FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ECU Professor Emeritus Presented with Collection of Essays Published in his Honor

GREENVILLE, N.C. (April 9, 2014) — A former professor from East Carolina University was presented recently with a book of Neo-Latin and humanities essays published in his honor. Dr. Charles E. Fantazzi, Thomas Harriot Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus of Classics and Great Books within the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, was presented with “Neo-Latin and the Humanities Essays in Honour of Charles E. Fantazzi,” at the Renaissance Society of America Conference in New York City, March 28.

The collection of essays, contributed by various academics across the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Europe, were co-edited by Dr. Jonathan Reid, ECU associate professor of Renaissance and Reformation History. The essays resulted from a two-day international symposium on Neo-Latin and the Humanities, which was held in honor of Fantazzi at ECU in February 2011.

“The event was a smashing celebration of Charles and the riches of contemporary Neo-Latin and humanities research,” said Reid. “The papers were excellent. So much so that after the conference, although it had not been the original plan, two presenters, Tim Kircher and Luc Deitz, and I solicited these papers and others from Charles’s colleagues who were not able to attend, to form a festschrift. The result is solid contribution to the field of Neo-Latin studies and a durable mark of the esteem of his colleagues at ECU and across North America and Europe.”

Marc Laureys, of the Universität Bonn in Germany, writes, “This volume is a fitting tribute to the scholarship of Charles Fantazzi. Its eleven excellent articles by renowned scholars in the filed of Neo-Latin philosophy, Renaissance humanism and the history of early modern learning are of extraordinary quality and break new ground in a variety of ways.”

Fantazzi came to ECU in 1998 as The David Julian and Virginia Suther Whichard Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, after retiring from the University of Windsor in 1995, where he served as chair of the Department of Classics (1973-79), chair of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages (1979-82) and was honored as University Professor (1994). During his time at ECU, Fantazzi taught courses in Great Books; Greek and Latin literature; Italian; Italian literature of the Renaissance; Latin literature; and Medieval Latin, before retiring in August 2011.

“Charles is a cheery and arrestingly amiable man, who wears his tremendous learning very lightly, has a ready laugh and is ever eager to help colleagues with difficult passage in Latin, Greek, Italian, French, Spanish and more,” said Reid. “His enthusiasm for everything from Dante’s poetics and Renaissance letters to classical music and the ins and outs (and scandals) of modern Italian politics is infectious.”
For additional information, contact Reid at 252-328-2558 or reidj@ecu.edu.

Photo Note: photo provided by Nanyoung Kim, ECU associate professor of art.

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