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VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY LECTURE SERIES DRAWS FULL HOUSE THIRD PRESENTATION SET FOR FEBRUARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greenville – During the second lecture in its inaugural 2007-2008 year, the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series brought a full house to Wright Auditorium and the East Carolina University campus.

More than 700 ECU students, 400 faculty and 300 community members attended the lecture “Why Our Origins Matter,” on October 10, presented by Dr. Richard Leakey, professor of anthropology at Stony Brook University.

“This was a fantastic turnout,” said John Tucker, director of the lecture series.

Leakey is well known for his work in early human origins and has contributed to unearthing more than 200 fossils, including “Turkana Boy,” a 1.6 million-year-old *Homo erectus* skeleton.

On February 21, 2008, the college hopes to continue to draw a crowd with the Sallie Southall Cotton Lecture, dedicated to advancing women’s studies. This is the third lecture in the Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series.

Dr. Lisa Norling, associate professor of history at the University of Minnesota, will present “Captain Ahab Had a Wife” at 7 p.m. in Wright Auditorium.

Titled for her prizewinning book, Norling examines gender dynamics in the American whaling industry during the 18th and 19th centuries. Norling’s research shows how the growth of the whaling industry and restructuring of life at sea and onshore reflected and reinforced evolving concepts about sexual difference, love and marriage.

“As U.S. history appropriately incorporates international and comparative perspectives, we are beginning to recognize the significance of the sailors and ships that linked America and the rest of the world,” said Norling.

The Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series is made possible through generous contributions from the Dean’s Advancement Council of the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the East Carolina Alumni Association and additional friends and supporters of the college.

For more information, contact Tucker at tuckerjo@ecu.edu or (252) 328-1028. Additional information also is available on the web at www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/harriot/voyageslectures/.

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