New Year Ushers in Job Changes

Provost William Swart has announced a number of personnel and organizational changes in the Division of Academic Affairs and Student Life. Swart said the changes will support initiatives being addressed by a total of 14 task forces formed last semester to develop ways to align programs and activities with the goals of the university strategic plan.

The changes, effective on Jan. 1, include:

- Dr. Karla Hughes, dean of the School of Human Environmental Sciences, has also become interim dean of the Carolyn Freeze Baynes School of Social Work and Criminal Justice Studies. She will join the faculty in exploring a permanent merger of the two schools.
- Dr. David Harrison, former dean of the Carolyn Freeze Baynes School, remains on the faculty.
- Dr. Rosina Chia, interim chair of the Department of Industrial Technology, has also become interim dean of the School of Computer Science and Communications. She and the faculty will explore alternative homes for the two departments in the school.
- Dr. Michael Potratz, former interim dean of the school, will assume duties as director of institutional effectiveness on a full-time basis.
- Dr. Robert Desmond, dean of the School of Industry and Technology, has resigned effective at the end of the Spring semester, to take advantage of an opportunity in New York. A search committee for his successor has been formed.
- The senior associate vice chancellor for academic affairs position has been abolished. Dr. Gary Lowe, who held that position, has returned to the social work faculty.
- Professor in the School of Education, has also become the interim university enrollment manager. Dr. Bertus Fereira (Social Work) has become interim director of International Programs.
- Dr. Rita Gonsalves, who had served as interim chair of the Department of Social Work, has become interim director of International Programs. Dr. Rita Gonsalves, who had served as interim director, has returned to her position as director of Study Abroad programs.

The Board of Trustees has approved an overhaul of campus parking that will go into effect next July 1.

The plan, which can be viewed online at www.ecu.edu/parking/parkECU.cfm, had been discussed in meetings across the campus during the fall semester. Key elements of the new plan include:

- Establishing different parking zones at various locations, with the closest spaces to core areas carrying higher prices.
- Reducing the “oversell” of permits, so that permit holders will be relatively assured that they can find a space.
- Adding more metered, short-term parking on the main campus and at the medical campus.
- Improving transit shuttle routes with extended

For excerpts from Sheppard’s comments at the English Department ceremony, see page 7.

By George Threewits

Beatrice Lillico Sheppard of New Bern graduated from East Carolina University in December with honors and a unique distinction. She is the “senior” member of the Senior Class, a fact made even more remarkable in that she is 84 years old, a great-grandmother, a veteran of World War II, a world traveler and one of the oldest students ever to be fully immersed in a degree program at ECU.

“It’s something that I have wanted to do for a long time, but never got the chance,” said Sheppard, who is graduating cum laude with a B.A. Degree in English in a program that focuses on the classics of world literature.

Sheppard began her college work with liberal arts courses at Craven Community College in New Bern. She transferred her studies to ECU in 1997 when she was 79.

Sheppard was presented the outstanding senior award, and Remley Melissa Edmundson turn their tassles at the conclusion of the ECU Department of English unit recognition ceremony for Fall 2002 graduates. Graduating with honors at age 84, Sheppard was presented the outstanding senior award, and spoke at the ceremony. (Photo by Marc Kawanishi)
Clayton Urges Fall Graduates to ‘Learn and Serve’

Following are excerpts from the remarks of Congresswoman Eva M. Clayton at the 2002 Fall Commencement.

What a glorious day this is for you all. On this day, you, your families and your friends celebrate your achievements as a successful scholar. This privilege, sharing in your graduation, is made even more significant and even more special because it represents an important passage in your lives. Today we are all focused on these students who have spent the past few years or so, basking in this environment of knowledge and support. Here they now sit in caps and gowns — ready to take on the world.

My dear graduates, this day you begin to write history for your nation, your community and your alma mater, as well as yourself. You will do so through your dedication and commitment to preserving excellence in service, regardless of the capacity in which you serve.

Indeed, this University is rich in the great tradition of excellence in education, medicine, art and many other areas. You can see it in the lives of East Carolina University’s outstanding graduates. Men and women who stand head and shoulders above all things ordinary.

East Carolina University has prepared you well. For almost a century, this institution has provided a foundation for educational development and distinction in North Carolina. Over the years, thousands have graduated and many before you have gone on to seek other degrees and distinguished careers.

This campus, with strong regional ties and public outreach to eastern North Carolina, has provided a perfect setting for your academic pursuits and the goals and aspirations you set for yourselves. During your time, East Carolina University has kept you... prepared you... and challenged you. And now — as you stand ready to graduate — you realize that the whole point was to educate you... to free and empower you... to carry on a proud tradition reflected in this University’s motto “servire” meaning “to serve.”

As you “depart to serve,” you will come to accept that life will ask you many questions. Life will ask you if you are willing to help make this nation great. Its military makes it strong, but its compassion for those who live in the shadows of life — the weak, the poor, the frail, the young, the old, those who are different: this nation’s compassion makes it great.

Some of you will leave this place and join the absorbing world of business, and you can discuss, at length, theories of economics, domestic and foreign, monetary policy and the bottom line. During these critical economic times, we need your expertise.

But, those are not the most important questions you will be asked by life. Life will ask if you are willing to use your talents to help people, to prevent what is far too many of your fellow citizens from sliding to the bottom. Yes, you are graduating.

You are moving from one stage of experience, expertise, proficiency or prestige to another, higher stage.

While today you are graduating, tomorrow begins your next stage.

Given the big threats facing all of society and especially you as graduates: security against terrorism, war against Iraq, economic uncertainty, and the great health disaster (HIV/AIDS) and famine facing a large part of the world: What can I say that will make a difference?

Because of these threats, or in spite of them, there is a simple but important message I want to share. Continue to learn and serve others well.

To be successful you must commit yourselves to a lifetime of learning and service. The last thing some of you want to hear is that you must continue your education in order to make a contribution or secure a meaningful job. As most of us know, learning and understanding life lessons is not limited to institutions of higher education.

The explosion of knowledge and information is so great, along with the intimacy of one world. You are challenged to have a mind open to new information and a new understanding of culture world wide. Forces of the 21st century create opportunities and challenges for you.

What you do as individuals depends upon your understanding of the world and what you view as important. You enter your professional stage knowing and being affected by the following:

1) The global economy has created millions of new jobs for North Carolina and America; however, thousands of textile jobs in North Carolina have been lost.

2) The explosion of information technology is well acknowledged. Everyone has a web page.

3) The biological science advances, in which this University participates and understands, have great potentials to address disease, serious illnesses and extend life expectations.

4) The growth of democracies and diversity worldwide helps create a global environment where economic growth and technological growth have occurred. This factor is very important to the quality of life for those in North Carolina and the United States. These factors will demand that you are learning and discovering new knowledge and information if you are to succeed in an ever-changing world.

If you really want to be successful in life, put service to others in the equation of your careers. Public service — the desire to be of some use to other people — is fundamental to human nature. It is fundamental to our religious faith. It is good business to serve others.

Businessmen and businesswomen, like all other human beings, need a larger purpose than simply making money. The American Retailing Association Mission Statement says, “The business of business is serving society not just making money; profit is our reward for serving society well. It is the means and measure of our service and not an end in itself.” When we work to bring stability and empowerment to people and communities less fortunate than we are, we work to ensure our family’s and neighborhood’s security.

Learn the joy of serving others.

When we serve other people well, we serve ourselves better.

My dear graduates, you are ready to take on the world. You are prepared, and the world needs the best minds, vision, commitment and hearts dedicated to public service if we are to have peace and prosperity. Continue to learn and always serve.
**Thompson Takes Reins of Pirate Football Program**

John Thompson, one of the most highly regarded defensive coaches in the country, has been selected as the 18th head football coach in East Carolina University history. Thompson was introduced by the Chancellor at a press conference, Dec. 20 at the Murphy Center.

Thompson held a crowded press conference that he wanted to accomplish three things: “Win championships; graduate players who will be productive citizens; and make a difference in young people’s lives and in this community.”

Thompson, 47, comes to ECU from the University of Florida, where he served this past season as the Gators’ defensive coordinator. Thompson’s defense was ranked 22nd nationally overall and third in pass defense.

He replaces Steve Logan, who resigned on Dec. 7 after 11 seasons at the helm of the Pirate program.

Thompson’s 21-year collegiate coaching career includes 19 seasons as a defensive coordinator with stops at four schools in the Southeastern Conference—Florida, Alabama, Arkansas, and LSU. He has also held assistant coaching positions at Conference USA members Memphis and Southern Miss, along with appointments at Louisiana Tech and Northwestern State (La.) State.

In all, Thompson has coached three defensive units that have led their respective conferences in defense, and has guided one of the nation’s top 20 defensive units in three of the past five years.

Twenty-one of his defensive players have been drafted or signed by NFL teams, 40 have earned all-conference honors, and five have been named All-American.

A native of Forrest City, Ark., Thompson began his coaching career in the high school ranks in 1977 while pursuing a bachelor’s degree at the University of Central Arkansas. He graduated with a bachelor of science degree in physical education in 1978 and went on to serve as an assistant coach at Conway, Forrest City, and Arkadelphia high schools, all in his native state, before moving to the college ranks at the University of Arkansas as a graduate assistant for the 1982 season.

His first full-time assignment as a collegiate coach came at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, La., where he served as defensive coordinator and coach and the secondary and linebackers from 1983-86. After a one-year stint as linebackers coach at the University of Alabama in 1987, he returned to Northwestern State for the 1988 and 1989 seasons, serving in the same capacity as his first tenure with the Demons.

In 1990, Thompson moved about 80 miles north to serve as defensive coordinator, linebackers coach, and defensive ends coach at Louisiana Tech University. He served two seasons (1990 and 1991) on the Bulldogs’ staff and led the defensive unit to a No. 23 ranking in total defense, No. 19 in scoring defense, and No. 8 in rushing defense.

Thompson was the mastermind behind the dominant Southern Miss defense of the mid-1990s as he took over the position of defensive coordinator for the Golden Eagles in 1992, was given the additional title of assistant head coach in 1993, and remained there until 1998.

**HUD Grant Funds ECU, Rocky Mount Partnership**

By Dana Gauland

ECU has received a $399,950 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to establish and oversee the ECU-Central Rocky Mount Partnership (ECU-CRMP).

Through ECU-CRMP, the university’s outreach resources will be extended to more than 55,000 residents of the city of Rocky Mount. Working with ECU’s Outreach Network, the ECU-CRMP Community Advisory Board has begun consultations with churches, financial institutions, health care providers, and community leaders in Rocky Mount. They will focus on eight neighborhood and target problems identified as determining neighborhoods conditions, general lack of social access points, and inadequate healthcare options available to the city residents.

Deteriorating conditions such as substandard housing will benefit from ECU-CRMP’s “Neighborhood Revitalization” program, which includes a neighborhood clean up and beautification, crime prevention watch training, and enhancement of home ownership initiatives.

Lack of social access points pertain to subpopulations within the neighborhoods, primarily the elderly, the Hispanic population, and the criminal element. Outreach programs will work to identify these populations and enable them to gain access to opportunities for assistance.

Limited access to health education opportunities will be targeted at focus groups, community health festivals and urgent needs programs.

Deans from ECU’s Brody School of Medicine, the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Education, School of Nursing, School of Business, School of Health and Human Performance, School of Education, School of Human Environmental Services, and School of Social Work and Criminal Justice Studies, have given support and commitment of faculty and students to serve the central Rocky Mount community.

Dana Gauland is a communications specialist with the Regional Development Institute.
Russian Studies Program Expands Horizons At ECU

By Nancy McGillicuddy

With the collapse of the Soviet Union, an exchange of ideas has flourished between Russia, Eastern Europe, the former Soviet republics and the West.

Now, students and faculty at East Carolina University are poised to further contribute to that exchange, thanks to a $144,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education, under the Undergraduate International Education and Foreign Language Program. The grant was awarded in March and began last fall.

The two-year award, with matching funds from the university, allows for development and expansion in three main areas: curriculum, faculty research and community outreach.

Hoping to increase knowledge of Russia and Eastern Europe, Professor Sylvie Debevec Henning, chair of Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, designed the multidisciplinary program centered on Russian language and culture.

“The idea is to get more people in eastern North Carolina — faculty, students and community members — interested in this part of the world,” Henning said. “Our goal is to increase the cultural awareness and understanding.”

Interest in the program has been tremendous, Henning said, crediting the response to an evolving social and economic atmosphere.

“There is a renewed interest in Russia because of the change in the political situation,” she said. “Russia is now actually seeking partnerships with western institutions.”

A number of students have expressed interest in the new program, and many faculty members — from departments as varied as art, criminal justice and marketing — have already signed up. One aspect of the project is a two-week research trip to Russia and/or Eastern Europe. Faculty competed for eight travel grants that will fund the upcoming summer trips. Henning said she hopes to fund 10 research grants.

The grant also allows the procurement of research and instructional materials for the language lab and library.

“Joyner Library has been very generous and we’ve been able to obtain a large number of books and films through the grant,” Henning said.

Several new curricular projects have already been developed as part of the program. These include a template for a Russian Studies concentration for the Multidisciplinary Studies major, new Russian content courses, study abroad opportunities and new modules for existing courses. In addition, students have already begun to design Russian Studies interdisciplinary minors.

“The University Honors Program will be an important contributor to the project with several new courses with Russian/Eastern European content as well as opportunities for Honors students to meet visiting scholars,” said Michael Bassman, director of the University Honors Program and curriculum enhancement coordinator for the project. “We are very excited about these new internationalization activities.”

The final aspect of the grant involves community outreach, coordinated by Dr. Alice Arnold of the School of Art.

A film series, a Russian and Eastern European Forum, a Russian Studies web site (http://www.ecu.edu/foreign/Russian/) and many by Pitt County Schools are in the works to expand the program.

The theme of this year’s film series is “Russia through the American Eyes.” Films such as Anna Karenina, Doctor Zhivago and Thirteen Days have been included.

The goal of the workshops is to bring awareness to Russian art to public school children.

“It will help increase understanding of Russian art,” Arnold said. The Forum will bring a number of scholars to campus where they will meet with faculty and students as well as making public presentations. Arnold said the Russian Studies Program supports several of the university’s initiatives, including internationalization and the promotion of interdisciplinary studies.

Nancy McGillicuddy is a writer with the Office of News and Communication Services.

What’s In the Works for Russian Studies?

The $144,000 grant with matching funds from ECU will enable the addition and the development of:

• New Russian content courses
• Study abroad opportunities
• Undergraduate internships in Russia

• A Russian Studies Advisory Board
• A Russian Studies Forum
• New research and instructional materials for Joyner library
• Russian film series
• A Russian Studies web site
• Community outreach opportunities

Events Planned for Martin Luther King Day Celebration

By George Threeitts

civil rights activist who led sit-ins at a lunch counter in a Greensboro department store in 1960 will be among the speakers participating in programs at ECU on Jan. 15 and 20 to recognize the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Franklin E. McCain of Charlotte was among the original four black students from North Carolina A&T College who were refused service at a Woolworth’s department store lunch counter on Feb. 1, 1960. The store’s lunch counter provided food service only to white customers and not to blacks.

McCain, a retired textile chemist, will discuss his experiences with civil rights on Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. in Mendenhall’s Hendrix Theatre. Dr. Lawrence M. Clark will give the second Martin Luther King presentation on Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. in the Mendenhall Great Room.

Clark is a former associate provost and mathematics professor at North Carolina State University (NCSU). He helped to establish NCSU’s West Africa Initiative that promotes collaborative research and study between N.C. State and the universities in Ghana.

Dr. David Dennard, an ECU history professor and the chairman of the ECU MLK Committee, said the speakers will offer their perspectives on milestones in civil rights history because it spawned a national movement that ultimately brought down segregation in the South.

The sit-in at the Greensboro department store lunch counter is considered one of the most important events in civil rights history because it spawned a national movement that ultimately brought down segregation in the South. The original faded Formica lunch counter and four ’50s-era stools went on display in the Smithsonian in 1995. ECU holds programs annually in observation of the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. An MLK Observance Committee, the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, the Student Union Cultural Awareness Committee and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity sponsor the programs.

For additional information contact The Ledonia Wright Cultural Center at 328-1680 or David Dennard at 328-4364.
Day of Infamy Exhibit Commemorates Pearl Harbor

By George Threewitts

ECU unveiled one of the largest online collections of Pearl Harbor memorabilia in existence when the J. Y. Joyner Library opened its new “Day of Infamy, 1941-2001” digital exhibit on Dec. 7.

The exhibit, accessed through the Internet, is devoted to the people and events at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, when a surprise Japanese attack propelled the United States into World War II.

The web address for the exhibit is http://www.lib.ecu.edu/SpclColl/showcase.

The exhibit includes over 200 digitized pages of photographs, letters, diaries, documents, maps, oral history transcripts, original art, biographical and historical sketches, newspapers, telegrams, and other items. The artifacts provide a mental portrait of what the morning was like before the arrival of the Japanese, the confusion and destruction during the attack, the salvage and recovery efforts immediately afterward, and the lasting effects on the American consciousness as a result of these events.

Jonathan Dembo, head of the library’s Special Collections Department, said the diary entries and oral history transcripts that are included in the exhibit help readers get a sense of Pearl Harbor in the way that is much more personal and intimate than is possible with ordinary news reports and histories. Written while parts of the harbor were still smoldering, the entries allow readers to see just what a sudden and forceful impact this attack had on the journal keepers. The oral history accounts prove just how deep and long lasting was the shock and trauma of that day.

A unique feature of the exhibit is the inclusion of biographical sketches that provide glimpses into the life stories of those who experienced the disaster. These personal chronicles help bring to life the historical sketches, maps, and documents by exploring the attack’s effects on the sailors as well as on their vessels.

The explosion of the USS Shaw during the Dec. 7 attack on Pearl Harbor is just one of the many photographs featured on the “Day of Infamy” digital exhibit. Also included are personal recollections of the day and events that followed, biographical sketches of key characters, maps, telegrams and news articles. (Photo from website)

The collection of materials was originally displayed in glass cases in the library’s Special Collections Department from Dec. 7, 2001, to July 4, 2002. The preparation for the original exhibit came while anti-American violence was on the minds of many.

“The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, which occurred even as the staff was adding the final details to the exhibit, brought home to all that the lessons of the past were very relevant today,” said Dembo.

Joynier Library is one of the largest libraries in the state with over one million bound volumes and over one million microforms housed in the library’s modern, four-story structure. The library’s Special Collections Department contains archival, manuscript and published materials and is open to faculty, visiting scholars, the general public and to ECU’s more than 20,000 students.

The department includes the East Carolina Manuscript Collection, the University Archives, the Rare Book Collection and the Hoover Collection on International Communism.

It is the official repository for the papers, documents and oral histories for the U. S. Naval Academy’s Class of 1941. Many of the personal accounts of the attack at Pearl Harbor, included in the exhibit, were collected from members of the class.

Researchers may gain access to the collections through a variety of catalogs and in-depth finding aids available on site and at http://www.lib.ecu.edu/SpclColl/exhibit/.

“The Day of Infamy” exhibit was developed by the Joynier Library Digital Initiatives unit that also produced the “Eastern North Carolina Digital History Exhibits at http://www.lib.ecu.edu/exhibits/.

“Day of Infamy 1941 - 2001” was selected by Family Tree magazine as the website of the day for Dec. 20. According to Dembo, Family Tree magazine is one of the largest genealogical publications, and it is quite an honor to have them recognize the site.

Carl Brashear Cranks Up Black History Month Events

Last year’s celebration of ECU’s African American Firsts was such a resounding success that the event has been scheduled again for this year. Back by popular demand, ECU’s African American Firsts celebration, presented by the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, will be held at the Murphy Center athletic complex on Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m.

The program will highlight African Americans who were first at something at ECU, such as the first to enroll or the first to serve in certain positions on campus.

Keynoting the event this year is Carl Brashear, the first African American deep sea diver, whose life experiences were dramatized in the movie, Men of Honor. Brashear was injured and became an amputee after an accident during a salvage operation. He became the only amputee deep-sea diver to reach the status of master diver of the United States Navy.

Brashear’s appointments during his career included non-diving positions such as serving on President Eisenhower’s staff as aquatic advisor, and a variety of diving assignments on submarine rescue and salvage ships. He served on an aircraft carrier during the Korean War.

He so distinguished himself as a sailor of polished appearance and professionalism he was given the title “Mister Navy” by his peers and consequently by the Navy.

His most notable honors include one of the highest peacetime Naval awards, the Navy/Marine Corps Medal. In 1989 he was enshrined in naval history as a “Naval Tradition Maker,” and his portrait, commissioned by the Department of the Navy, can be found in the Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Twentieth Century Fox produced a feature motion picture based on Brashear’s life. Men of Honor, starring Cuba Gooding Jr. as Brashear, with co-star Robert Deniro, was released in the Fall of 2000.

Tickets for the African American Firsts event are on sale at $25 per person, on a first-come, first-served basis, at the ECU Central Ticket Office. Tickets for last year’s event sold out quickly, so those wishing to attend should contact the Central Ticket Office in early January at (252) 328-4738, 1-800-328-2787, or TTY (252) 328-4736.

Black History Month Events

In addition to the African American Firsts events scheduled for Black History Month include:

The New England Spiritual Ensemble presenting Music of Struggle and Freedom from the African American Experience, Memorial Baptist Church, 8 p.m.;

An art exhibit on Feb. 6, Positively Black: Achievement Through Visualzation, by artist Randall Leach, LWCC, 5:30 – 7 p.m.;

Black History Talent Explosion, Feb. 6 at Wright Auditorium, 7 p.m.; and two events on Feb. 11 - The Ideal Workplace, in Bate 1200, at 5 p.m.; and Black Jeopardy, Mendenhall, at 7 p.m.

Black Jeopardy, Mendenhall, at 7 p.m.

Black History Month Events

On Feb. 12, Brigadier Gen. Neal Robinson, vice commander of the Air Intelligence Agency, USAF, will speak in the Mendenhall Great Rooms at 3 p.m. On Feb. 19, the Black History Family Feud will be held in Mendenhall Great Rooms, at 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 will feature the ECU Gospel Choir Anniversary, at 5 p.m. in Wright Auditorium; and on Feb. 27, the Black Student Union presents Mod Def Soul Poetry Night at 7 p.m. in Mendenhall Social Room.

On March 1, Your Health – Isn’t it Time to take it Personal? will be held at the Greenville Convention Center, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
First International Potluck Dinner Promotes Unity

By Barbara Bullington

Holiday traditions tend to vary from one culture and part of the world to another. But, on Saturday, Dec. 7 — in a room punctuated by the distinctive shades of reds, blues, purples, yellows and other vibrant colors of international flags — faculty and staff at East Carolina University came together to celebrate a melding of international holiday tradition and cheer.

“Tonight is about unity,” Dr. William Swart, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, told the crowd at the first annual International Potluck Dinner held in the Club Level of Dowdy Ficklen Stadium. “Tonight is about unity.”

In addition to flags from almost 60 different countries — one United States flag and the rest representing the university’s international students’ home countries — the unity of the evening was also demonstrated through international cuisine and clothing.

“It’s a holiday party (that) allows people of different faiths and interests to celebrate together,” said Mrs. Ernestine Swart, when explaining why the event was planned for December.

Invitations encouraged guests to wear clothing representing their cultural and/or ethnic heritage. Guests were also asked to bring a similarly representative culinary offering.

Dr. Charles Grant, of the Department of Communication and Broadcasting, and wife, Sylvia, brought a vegetarian dish — black beans with rice and collards — to symbolize their ties to the south as well as the way southern cooking is connected to African and Cuban cultures.

Some of the other dishes served included eastern North Carolina pork barbecue, Chile Rellano with turkey, Polish pierogies, egg rolls, enchiladas mineras Mexicanas, and arroz con pollo (rice with chicken).

The party, including the potluck dinner, was the brainchild of Dr. Swart, who joined the ECU family at the beginning of August and is no stranger to diversity or unity. Swart was born in Holland, raised in Argentina and Venezuela, attended school in the United States, and has worked in the Middle East and Far East. In addition, his career also played a role in his continued interaction with those from various backgrounds.

“…in my discipline — engineering — we traditionally have a very diverse faculty,” Swart said.

His background serving as an impetus and inspiration for the event, Swart stated that he hoped the evening would be a celebration of the origins, ethnicity and religions of ECU faculty and staff.

According to Bill Clutter, a planning committee member and assistant to the Vice Chancellor of Student Life, about 180 faculty and staff members attended the event, which took approximately two months of preparation.

The planning led to an evening filled not only with an opportunity for guests to mingle, but also to take part in and be audience to a variety of activities.

A Bhangra, or North Indian folk dance from the State of Punjab, by four high school students opened the dinner. Dancers, Supriya Khazanie, Jyoti Vasnani, Pranita Katwa and Shrayi Kansagra, each wore salwar (pants) and a kameez (top) in varying shades of blue as they danced the

Holiday Celebrations Featured in Multicultural Event

By Christine Bates

Whether they were trimming evergreens with sparking lights, polishing a menorah for the break of dawn until sunset in honor of the month of Ramadan, members of the ECU community enjoyed a number of celebrations over the recent holiday season.

In tribute to the diversity of cultures and holiday celebrations on campus, the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center (LWCC) held a Multicultural Holiday Open House Dec. 12, allowing ECU faculty, staff and students a unique opportunity to experience how and why other cultures commemorate the holidays.

Holidays celebrated around the world formed the theme for the evening, and booths displayed a variety of holiday celebrations from Oshogatsu (the Japanese New Year) to Diwali, the four-day Festival of Lights in India. Booths represented Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Christmas, Advent, Winter Solstice and others throughout the world.

The Open House was quite an event. The LWCC was filled with people, booths, and tables full of food. Each culture represented had its own booth with food specific to the culture or the holiday celebration. Visitors picked up handouts distributed at the booths about culture-specific holidays while eating and fellowshiping with students who worked the booths.

More than 200 people attended the event within a two-hour time frame. Lynn Caverly (Mendenhall Student Center), who has advised the Cultural Awareness Committee for several years and who worked the Advent booth, noted that many of the different holidays have one thing in common. “They are a celebration of light during a dark period,” she said.

Students worked in booths that represented their own culture. Lylaya Shaw, secretary for the Minority Student Coalition and a student in the Communications department, worked the Kwanzaa booth, which distributed fresh fruit, fried okra, nut bread, and red fruit punch. Kwanzaa, an American African holiday based on the traditional African festival of the harvest of the first crops, begins each year on Dec. 26 and lasts for seven days.

A Business Finance student, Robyn Jones, manned the booth about India, passing out information about the history of Diwali, a joyous festival celebrated throughout the country to dispel darkness and light up lives. Jones enjoyed sharing information about the festival with Open House visitors. “It is important to let people know about different cultures so that they can understand them,” she said.

Ellis Wong, co-advisor for the Asian Student Association and a graduate student in Biology, was on-hand to help people learn about his culture. “The Chinese culture is not well-represented in Greenville,” he said. He wanted to help people become aware of the Asian holiday celebrations.

Neil Lewis, the LWCC’s director, was pleased with this year’s Open House. “It surpassed anything I imagined,” she said. “It showed that people take the Center seriously.”

For two and a half years, Lewis has directed the LWCC. She said the collaboration between the center and the campus is phenomenal. Making people aware of diversity is tough, she said. “There is heightened awareness but not heightened sensitivity.” To remove the barriers and obstacles in dealing with diversity, Lewis said, people need “to move from celebrating to actuation.”

Christine Bates is a lecturer in the Department of English and writer in the Department of News and Communication Services.
Roebuck Devotes Night and Day to Emergency Medicine

By Judy Currin

As part of a Pieces of Eight series honoring exceptional ECU volunteers, the Recognition and Rewards Committee of the ECU Chancellor’s Staff Senate recognizes Annette Roebuck.

Annette Roebuck’s passion for volunteering uniquely parallels her day job. Annette is a secretary to the infection control nurse in Prospective Health at the Brody School of Medicine. She assists the trained staff in giving aid to injured ECU employees. Not many visitors would guess that she is also a certified Emergency Medical Technician.

Her interest in the field of emergency medicine was sparked after she agreed to join an EMT class a friend had organized. She was hooked after the first class. “It was a challenge I knew that I wanted to accomplish,” Roebuck recalled.

She certified as an EMT in March of 1982. Her volunteer service with the Bethel Volunteer rescue Squad began in August of that year. Along the way she realized her service became a challenge of extended care and love, not only to the injured, but to their families who needed comfort and assurance.

Roebuck is quick to acknowledge the guidance and support she received from EMT mentors during her early years of service.

“Thank goodness I wasn’t alone. The first few years I had a crew of mentors who helped me become a mentor to those coming after me for volunteer service,” she recalled.

During the past 15 years, Roebuck has taught EMT classes for Pitt Community College and numerous CPR classes for the American Heart Association. She remembers having a mentally challenged person who was thrilled to be a part of her CPR class.

“She did quite well. It humbled me that this young lady wanted to give something of herself to make a difference in someone’s life,” Roebuck said.

As an EMT volunteer, Roebuck has been dispatched in all types of weather and at all times of the day and night. The emotions triggered for EMT volunteers vary as greatly as the weather.

“I’ve wept when I could do nothing for a SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome) baby and rejoiced when I was there when another mother gave birth to her baby.

When that pager goes off, you suddenly get an adrenalin rush,” Annette said.

“My husband thought I was crazy, but I loved it. You hope for a call on your shift.”

Part of Roebuck’s success as an EMT volunteer is evident in her ability to find humor in non-life threatening situations. The EMT rescue truck is often asked to stand by at rodeos, or mud slinging events with tractors and four wheeled vehicles. “High school and college football games were our highlights,” Roebuck said. “We tried to rescue the score a few times,” she quipped.

Roebuck recalls one rainy night her unit was dispatched to a motor vehicle accident involving two cars on the new bypass near Bethel. No one was seriously injured. “I was giving care to an elderly gentleman in one of the cars and I said, ‘Looks like you hydroplaned.’ I’ll never forget the puzzled look on his face. He said, ‘Look lady, I was not in an airplane, I was in this car!’ My partner and I exchanged glances but didn’t laugh until we were back at the station,” Roebuck said.

She served as a training officer for the Bethel Rescue Squad for 17 years, and received the Rescuer of the Year Award in 1985 and in 1999. The Woodsmen of the World presented Roebuck with the Outstanding Community Service Award in 1996. In 2001 The Bethel Chamber of Commerce recognized Roebuck as Citizen of the Year.

Roebuck has lived in the Bethel community since the age of 6. Her 20 years of service as an EMT enabled her to form closer relationships with people she has known most of her life. She takes neighbors to the hospital when they do not want to go by rescue. Just recently she taught an 84-year-old how to operate a computer.

“I still get Christmas cards from some of them. Some would call me before they called 911,” said Roebuck. People have thanked her for saving their lives, when in reality they were only suffering from hyperventilation.

She and her husband of 38 years, Steve, have no children but over the years they have picked up a number of stray kittens, cats and dogs.

“I even claimed ownership of a bull frog named Oscar,” she said.

Roebuck retired from her EMT position in August of 2001. “I wouldn’t trade the last 20 years for anything. Many friends have been made and I hope I made a difference in someone’s life. I love emergency medicine,” Roebuck said.

Persons wishing to recommend volunteers for this series may contact the Staff Senate Recognition and Rewards Committee at www.ecu.edu, click on the link to the staff senate and look under committees to find e-mail addresses and phone numbers.

Judy Currin is a staff member with the Office of News and Communication Services.

Sheppard Shares Knowledge, Experience of 84 Years

Excerpts follow from the presentation of Outstanding Senior Beatrice Sheppard, made at the English Department Unit Recognition Ceremony. At age 84, Sheppard is one of ECU’s oldest graduates.

Most often I am asked, “Why did you go back to school? What made you do it?” They ask as if some powerful, external force pressed me into a last-minute sprint for the finish line.

Friends, this is no impulsive addendum. It’s the fulfillment granted for a lifetime of diversion, service, and obligations.

So now, 65 years after high school I catch the ring of higher education and hold it close for the rest of my life…

My gratitude toward the ECU faculty is immeasurable. . . Attention, interest and assistance from my advisor, Dr. Sandra Tawake, were always immediate; options and solutions discussed.

In later years I have had many moments in my life reaching the summits of revelation and awe. I have stood in Red Square, asteroided at the brilliant statement of the Church of Saint Basil; throne on the grandeur of ballets performed by the Kirov in St. Petersburg and the Bolshoi in Moscow; looked across to the Jungfrau, high in the Swiss Alps; seen Mt. Ayers in the middle of Australia’s outback at sunset; climbed mountains and glaciers; sung Beethoven’s 9th symphony with a chorus of three hundred voices in Carnegie Hall; wandered amid Mayan ruins in Yucatan; marveled at the “Victory of Samothrace” in the Louvre; sat on Hadrian’s Wall in Britain; and rounded the Lorelai on the Rhine.

When I entered my first class in a tiered hall in ECU’s Bate Building, I chose a seat in the first row, center, surrounded at each side and above by young students. When the instructor entered and strode to the lecturn, silence prevailed, authority was acknowledged. At that instant I was struck by the sublimity of where I was. The sensation of freedom from the confines of a cocoon spanning at least seventy years upon me to the moment and I stated to myself, “I am finally here.”
Basketball Competition with ECU Noted in Conroy Book


Conroy was point guard and captain of the team when the players arrived in Greenville on Jan. 13, 1967 to take on the ECU Pirates. Conroy scored a remarkable 25 points, making 9 out of 13 shots and all seven of his free throws. He was the high scorer for both teams, but his efforts could not pull out a win for the Bulldogs and they fell to the Pirates 80 – 72.

In attendance that night were both Conroy’s mother and father, whose abusive behaviors eventually would be thinly veiled as fiction in Conroy’s best-selling novel, *The Great Santini*. Although Conroy was a star that night, his father focused only on the team’s loss and berated Conroy after the game. “It was a religious belief of my father’s not to show any sign of joy or pleasure when his oldest son made a basket during a game,” wrote Conroy.

In a follow-up game played at the Citadel, the Bulldogs trounced ECU with a record-breaking 101 points. Conroy scored 15 points. Conroy’s joy in that game, and the excitement of having his team finally pull together and play as a team, is recounted in a chapter entitled, “East Carolina.”

As the Bulldogs’ losing season came to a close, Conroy reluctantly abandoned his role as athlete and began to make the transition to the best-selling author he is today. “I came to the writing life as a point guard,” he wrote in *My Losing Season*, “and it became the metaphor of my transition. The metaphors of basketball have carried over into my world of fiction, the novels that are the great joys of my life,” he said.

In addition to *My Losing Season* and *The Great Santini*, Conroy is the author of *The Prince of Tides*, *The Water is Wide*, *The Lords of Discipline* and *Beach Music*. Conroy’s writing also has been featured in the novels that are the great joys of my life,” he said.

By Jennifer Farris

Math and science teachers from towns like Plymouth, Snow Hill and Elizabeth City gathered at ECU in December to experience 21st century communications technology at its best. Thirty-seven teachers from rural schools in North Carolina connected with fellow teachers in rural Illinois towns, as they participated in the unveiling of ECU’s new Access Grid system (AG), the latest technological tool for teaching and learning.

The inaugural event was part of a two-year program designed to support Rural Educators Using Visualization to Inspire Teacher Advancement and Learning to Improve Science and Mathematics Education (REVITALISE). The program is funded in part by a recent teacher retention and renewal grant of $1.46 million from the National Science Foundation to a consortium of members from ECU, Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, Elizabeth City State University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA).

Sandra Huskamp, interim director for ECU’s Center for Interdisciplinary Instructional Technology Research, and REVITALISE project director, explained the use of the technology. “These visualization tools will provide teachers and students with the power to explore simple to complex systems in three-dimensional space,” she said.

Teachers and students will be able to examine things that are not visible to the human eye, such as chemical structures or the bonding of atoms, Huskamp said. “They will be able to visually investigate single or multi-level structures, to build virtual worlds that in real-life would not be feasible in the classroom, and to explore a broad range of concepts that would otherwise be vain.”

ECU faculty will be able to use the AG in collaboration with colleagues around the world. They may use AG to participate in and host educational seminars and training events. And, use of the Access Grid for collaborative discussions and academic lectures can greatly boost distance-learning programs by broadening student participation.

The AG system at ECU consists of a 16-foot wide screen attached to the back wall of the Joyner Library TV Studio, three cameras that record session participants, microphones mounted on mobile tripods, two speakers, and three projectors mounted on overhead beams that display images and/or presentations on the screen.

Now that ECU supports an Access Grid, the university is listed as an AG Site in the company of such prominent international institutions as Australian National University, Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, and Kurchatov Institute in Russia. Domestic AG sites include Dartmouth College, Florida State University, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), and the University of Tennessee.

The AG was developed by Argonne National Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy lab operated by the University of Chicago. It was designed to enable higher education institutions, supercomputing centers, science and engineering laboratories, and corporate leaders around the world to form virtual communities by linking to one another in “persistent electronic spaces.”

For more information about the REVITALISE program (www.eot.org/revitalise) or using ECU’s new AG system, contact Sandra Huskamp at huskamps@mail.ecu.edu. The AG website can be found at www-lp.mcs.anl.gov/ access/grid/default.htm.

Team Farris is an information and communication specialist with Strategic Initiatives, ITC.

Medical Researchers Focus on Weight-Related Issues

Family Medicine faculty at ECU’s Brody School of Medicine presented research related to the health of eastern North Carolinians at the annual meeting of the North American Primary Care Research Group in New Orleans, La.

Representing a number of co-investigators, principal investigator Lauren Whetstone reported on data collected from 2,126 middle school students from four eastern NC counties. The study explored the relationship between body weight and depression in the middle school population. Results included the finding that students who perceived themselves to be overweight had higher scores on an index of mean depressive symptoms. Sex also had a main effect, with females having higher mean depressive scores than males.

In a study entitled “Youth Physical Activity and Nutrition by Race Gender Groups,” principal investigator Susan Morrissey and her colleagues explored differences by race and gender groups in physical activity, sedentary behavior, and compliance with food pyramid guidelines. Results found African American females with the least hard physical activity, most daily hours of sedentary activity, and less preference for foods recommended by the food pyramid.

Also representing a group of co-investigators, principal investigator Doyle Cummings presented the results of “Obesity in Children: Clinical Correlates of Insulin Resistance.” In this study of 132 non-diabetic children, the researchers concluded that insulin resistance was highly correlated with important cardiovascular risk factors in obese children. These risk factors included total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, triglycerides, and body mass index.

By Jennifer Farris

Teachers from rural eastern North Carolina schools visited ECU’s Joyner Library in December for an introduction to innovative technologies to enhance learning at the REVITALIZE Workshop. (Contributed photo)
Retired Geography Professor Chronicles Life of Adventure

By George Threewitts

In the Islands: A Life Story, by former ECU geography professor Edward Leahy, and published in 2002 by Hats Off Books, is a page-turner for readers who might imagine hearing the sounds of bullets flying and bombs exploding.

His life as a Marine takes him to the bloody beaches of Saipan, Tinian and finally to Iwo Jima. At the latter battle, he described himself as landing on the beach “festooned like a Christmas tree” with satchels of C-2 explosives hanging from his neck. “The landing craft hit the beach with a jarring lurch, and I sprawled forward onto my face in a tangle of equipment,” he wrote.

Then several things happened at once. First we were bracketed by artillery shells, one falling close on the right and another close on the left. The ramp went down with a crash and the beach gaped before us. As I struggled to rise, a burst of machine-gun bullets swept into the boat and killed the coxswain who was standing behind me. It comes as no surprise that when the war ends, Leahy’s adrenaline was still at a level too high for him to fit into a cozy suburban lifestyle. He found time for college studies, a serious love affair and worked for a while as a corporate trainee. He quit his job as a corporate trainee and signed on a Danish freighter as a cabin boy.

For the next 10 years, he spent his

continued on page 12

Appointments/Elections

Angela Anderson (Registrar) was elected for the second year to the 2003 Nominations and Elections Committee for the Carolinas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACRAO). Amy Bisette (Registrar) was elected CACRAO treasurer for a one-year term.

Kevin Cherry (Education) was appointed to the board of the North Carolina Federation of Historical Societies.

Grey Hall (Education) was named to the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Applied Science, makers of technology designed to stop terrorism.

NewsMakers

Grey Hall (Education) was the subject of an October column in Investors Business Daily and investors.com, concerning stock trading for small groups.

Bill Chapman (Medicine) with local radio personality Jerry Wayne on Wayne’s gastric bypass surgery, on WTIN-TV, Nov. 26.

Michael Rastatter and Joseph Kalinowski (Allied Health) on WRAL-TV, Raleigh, on the SpeechEasy device to alleviate stuttering, Nov. 26.

Ken Macdonald (Medicine) on CBS News 48 Hours, on gastric banding, Nov. 29.

Charles Willson and Herbert Garrison (Medicine) on children and vaccines, including the smallpox vaccine, on WNCB-TV, Dec. 2.

Kathryn Verbanac (Medicine) on WTEB Public Radio, on detecting breast cancer, Dec. 3 and 4.

Karen Parker (Medicine) on the Winter Wonder dance performance to benefit the Brody School of Medicine kidney transplant and disease program, in The Daily Reflector, Dec. 4.

Randolph Chitwood and Wilford Nifong (Medicine) on the first mitral valve replacement using the da Vinci Surgical System, in The Daily Reflector, Dec. 5. Chitwood was featured on WCZI-FM’s Talk of the Town, Dec. 6, on FDA approval of the da Vinci system, and the Heart Center’s selection as one of the nation’s 100 Best.

Rita Gonsalves (International Affairs) in The Daily Reflector, on effect of new immigration laws on ECU students, Dec. 11.

Service, Honors and Professional Activities

Tytisha “Ty” Davis (Student Leadership Development) received the North Carolina College Personnel Association Outstanding New Professional Award for 2002 – 2003.

Monica Sullivan Parker (Nursing) achieved Certified Diabetes Education status upon successful completion of the Certification Examination for Diabetes Educators. Candidates must meet rigorous education and experience requirements to take the examination.

Bill Carson (Athletics) was named assistant coach of the U.S. Junior Olympic team that will attend the world junior championships in 2004 in Italy. Carson is in his 36th year as head track and field coach at ECU.

Terry A. Senne (Exercise and Sport Sciences) received the 2002 NCAA-HPERD College/University Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award during the organization’s annual convention in Greensboro. NCAHAHPERD is the North Carolina Association of Athletics, Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Angela Anderson (Registrar) was a panel member for the workshop entitled, “Advances in Enrollment and Degree Verifications from the Clearinghouse,” at the annual meeting of the Carolinas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

Nell Lewis (LW Cultural Center) spoke to School of Human Environmental Sciences faculty at the annual Diversity Holiday Potluck Luncheon. Lewis spoke on “How Diversity can Enrich the Learning and Work Environment.”

Dr. William Grobe (Education) was awarded the Distinguished Career award from the Graduate School of Education Alumni Association, State University of New York at Buffalo.


Kevin Cherry (Education) spoke on the North Carolina writer, Christian Reid (1846-1920), at her induction into the North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame in Southern Pines.

Bob Ebendorf (Art) will display his work in a show entitled, The Jewelry of Robert Ebendorf, at the gallery of Art and Design, NCSU, Jan. 16 through March 9.

Work by Francisco Souto (Art) was accepted into the 29th Bradley National Print and Drawing Exhibition at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill. Souto was accepted in the juried show, Boston Printmaking Biennial Exhibition, and commissioned by the Indianapolis Museum of Art educational department to make two prints as a companion for the traveling show. Prints from the North, from the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. He was also invited to participate in the show, Making an Impression: Printmaking at the Herron School of Art.

Seokidol Deena (English) organized “Moments with Ms. Cassandra Darden Bell, Local African American Author, The Color of Love,” for his class, Black American Literature. The videotape was aired on Greenville’s cable access channel 69 in December.

George Broussard (Music) attended the International Trombone Festival in Denton, Texas. His review of the festival will be published in the winter issue of the IIA Journal. Broussard also attended the Satchmo SummerFest, a combination festival and seminar held at the Old Mint Jazz Museum in the French Quarter, New Orleans, La.

Jan Salstrom (Medicine) received the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) Foundation Leadership Development Award, presented at the Midwifery Business Institute’s annual meeting in Ann Arbor, Mich. The award includes a $1,000 grant for continued development of business and leadership skills needed to advance and promote the profession of nurse midwifery.
Published Articles and Presentations

**Research Articles**

- *Occupational Therapy graduate program, "Occupational Therapists Use of Theory in Practice," in "Stratified Early-Middle Holocene Remains in the North Carolina Coastal Plain".*
- *Global Democracy,* at the Rhetoric Society of America's annual meeting in Savannah, Ga.

**Presentations**

- **East Carolina University**
  - *Globalization, History and Nations.*
- *The Color Purple,* at the 16th Annual Women in Leadership Conference, Greensboro.
- *A Holistic Cognitive Therapy Model for Treating the Dually Diagnosed,* at the Tenth Annual North Carolina Conference on Innovative Approaches in Psychiatric Rehabilitation in Baton, and "Button Therapy: A New Approach to Working on Addictions," at the 16th Annual Substance Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse Abuse 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Why Students Risk Cheating on College Campuses

By Margaret Olszewski

“Rice University Disciplines 15 Students in Cheating Scandal, Varsity Athletes Reportedly Were Involved” (12/902), “Mississippi State University Throws Out Results of Final Exam Amid Suspicions of Widespread Cheating” (12/1701), “University of Virginia Dismisses Students in Cheating Scandal; Varsity football, women’s gymnastics suspended” (12/1902), “Mississippi State UniversityAthletes Reportedly Were Involved” (12/1902), “University of Virginia Dismisses Students in Cheating Scandal; Varsity football, women’s gymnastics suspended” (12/1902). A quick review of the Chronicle of Higher Education or other journals reveals that academic dishonesty on today’s college campuses is widespread. Despite the frequency of occurrence, faculty often are surprised at the students who cheat or plagiarize. Comments such as “She was getting A’s, so she had no reason to cheat” or “He seems like such a nice young man, it’s not like him to falsify data,” are not uncommon. Although intuitively such statements make sense, they are not backed by current research on the topic. Who’s Who Among High School Students reports that approximately 80% of “high-achieving, college-bound students have cheated, that they think cheating is common place, and that more than half do not consider cheating a serious transgression” (The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity, The Center for Academic Integrity, October 1999).

The answer to the all-time question of why people resort to academic dishonesty is quite complex. However, only by examining the topic can ECU begin to address the problem. Although faculty and staff may not be successful in eradicating academic dishonesty, by working together, they can curtail it and can educate young people on the enormous importance of academic integrity in today’s world of egotism and short-term rewards.

“Eighty percent of high-achieving, college-bound students have cheated . . . they think cheating is common place, . . . more than half do not consider cheating a serious transgression.”

— The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity

The following is the fifth in a series of articles on academic integrity provided by the ECU Office of Conflict Resolution. Olszewski is assistant director of that office.

By Margaret Olszewski

The answer to the all-time question of why people resort to academic dishonesty is quite complex. However, only by examining the topic can ECU begin to address the problem. Although faculty and staff may not be successful in eradicating academic dishonesty, by working together, they can curtail it and can educate young people on the enormous importance of academic integrity in today’s world of egotism and short-term rewards.

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Editor’s Note

For medical reasons, I will be away from the office for a period of two to three months, effective Jan. 6. While I am out, Pieces of Eight will be produced under the direction of John Durham, director of News and Communication Services.

Beginning Jan. 6, please forward all correspondence regarding Pieces of Eight to Durham by e-mail at durhamj@mail.ecu.edu, by campus mail at Howard House, 1001 E. 5th St., or by phone at 328-6481.

Potluck Dinner

continued from page 6

lively steps of the harvest dance for the audience.

Door prizes were given away over the course of the two-hour dinner, including performing art series tickets, coffee mugs, tee shirts, and the grand prize — a three-night, four-day weekend stay at the Swarts’ Florida condominium.

During dinner, a brass quintet, made up of ECU students, performed. Afterwards, salsa dancing allowed guests to work off some of the international calories consumed.

The preparation appeared to pay off based on some of the comments of the guests.

“I think it’s a very positive initiative for the university,” said Dorothy Clayton, director of the Center for Faculty Development. Clayton added that there is an increasing number of international students and faculty at the university and that the event provided a good opportunity for everyone to get to know each other.

Michael Brown, a band director and teacher at E.B. Aycock Middle School, said he enjoyed the evening, which he described as being filled with “delicious food” and “a lot of great fellowship.”

Brown’s wife, Rhonda, is an immigration specialist at ECU.

Mrs. Swart related that she was pleased with the number of faculty and staff in attendance. “I think it’s a very good turnout,” she said, “especially when it’s being done here for the first time.”

She added that her husband has successfully initiated this type of gathering at other universities in the past, including Old Dominion University and the University of Central Florida.

Dr. Swart said he hopes this event will not only become a tradition at ECU in future years but will continue to grow as word of mouth spreads across the campus. Thus, guests and those involved in the planning can look forward to a future of more food, fellowship, fun, and perhaps a growing number of international flags to represent the ECU community.

Barbara Bullington is a lecturer with the Department of Communications and Broadcasting.

Retired Professor Chronicles Life of Adventure

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time drifting in Europe, America and the Caribbean. At times, he traveled in “fast company;” He met Ann Todd, a British actress, and they became close friends.

His relationship with Todd led to a brief stint in the movies. While visiting with Todd at her home in London, the actress received a phone call from film actor and friend Gregory Peck. Todd and Peck had appeared in a movie together. Peck told her that he and director John Houston were filming Moby Dick in Fishguard on the coast of Wales.

Leahy went to Fishguard and used Todd’s name as a reference to meet with Peck. The actor introduced Leahy to John Houston, and some finagling to get the approval of the British unions, Leahy landed the role of Yankee Sailor #5 and can be recognized in the film aboard one of the Pequod’s whaling boats.

During the period he calls his “wild man” years, he traveled at the top and at the bottom of life. He sold tentkeits in the streets of London, and did time on skid row in Los Angeles. Leahy hitchhiked back and forth across America half a dozen times and was hungry in Madrid, Paris, and Denver.

Leahy’s story also includes the more settled time of his life while teaching at ECU when he also found time for exploration of mountain ridges in Latin America at locations in Chile, Mexico, Columbia, the Amazon and the Gran Sabana. In 1985, he joined the Juneau Icefield Research Program that took him to mountainous terrain in Alaska and Canada that had become research sites to study glaciers and environmental changes.

In these years he finally learned how to make the compromises that are essential to living in organized society. He said he also managed to find peace within himself.

Leahy is a professor emeritus in the ECU Department of Geography and Planning. He is co-author of Venezuela: Search for a Middle Ground, published by Van Nostrand in 1969.


He lives in Issaquah, Wash., at the foothills of the Cascades and near Seattle.

Trustees Agree on Park

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service hours and additional routes. The cost of a mid-range permit, now at $120 per year, will go to $144 a year. The most expensive permit will be $288 a year. Currently spaces in private lots sell for $360 annually.

Retired faculty members will receive free permits for parking in B zones, which will be adjacent to but not in core areas.

The trustees also endorsed a $54 yearly increase in student fees to take effect for the 2003-04 school year. The fee increases, which were proposed for a number of areas including student health, student media, education technology and athletics, will now go to the University of North Carolina Board of Governors for final approval.

The $54 increase represents a 4.63 percent increase from the current total of $1,167. The new annual total under the proposal would be $1,221.

Student fee proposals were developed by university administrators in consultation with leaders from the Student Government Association.

Tuition rates for 2003-04 will be set next year by the North Carolina General Assembly.

In Memoriam

J.B. Sasser, father of Kaye Everett (University Unions) and the father-in-law of Bill Everett (Facilities Services), died Dec. 3.

Ralph Ingersoll, retired associate dean of medicine, Brody School of Medicine, died Dec. 13.

East Carolina University