, trekking across campus or running up to 30 miles a week. That routine has been difficult lately. Taggart is fighting soft bones. A previous surgery negatively affected how his body disperses calcium and it’s led to fractures in his feet and pelvis. The healing process has confined him to a wheelchair at times, though currently he travels with cane.

“I’m still strong on the inside,” Taggart said.

He refuses to let it affect his teaching. He’s thinking of those students, again. Doctor visits and medical procedures are structured around his classes.

“For me as a teacher, the joy of the kids hearing these pieces for the first time, that thrill will always be there,” Taggart said. “The university does not exist for the elite. I reach for the bottom and I pull them up.”

And he’s not finished with his “Symphony of Spirituals.” Some editing will be done based on the performance last month. Taggart then plans to shop it around to various orchestras and music directors. A chamber version — for
vocalist, cello, piano and violin — has also been composed to increase its marketability.
“(Spirituals) are a very simple, direct line to the American experience,” he said of the symphony. “It’s always exciting to know what the next thing is, but it’s also important to know who we are. This was me, embracing this culture, and handing this off to the next generation.”

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Local family honored for gift
The Daily Reflector
Friday, January 22, 2010
East Carolina University’s J.Y. Joyner Library honored the David J. Whichard family Thursday with a reception in recognition of the family’s gift of more than 85,000 negatives from The Daily Reflector. From the negatives, with most dating from 1949 to 1967, Joyner created a digital collection, “Seeds of Change: The Daily Reflector Image Collection,” featuring 7,500 digitized images.
The negatives were given in the late 1990s by D. Jordan Whichard III, who was the publisher of the newspaper. The Whichard family owned The Daily Reflector from 1882 to 1995.
More than 75 people at the reception viewed a sampling of the photographs in the collection and also had the opportunity to interact with the collection online, which has been viewed by people from every continent except Antarctica, said Gretchen Gueguen, head of service for the library’s digital collections.
In addition to the photographs, the collection includes supplemental resources to provide a better understanding of the images and the history behind them. Streaming video of an interview with The Daily Reflector’s former editor and photographer along with a full transcript provide an insider’s view of Greenville and The Daily Reflector.
An essay on the history of Pitt County and Greenville during this period, written by ECU history faculty member Christopher Oakley, puts the collection into historical context by examining the trends and historical events that impacted the region.
An illustrated timeline examines the national and international perspective, highlighting the events that shaped the era. Tools for browsing through the image collection by subject provide users an easy way to begin their exploration of the collection.
The exhibit also offers the public commenting capabilities and library staff plans to work with educators to create a “teacher’s guide” to help educators with tips, tricks and resources.
The library has 25 digital collections with nearly 11,000 images online. The Daily Reflector collection is the largest, with 70 percent of the images. The collection can be accessed at www.digital.lib.ecu.edu/reflector/.
McNeill says he’s home, brings Riley with him
By Nathan Summers
The Daily Reflector
Friday, January 22, 2010
Ruffin McNeill said hello to East Carolina University Friday. Again.
McNeill, in fact, formally began his third tour of duty at the university, this
time as ECU’s 20th head football coach. Now that he’s back, the ECU alum
and former Pirate player said he’s here for the long haul. Click here for more
photos.
“This is my destination job,” the 51-year-old McNeill, a Lumberton native,
told a packed Harvey Hall. “This is not a stepping stone hop for Ruff. This is
where I want to be until you all tote me away from here. You’d have to drag
me away.”
McNeill promised to maintain a high academic standard and vowed to love
each of his players in what is his first head coaching job, but he also vowed
to uphold the winning standard of the repeat Conference USA champion
Pirates.
To that end, McNeill confirmed he’s not only bringing 26-year-old Lincoln
Riley (former Texas Tech wide receivers coach) on board to be his offensive
coordinator, but that he’ll be bringing the same offense that was employed at
Texas Tech during his 10-year stint with the Red Raiders prior to coming to
Greenville.
McNeill also promised to try to hang on to all of ECU’s committed recruits
as the Feb. 3 national signing day approaches, and said he was poised to hit
the recruiting road immediately.
For at least an hour Friday, however, it was more of a welcome back party
than a press conference, as even some of McNeill’s former ECU teammates
were on hand to congratulate the new head coach.
“It’s a dream come true for an East Carolina boy,” McNeill said, adding that
his wife, brother, sister-in-law and brother-in-law all attended ECU. “This is
my alma mater. I have a lot of ties to Greenville, East Carolina and this
university.”
From a football focal point, McNeill admits it won’t be easy.
The Pirates, who last week learned of the departure of five-year coach Skip
Holtz for South Florida, lose 28 seniors from their 2009 squad, including
quarterback Patrick Pinkney and the entire defensive front seven.
McNeill met with the current players Thursday night.
“This is a fun challenge,” said McNeill, who was given a five-year $5
million contract. “There is nothing intimidating or hard about this at all.
Those kids that we met last night, I got the chance to love them up, hug them up, but we also set some standards and some expectations as a group.”

ECU athletic director Terry Holland made the hire exactly one week after Holtz, who guided the Pirates to four straight bowl games, announced he was leaving ECU for USF.

Middle Tennessee State head coach Rick Stockstill declined interest in the position earlier this week before Ruffin emerged from a final group of the three candidates who were interviewed later in the week.

ECU offensive line coach Steve Shankweiler was believed to also be a front-runner for the job, and Oklahoma offensive coordinator Kevin Wilson interviewed with Holland on Wednesday night.

But Holland admitted it was Ruffin’s interview on Thursday which made the decision an easy one.

“It’s been a tough week on me, but I’ve never been so proud of this university or of this man,” an emotional Holland said. “It is a very special day in the history of this university.”

McNeill spent 10 years in Lubbock, Texas, with TTU, being hired in 2000 as linebackers coach before ultimately parlaying his way into the role of defensive coordinator.

When head coach Mike Leach was fired in late December, McNeill was named interim head coach, guiding the Red Raiders to a win over Michigan State in the Alamo Bowl. To that point, it was his lone game as a head coach.

Before Texas Tech, McNeill made coaching stops at Fresno State, UNLV, Appalachian State, ECU, North Alabama, Austin Peay and Clemson. The new coach said he plans to quickly piece together the remainder of his staff over the coming days.

“The moment the wheels hit the tarmac, both of our hearts just said, ‘We’re home,’” McNeill said of the moment he and his wife landed in Raleigh to begin the interviewing process with ECU. “That was very cool.”

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McNeill pumped up

EX-ECU PLAYER, ASSISTANT SAYS PIRATES POST IS 'DREAM COME TRUE'

Former Texas Tech coordinator calls being East Carolina's head football coach his 'destination' job.

BY J.P. GILGIO
STAFF WRITER

GREENVILLE — Ruffin McNeill made his future intentions clear in the first minute of his introductory news conference as East Carolina's new football coach.

After 24 seasons as a college assistant, the previous 10 at Texas Tech, he called his first head coaching job, and the return to his alma mater, his “destination” job.

“This is a dream come true for an East Carolina country boy,” McNeill said. “This is where I want to be until they toto me away from here.”

The 51-year-old Lumberton native received a five-year, $5 million contract to be ECU's 20th head coach. Eight days after Skip Holtz left for South Florida, ECU found its new leader by turning back the clock.

Ruffin starred at defensive back for Pat Dye at ECU in the late 1970s and returned in 1992 as an assistant coach for one season under Steve Logan, two of the winningest coaches in ECU history.

He didn't just win the news conference, he mesmerized the gathered crowd of former players and boosters with his strong, deep voice and rhythmic delivery.

He promised the players, current and future, he would "hug 'em up" and "love 'em up."

McNeill will bring Texas Tech's “Air Raid” spread offense to Greenville. Lincoln Riley, 26, will be ECU's new offensive coordinator. He coached with McNeill at Texas Tech under head coach Mike Leach. It is Riley's first time as a coordinator.

When Leach was fired on Dec. 30 for allegedly mistreating an injured player, McNeill was named the interim head coach for the Alamo Bowl. McNeill led the Red Raiders to an emotional 41-31 win over Michigan State on Jan. 2.

ECU athletic director Terry Holland said that experience helped convince him that McNeill could handle being a full-time head coach.

“I realize that's one bullet, but it certainly tells you if you can walk into that situation and stay calm, cool and collected ... you will be able to do it consistently," Holland said.

McNeill applied to replace Leach at Texas Tech, but former Auburn coach Tommy Tuberville was hired.

McNeill was Texas Tech's defensive coordinator for the past two seasons and also coached defensive tackles, linebackers and special teams in his 10 seasons at the Big 12 school.

In 2008, the Red Raiders started 10-0 and reached No. 2 in the national rankings.

Under Leach, they were known as a pass-happy, point-producing program.

Ruffin said they will use the same spread scheme at ECU and will play at a high tempo.

ECU is coming off back-to-back Conference USA titles and won 38 games in Holtz's five seasons.

McNeill's contract includes a $100,000 bonus for a C-USA title and another $50,000 for a Liberty Bowl win.

But McNeill has to replace 28 seniors, plus junior defensive tackle Linval Joseph, who left early for the NFL from last year's 9-5 team.

“We know we have work in front of us,” McNeill said. “But nobody will outwork us.”

SEE MCNEILL, PAGE 3C

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McNeill must buck coaching trend

On one side - the side ECU's new football coach Ruffin McNeill hopes to avoid - lies a regional coaches graveyard.

Among the footprints there are those of John Thompson and Ed Emory from the program for which McNeill played and now directs.

But Thompson and Emory have plenty of company.

From Duke: Barry Wilson, Carl Franks and Ted Roof.

From N.C. State: Al Michaels, Monte Kiffin and Chuck Amato.

From UNC: Carl Torbush and John Bunting.

From Wake Forest: Bill Tate, John Mackovic and Al Groh.

The common denominator in that group is a deep, extensive background in coaching defense. McNeill is a career-long defensive coach, most recently at Texas Tech.

On the opposite side are offensive majors Skip Holtz, Steve Logan, Pat Dye, Steve Spurrier, Lou Holtz, Bo Rein, Dick Sheridan, Bill Dooley and Mack Brown.

While it defies scientific rationale, defensive coaches usually struggle much more and longer than their offensive counterparts after taking over programs.

There are ample exceptions, of course. Oklahoma's Bob Stoops is one. Ohio State’s Jim Tressel and Virginia Tech's Frank Beamer are two others.

Defensive coaches are fond of saying, "Offense sells tickets, but defense wins games."

Those words may carry a lot of truth, but that adage also dates to the 1950s and 60s, when a three-touchdown day was deemed an offensive explosion. Torbush's 2000 team at UNC held its final four opponents to an average of 16 points and won three of those games to finish the season 6-5. He was fired the day the schedule ended.

SEE TUDOR, PAGE 3C

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1C

McNeill faces the task of constructing an offense capable of keeping pace in the frantic Conference USA. And at the moment, there are only two quarterbacks in school - freshmen Rio Johnson and Josh Jordan, both of whom have almost no experience.

Former Boston College starter Dominique Davis is in Greenville and has plans to enroll in school in time to compete for the 2010 starting job. A 6-foot-4, 200-pounder, he completed 45 percent of his passes for 741 yards and six touchdowns in 2008 for the Eagles with Logan as his quarterback.

The Pirates defense that McNeill no doubt will closely monitor must be rebuilt extensively. Program fixtures C.J. Wilson, Scotty Robinson, Linval Joseph, Nick Johnson, Levin Neal and Van Eskridge must be replaced.

With such heavy personnel losses, expectations for McNeill's first season should be reasonable, at the least.

With a non-league schedule that includes trips to North Carolina (Oct. 2) and Virginia Tech (Sept. 18) and visits from N.C. State (Nov. 20) and Navy (Nov. 6) as well as conference road games at Southern Miss and Central Florida, the Pirates will be pushed. A 6-6 overall record would have to qualify as an accomplishment.

Eventually, ECU and McNeill will need to do better than .500 to maintain the momentum from the Skip Holtz era. The Pirates gambled on a defensive specialist with one game of head coaching experience. Maybe McNeill is the right guy to beat the trend.

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ECU professor's debut novel attracts readers
Saturday, January 23, 2010
ECU News Services
As a child growing up in Rhode Island, East Carolina University professor Gregory Funaro had long suspected that the statues surrounding his grandfather’s pool came alive at night.
Decades after he shrugged off the notion, the idea of sculptures as living beings — or, rather, living beings as sculptures — stuck with him. It was this memory, recalled while stuck in Fifth Street traffic, that would form the basis of Funaro’s first novel, “The Sculptor.”
“What if somebody made live people into statues?” wondered Funaro, an associate professor of theater.
“The idea of serial killing as sculpture and a serial killer obsessed with Michelangelo kind of evolved from that,” he said.
“The Sculptor,” which hit bookstores Dec. 24, introduces readers to Sam Markham, an FBI agent with a knack for tracking down serial killers.
Markham is tasked with his most puzzling case yet: A missing professional football player has been found murdered, posed like a famous statue.
With art historian Cathy Hildebrant by his side, Markham must find the so-called Michelangelo Killer before he kills again.
That an idea for a thriller would come from a childhood memory is not surprising to Funaro, who believes it’s important for writers to remain true to their voices and experiences.
“You can’t try to guess the market, you can’t try to guess what’s going to sell,” he said. “You’ve just got to write something that you care about, that you love, that you’re passionate about and then worry how it’s going to fit in later.”
That philosophy seems to be working.
“The Sculptor” has earned accolades from masters of the mystery/thriller genre, including New York Times best-selling authors Gregg Olsen and Kevin O’Brien.
Some have drawn parallels between Funaro’s novel and Thomas Harris’ “Silence of the Lambs.” Already, German and Russian language rights to the book have been sold.
The book has been a strong seller at Greenville’s Barnes and Noble, where Funaro signed books Jan. 14.
“It’s been selling incredibly well, especially for a first novel,” said Rob McDaniel, community relations manager for the Evans Street location.
“For the past week-and-a-half, two weeks, we’ve been getting calls nonstop about it.”
Funaro has a prequel to “The Sculptor” due out next January. He also has just finished a third novel, a family saga set in the 1940s that he wrote before “The Sculptor” and recently rewrote.
Around ECU, Funaro is known chiefly for his work in the School of Theatre and Dance, where he teaches, acts and directs. He wrote “The Sculptor” in the hours between those duties, usually getting by on four or five hours of sleep.
“I just felt like I was on fire doing it,” he said. “I was just really excited about the story. I look back, and I don’t know how I did it with that little sleep. There are literally portions of the book that I have absolutely no memory of writing.”
Had he known the travails a first-time novelist faces when trying to get published, Funaro said, he might never have written that first took. “Just to get an agent to read even the first 25 pages, the first chapter, was almost impossible. At least it seemed next to impossible, for me,” he said.
His experience as an actor influences his writing, he said, and helps him develop characters, craft dialogue and overcome writer’s block.
“I would find myself acting out characters as I was writing, especially in the second book, the prequel to ‘The Sculptor,’” Funaro said. “I would find myself talking the way the characters talked, trying to look around my office and see things the way the character might see things.”
Becoming a first-time novelist differs from acting in one important respect, however: the lasting nature of the written word.
“In the theatre, if you’ve got a night that doesn’t go very well, you can make it up the next night,” he said. “This an entirely different process. It’s new and exciting and scary at the same time.”

**Former park service director to speak**
Fran P. Mainella, the first woman to lead the National Park Service, will present “Nature Deficit Disorder and Its Implications on Human Well-Being,” at 3:30 p.m. Thursday at the Murphy Center at ECU. The lecture is free and open to the public.
Appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 2001, Mainella served as the 16th director of the National Park Service. Prior to her nearly six years as the national director, she served 12 years as Florida State Parks director.
Under her leadership, Florida received the Gold Medal Award recognizing excellence in the field of recreation management given jointly by the
National Sporting Goods Association and the National Recreation and Park Association.

“We are pleased to welcome Fran Mainella to East Carolina University as the keynote speaker in the Ralph Steele Visiting Lecture Series. Mainella’s contributions to the National Park System have encouraged active lifestyles through volunteerism and local partnerships. Her influence has brought linkage between active living and the environment,” said Glen Gilbert, dean of the College of Health and Human Performance.

Among her honors, Mainella received the 2007 Pugsley Award, the highest award given by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

She is a visiting scholar at Clemson University in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management.

**After-school music program offered**
The ECU School of Music will again present an after-school vocal music program for local children during the spring semester. The program is for children in grades 3-5, ages 8-11. No audition is required.

“Kids Music: After-School Vocal Music Program” will begin on Feb. 1 and be held each Monday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Cost for the spring session is $30 per family.

Parents or guardians interested in signing up children for the program should e-mail Dr. Jeffrey Ward at wardj@ecu.edu with the following information: child’s name, grade and school, parents’ names, phone number and e-mail address.

**Health symposium scheduled for Feb. 5**
Race, stress and health will be the main topics of the sixth annual Jean Mills Health Symposium on Feb. 5 in Greenville.

The keynote speaker will be Sherman A. James, the Susan B. King Professor of Public Policy Studies in the Terry Sanford Institute for Public Policy at Duke University. James’ research focuses on the social determinants of racial and ethnic health inequalities and community-based and public policy interventions designed to minimize and eliminate inequalities. His talk begins at 9:15 a.m. in the Hilton Greenville.

The symposium will feature experts from ECU and across the state. Topics will include how race, stress and health contribute to health disparities in rural eastern North Carolina. Posters and presentations will describe research, programs and services directed toward the causes and effects of stress in underrepresented populations and ways to promote wellness and reduce health disparities.
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the symposium will be held 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Hilton Greenville. Early registration by Jan. 30 is $35 or $20 for students. The fee includes morning and afternoon refreshments, lunch and educational sessions. Continuing education units are available. Registration information is available at http://eahec.ecu.edu or by calling Eastern AHEC at 744-2587.

**ECU Breast Wellness Center accredited**
The Breast Wellness Center at ECU has received accreditation from a national agency. The National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers, part of the American College of Surgeons, has given its stamp of approval to ECU’s program. ECU demonstrated compliance with standards of leadership, clinical management, research, community outreach, professional education and quality improvement. The accreditation period is for three years. The Breast Wellness Center is part of the Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center. Physicians there care for patients from all across eastern North Carolina. Dr. Lisa Bellin, clinical associate professor of surgery at ECU, is the interim director.

**Upcoming Events:**
Tuesday: Betsy Myers, a senior advisor to Barack Obama’s presidential campaign, will present “Leadership and the Moments that Matter,” 3 p.m., Wright Auditorium. Sponsored by the College of Business. Free.
Tuesday: Voyages of Discovery: Jarvis Lecture on Christianity and Culture lecture with Walter Brueggemann, an Old Testament scholar and author, 7 p.m., Wright Auditorium. Free.

See www.ecu.edu/cs-ecu/calendar.cfm for times, places and more information on these events and other ECU upcoming activities.
ECU adds five communities to MMI initiative

East Carolina University’s Office of Engagement, Innovation and Economic Development (OEIED) has announced the addition of five new communities to its Municipal Management and Innovation initiative.

The MMI initiative leverages the resources and expertise of ECU’s faculty, staff and students on behalf of small, low-wealth, limited-resource and limited-capacity municipalities in eastern North Carolina.

Originally a pilot project with Aurora in Beaufort County, MMI has expanded its community partners to include Bayboro (Pamlico County), Grifton (Pitt County), Pollocksville (Jones County), Snow Hill (Greene County) and South Mills (Camden County).

“Our entire board is excited to start this decade with a new partnership that can help change our community and possibly impact the entire region,” Bayboro Mayor Pro Tem Joseph Himbry said in a news release. “We are equally excited that ECU, our regional university, is proactively seeking new and creative partnerships that target real community and economic development needs in eastern North Carolina.”

The initiative was established to help address the reality that many eastern North Carolina municipalities lack adequate staff and administrative capacity to effectively respond to basic fiscal, policy and programmatic needs in their communities, which severely limits their ability to provide effective day-to-day management and efficient delivery of public services, according to Kenny Flowers, the OEIED’s director of community and regional development.

“The initiative proactively targets communities with direct technical assistance products that will help provide capacity in administrative management, policy analysis, strategic planning, project management and program development,” Flowers said. “The university’s objective is to assist in building communities that are more fiscally responsible, more economically viable, and more capable of effectively delivering public services.”

MMI provides each community access to appropriate ECU faculty, staff and students, as well as a menu of technical assistance services that include:

- Budget development and preparation;
- Fiscal analysis and revenue projection;
- Policy writing and analysis;
- Program evaluation;
- Fiscal impact analysis;
- Strategic planning facilitation and development;
- Comprehensive planning assistance;
- Grant writing and technical assistance;
- Community survey research and design;
- Feasibility study assistance and preparation;
- Economic impact analysis;
- Community design assistance.

“We are ecstatic to be included in this partnership with ECU,” Pollocksville Mayor Jay Bender said. “For small towns with very limited staffs, this type of collaboration will allow us to begin to address some administrative, policy and project issues that would otherwise be virtually impossible.”

ECU’s Office of Engagement, Innovation and Economic Development actively aligns, supports and celebrates ECU faculty, staff and student engagement with industry, government and communities to address pressing regional needs.

This engagement not only makes ECU a go-to partner in enhancing the region’s economic vitality and quality of life but also improves education, research and innovation, and scholarship across the...
Six pediatric doctors have joined the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and its group practice, ECU Physicians.

Dr. Jennifer Crotty comes to the Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor from a pediatric practice in Florida. She has a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a medical degree from Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine and completed residency training at ECU. Her clinical interests are breast-feeding support and education.

Crotty is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics. She sees patients at the Brody Outpatient Center.

Dr. Maureen Depres joins ECU as a clinical assistant professor. She has a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and a master's degree in physical therapy and a medical degree from the University of Massachusetts. She completed residency training in pediatrics at ECU.

Depres is board-certified in internal medicine and pediatrics. She sees patients at ECU’s Adult and Pediatric Health Care practice at Doctors Park No. 2.

Dr. David Holder joins ECU as a clinical associate professor. He comes to ECU from Boston, where he worked at Children's Hospital and was an instructor of pediatrics at Harvard University. He has a bachelor's degree in molecular biology from City College of New York, a medical degree from Harvard Medical School and a master's of public health degree from Harvard.

Holder interned at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, completed residency training at Boston City Hospital and a fellowship in adolescent medicine at Children's Hospital. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Holder sees patients at ECU Pediatric Specialty Care at 2150 Herbert Court.

Dr. Melissa Rayburg, a neonatologist, joins ECU as an assistant professor. She has a bachelor's degree from Grove City College in Pennsylvania and a medical degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS). She completed a residency in pediatrics at EVMS and a fellowship in neonatology at the University of Virginia.

Naylor is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics. She sees patients at the neonatal intensive care unit at Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Coral Steffey joins ECU as a clinical assistant professor. She has a bachelor's degree in biochemical sciences from Harvard University, a medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center-San Antonio, and she completed residency training at Children's Medical Center in Texas. Her clinical and research interests are child abuse and trauma and adolescent medicine. She speaks Spanish and sees patients at the Brody Outpatient Center.

Appointment information is available at http://www.ecu.edu/ecuphysicians.
Reproductive specialist joins ECU Physicians

Dr. Larisa Gavrilo- 

jordan has joined the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and its group practice, ECU Physicians.

Gavrilo-Jordan, an obstetrician and gynecologist, joins the school as an assistant professor. She has a medical degree from Kubanskaya State Medical Academy in Russia, completed residency training at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota and a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at Duke University.

Her clinical interests are the treatment of female and male infertility, assisted reproduction technologies, uterine-sparing surgical treatment of uterine fibroids, laparoscopic surgery for reproductive tract abnormalities, optimal management of polycystic ovary syndrome, pubertal abnormalities, endometriosis, recurrent pregnancy loss and preimplantation genetic diagnosis. She is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Gavrilo-Jordan sees patients at ECU Women’s Physicians at 2160 Herbert Court. For appointments, call 744-3850.
Old Testament scholar will speak at ECU
The Daily Reflector
Saturday, January 23, 2010
An internationally recognized Old Testament scholar will deliver East Carolina University’s Jarvis Lecture on Christianity and Culture at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Wright Auditorium. Walter Brueggemann, professor emeritus at Columbia Theological Seminar, will present, “Recovery from the Long Nightmare of Amnesia”
Complementary tickets are available through the ECU Central Ticket Office at 328-4788, (800) ECU-ARTS, or (voice/TTY) 328-4736.
'Hearts on Fire' dinner dance supports ECU's performing arts series
The Daily Reflector
Monday, January 25, 2010

The Friends of ECU’s S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series will hold its 11th annual Valentine’s Day dinner dance, with the theme “Hearts on Fire,” Feb. 13 at Rock Springs Center, N.C. 43.

The dinner will include a three-course meal featuring tomato basil soup, filet of beef tenderloin, crab cake and cheesecake with a complimentary glass of champagne.

The evening will feature dancing to the music of The Troupers, an auction and a champagne raffle for jewelry donated by Lautares Jewelers.

Proceeds support the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series.

Cost is $75 per person. To request a formal information or purchase a ticket, call 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

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