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### *Progress Notes*

By the time you read this note, Leo Jenkins Cancer Services will have become a reality. This is the new joint venture between the Brody School of Medicine's ECU Physicians and Pitt County Memorial Hospital for cancer care. The contracts were all signed by Thursday, June 9 and the new corporation went live early on Saturday, June 11th. Dr. Peter Kragel is the Director of LJCS and Ms. Michele Miller is the Senior Administrator.

This project took approximately two years to create. The leadership and commitment of Dean Paul Cunningham and President Steve Lawler provided an essential foundation for the work. Physicians like Ernie Larkin, Adam Asch, Manny Zervos, Jon Moran, Julian Rosenman, and many others brought their wisdom and their enthusiasm for providing outstanding patient care to the project. Leaders such as Leslie Corbett, Anthony Bartholomew, Martha Dartt, Ruth Parish, Frank Evans, Cheryl Marsh, and many others were contributing to the process every day. At the core of the creative energy were Brian Jowers, Peter Kragel, and essential leaders from the Hospital like Kathy Barger and Todd Hickey. Donna Payne and Jon McGough are the two University Attorneys whose contributions were essential.

Leo Jenkins Cancer Services combines the expertise, and dedication of ECU Physicians and PCMH to provide the best possible care for cancer patients locally and across the region. Some have said it was done "just because of the money." The real truth is that while we will gain some advantages by pooling the combined resources of ECUP and the Hospital, the real benefit lies in connecting the experience, the compassion, and the energy of all of our physicians, nurses, clinical staff, and support staff in the outpatient and inpatient settings to collaborate on the best care of our patients.

This project is also deeply significant in that it demonstrates again the great power and opportunity that ECUP has in partnering with PCMH and University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina. Just as the histories of our organizations have been extensively intertwined, our futures are integrally linked. Partnering with the Hospital or UHS provides all the players with the best opening for future success. Each of you reading this column are a key component of that work. Your contributions are essential for our success. Your contributions are greatly valued. Thanks for all that you do to assure the success of ECU Physicians.

*Nicholas Benson, MD, MBA  
Medical Director, ECU Physicians  
Vice Dean*

### *ECU Physicians Staff Attend the Second Annual MacAttack Luncheon*



In appreciation for being a sponsor, staff from various areas within ECU Physicians at the Brody School of Medicine were invited to attend the Second Annual MacAttack Luncheon. The luncheon was hosted by the Junior Women's Association and Greenville Area Property Managers on Wednesday, June 1, 2011 from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM at the Murphy Center.

In conjunction with the luncheon, there was a second annual MacAttack Golf Tournament held on June 3rd, 2011. The tournament benefited the Ronald McDonald House, which provides a temporary home away from home for families of seriously ill or injured children receiving treatment from area medical facilities.

*From left to right:  
Martha Dartt, Beverly DeWitt, Beatrice White, Mary Thompson, Ruffin McNeill, Kim Holley, Cindy Reaves, Charlotte Price and Lisa Graepel*

## Helene Reilly Named Top Nurse at BSOM



Helene Reilly

A cardiovascular nurse has been named the best in her field for 2011 at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and its medical group practice, ECU Physicians.

Helene Reilly, a family nurse practitioner in the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, is the 2011 ECU Physicians Nurse of the Year. She has worked at ECU for eight years and has been a nurse for 39 years.

Reilly works in the cardiovascular imaging unit at the East Carolina Heart Institute at ECU, where she sees patients, supervises cardiac stress testing and manages other nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

"It's very humbling but it's also nice to be honored for something I love so much," Reilly said of receiving the recognition. "I can never see myself retiring because I enjoy my job and I enjoy my patients."

She is a native of New York and received her nursing diploma from St. John's Hospital and her bachelor's degree at Mercy College in New York and her master's degree at ECU.

"Helene is one of the most dedicated, thorough and accurate individuals I have ever worked with," Paula Barnhill, imaging manager at the heart institute, wrote in a nomination letter for Reilly. She described Reilly as a patient advocate who "exhibits many of the qualities that are essential for great leaders in health care."

In addition to her nursing duties, Reilly spoke at this year's Wear Red for Women event at ECU. She also teaches electrocardiogram classes to family nurse practitioner and physician assistant students at ECU and is an advanced cardiac life support instructor.

Reilly said she encourages new nurses to never stop learning, enjoy and listen to their patients, don't be afraid to ask questions and to find a mentor.

She also sets a healthful lifestyle example for coworkers and patients, having completed seven half-marathons in the past two years. At first, she just wanted to finish, but now she wants to better her previous time in each event.

"It's about like nursing," she said of distance running. "People are supportive. Even if you're the last person, they still cheer you on."

Reilly has three children and five grandchildren. In 2003, Reilly was named one of the state's Great 100 Nurses.

This is the second year in a row a nurse from cardiovascular sciences has received the award. Four other nurses were also finalists for the award, which was announced at a banquet in May.

**ECU PHYSICIANS**  
*Nurse of the Year*  
**2011 Nominees**

 <b>Richard Lambert</b> Nurse Manager Department of Cardiovascular Sciences	 <b>Natalie McKeel</b> Nurse Manager Department of Family Medicine	 <b>Angela Merritt</b> Nurse Specialist Department of Psychiatric Medicine	 <b>Christina Moser</b> Nurse Manager Department of Surgery	 <b>Helene Reilly</b> Family Nurse Practitioner Department of Cardiovascular Sciences
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## *Alumna, Former Dean Recognized in the College of Nursing*



*Dr. Phyllis Horns. Photo by Cliff Hollis, ECU News Services*

Dr. Phyllis Horns has been a student, faculty member, department chair and dean of the East Carolina University College of Nursing.

Recently, she added something else to her ECU affiliation. Horns received the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award in the College of Nursing.

“It’s a huge honor, very special and something I will treasure for the rest of my career. It means an awful lot,” said Horns, vice chancellor of health sciences for ECU.

Dr. Sylvia Brown, dean of the College of Nursing, said it is fitting that the college honor Horns in a meaningful way during the 50th anniversary of nursing education at ECU.

“The college achieved many significant milestones during her 19-year tenure as dean,” Brown said. “Dr. Horns is an exemplary leader who has helped our College of Nursing build a legacy of excellence over its 50-year history.”

Over the past two decades, enrollment increased from 500 to more than 1,100 students. Degree offerings expanded, prompted by the state’s health and workforces needs. The college became a national leader in distance education and technology integration, accommodating working nurses in rural areas wanting advanced degrees. A doctoral degree was initiated along with the East Carolina Center for Nursing Leadership.

The award was presented during the college’s anniversary gala on April 9 at Rock Springs in Greenville.

Horns is the longest serving dean in the history of the college as well as an eastern North Carolina native and nursing alumna. She first joined the ECU nursing faculty in 1970 as an instructor of parent-child nursing and became an associate professor before joining the graduate nursing faculty at the University of Alabama in Birmingham in 1979. She returned to ECU in 1988 as professor and chair of parent-child nursing and was selected dean following a national search.

“It certainly gave me some good leadership training and the opportunity to work with colleagues across the campus,” Horns said. “We have some of the finest faculty who has their eye on the ball relative to excellence.”

Now as vice chancellor of health sciences, Horns oversees a division that comprises the Brody School of Medicine, the College of Nursing, the College of Allied Health Sciences, the School of Dental Medicine, the East Carolina Heart Institute and Laupus Health Sciences Library.

She is busy preparing for the first class of dental school students who will arrive this fall and the expected completion of the dental school building in 2012.

“That has been a major undertaking for this division and all of ECU,” Horns said. “It will be a real hallmark.”

In addition, there is need to move forward with expansion of medical education that would allow more students to enroll in the Brody School of Medicine. “We were moving along well when the economic crisis hit,” Horns said. “We have begun to strategize how to move forward. The needs for medical care are not going away. They are only growing. The number of new providers is not keeping pace with retirements.”

The new family medicine center is almost complete and physicians should begin seeing patients there in July. “It will be a huge asset to our education and clinical practice. It is a welcoming, desirable place for patients and for growth of primary care,” Horns said.

Other initiatives include executing the provisions of the Affordable Care Act and readdressing how the university is attending to public health issues in eastern North Carolina.

Horns served as interim vice chancellor of health sciences in 2001-2002, and again in 2006 until her permanent appointment in 2009. She also served as interim dean for the Brody School of Medicine.

Horns received her doctorate in nursing in 1980 from the UAB School of Nursing, where she was named one of 60 Visionary Leaders last year.

## *Word to the Wise*

*“A healthy body is a guest chamber for the soul; a sick body is a prison.”*

*- Francis Bacon*

## Health Information System/Services Updates

The remaining ECU departments are gearing up for the implementation of HealthSpan. OB/GYN, Psychiatry, Surgery, Family Medicine and Pediatrics will be part of the HealthSpan implementation. Consultants are here and beginning to gather data for the build. We will be meeting with clinical leadership in each department soon. Please think of staff who can serve in the role of super user in these departments. They will serve a vital role in the implementation and roll out of HealthSpan. This is roughly a 24 month project. Please contact Mary Thompson or Shelby Gardner in Health Information if you have questions.

If you are currently working in a “non-live” HealthSpan Clinic and need to request “View Only” access please contact Pam Adams or Tracy Carawan at 744-2030, option #2. You will be enrolled in the HealthSpan Prerequisite Training thru Blackboard and this **must** be completed prior to access being granted.

If you have questions regarding Centricity or need a password reset please call 744-2030, option #2. If you have questions regarding HealthSpan and/or need password resets please call the ECU Helpdesk at 328-9866. If you have questions, concerns or comments regarding article submission please contact Tracy Carawan, Staff Development at 744-1793.

## Garland Shirt Factory Wellness Fair



**Send newsletter submissions to:**

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