

Chalkdust

the official newsletter of the ECU Teaching Fellows and Maynard Scholars

Fall 2006 Features

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Greetings from the Office

The 2006-2007 academic year has started off with a boom (that's pirate lingo for "bang"). We welcomed 57 Teaching Fellows and 9 Maynard Scholars for a freshmen class high of 66. The Maynard Scholar program is an exciting new addition to the ECU Teaching Fellows program. James Maynard, co-founder of Golden Corral Restaurants, and wife Connie donated \$1 million to the College of Education. Their request was for the funds to be used as scholarships, modeled off of the N.C. Teaching Fellows Scholarship, for students in eastern North Carolina. With the exception of the first year which has nine students, ECU will welcome 10 Maynard Scholars every year. Maynard Scholars and Teaching Fellows will reside in the same dorm and participate in all activities with the exception of state funded activities. Welcome Maynard Scholars!

Speaking of the freshmen residence hall, our freshmen class now resides in Umstead Hall along with Honors, EC Scholars, and International Students. This new living and learning community provides many opportunities for all students to interact in a culturally enriched environment.

On a more somber note, Megan Bostic's

(junior) mom has been diagnosed with ALS. Teaching Fellows and Maynard Scholars joined together to raise money to meet Megan's \$1,000 goal. Additionally, more than 50 students joined together to "March for Megan's Mom" at the Down East Walk to D'Feet ALS walk on September 30th at the Greenville Town Common. What an honor to walk for Megan and her mom!

The Student Activities and other committees are actively preparing for 2006 Homecoming – How the Pirates Won the Wild West! We look forward to more trophies in the float, banner, and skit competitions. We look forward to seeing many alumni at Homecoming and in the future.

Again, 2006-2007, is going to be a great year for our Teaching Fellows and Maynard Scholars. If you are in the Greenville area, please stop by and see us.

- Mary Beth Corbin, Director

Welcome, Maynard Scholars!

On May 31, 2006, James and Connie Maynard (co-founders of Golden Corral restaurants) established the Maynard Scholarship, which will be directed in conjunction with the East Carolina Teaching Fellows Program. Effective from the current 2006-2007 academic year, up to ten students will be awarded the scholarship – valued at \$20,000 over four

East Carolina's Teaching Fellows Program welcomes the Maynard Scholars and congratulates all of them on their prestigious accomplishments.

"Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we fear less." – Madam Curie

years. The Maynard Scholarship, modeled after the Teaching Fellows programs, will require scholars to participate in Teaching Fellows activities and seminars, providing the Maynard Scholars with the same invaluable learning and teaching opportunities.

The following nine students (with their intended majors in parentheses) comprise the initial class of Maynard Scholars: Jessica Nicole Casey (special education), Amber Olivia Evans (elementary education), Megan Christine Fields (science education), Mary Hannah Frazelle (elementary education), Katherine Lee Hardison (math education), Mara Lynn James (art education), Sarah Kathryn Langston (business education), Mandy Denise Nichols (English education), and Mary Catherine Roberts (elementary education).

East Carolina's Teaching Fellows Program welcomes the Maynard Scholars and congratulates all of them for their prestigious accomplishments. Additionally, the Maynard family should be commended for their generous commitment to assisting future teachers with their education. This symbiotic relationship will be fruitful for Teaching Fellows, Maynard Scholars, and for North Carolina's public education program for many years to come.

- Daniel Barnes

This Year's Grad Assistants

This year the Teaching Fellows office is proud to have two wonderful grad assistants, Carmen Pack and Kurt Garner. Carmen is new to the office and Kurt is returning for a second year. We all know them for all their hard work organizing the sophomore and

junior tutoring placements, but here's a little something you may not know.

Carmen Pack, a native of Pitt County and recent ECU Teaching Fellow graduate, received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and obtained a Certificate in Business and Technical Writing. Carmen's love for teaching came from a middle school history teacher who taught her that teaching should be fun and entertaining. She learned to listen to her students and truly get to know them individually. After graduation, Carmen decided she wasn't ready for the real world, so she chose to get her Master's in Reading Education. Grad school classes and three jobs keep Carmen pretty busy, but whenever she has down time she likes to read, hang out with friends, and play with her puppy. Her favorite color is red, and when asked what her favorite food is, she replied, "Good food." In other words, she doesn't care what kind of food it is, as long as it's good.

Kurt Garner, originally from Goldsboro, is also an ECU Teaching Fellow graduate. In May 2005 he graduated first in his department with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Marketing Education. His mother inspired him to pursue teaching because she, an elementary teacher, had such an enthusiasm for teaching and a love for helping people. Kurt is currently in the Business Education Master's degree program with his twin brother, who was also a Teaching Fellow majoring in Business Marketing Education. Kurt decided to attend grad school because he desired to gain a better understanding of his content area and felt it was a great opportunity to form closer relationships with professors and peers. When not working or in class, Kurt enjoys traveling, cooking, landscaping, hiking, canoeing, and camping. He loves playing with his Shetland sheepdog, Luigi (named after the Nintendo characters

*"It was so encouraging to see so many familiar Teaching Fellow and Maynard Scholar faces at the walk. I was really touched by everyone's support."
- Megan Bostic, on the ALS Walk turnout*

Mario and Luigi). His favorite color is blue, and he enjoys Italian food that his grandmother cooks.

Carmen and Kurt are two amazing grad assistants who are truly assets to the Teaching Fellows office. They would love for you to stop by the office so they can get to know you better. You can find Carmen there on Tuesdays and Thursdays, while Kurt will be there Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. While you're there, be sure to thank them for all the hard work they do. I'll end with this quote by Madam Curie that Kurt's great aunt loved to say. "Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we fear less."

- Amber Phillips

Fellows Marching for Megan's Mom

On September 30th, about fifty Teaching Fellows and friends gathered at the Greenville Town Common to march in the Down East Walk to D'Feet ALS in support Megan Bostic, a junior ECU Fellow, and her mother. Megan's mother was diagnosed with ALS, which is also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. The walk was 3.1 miles long. Teaching Fellows, Maynard Scholars, and family and friends sported light blue t-shirts in honor of Megan's mother's favorite color. Between the four classes, the ECU Fellows and Scholars raised enough money to reach Megan's goal of \$1000.

- Talia King and Megan Bostic

Senior Summer Summary

Summer of 2006 was an important one for the ECU Senior Teaching Fellows. We watched proudly as the class before us

walked across the stage at graduation and realized with nervousness and excitement that we would be in their shoes in exactly one year.

The two main objectives for the summer were to complete both Senior Orientation and Senior Conference. While some Fellows completed their Orientation over Spring Break, others had to take care of it at different times over the summer. During Orientation we were able to get an inside look at the school system and the district we were in. New Hanover County, for instance, treated the Fellows to trips to museums, the aquarium, and even a morning out on a party boat. This was the perfect opportunity to make great connections with administrative personnel and network with other Fellows from across the state. Since everyone was able to choose which county they visited, the experience was more individualized and personal for everyone.

Senior Conference was the last state required summer experience. Held once again at UNC-Charlotte, the seniors walked into a very déjà vu experience. Usually, your Junior Conference and Senior Conference are held in different locations, since campuses trade off every year. For various reasons, it was held at UNC-C two years in a row. So we already felt familiar with the campus and knew what to expect from the dining hall, which was an added bonus. Fellows had the opportunity to sign up for various breakout sessions, so depending on your personal interests, you could attend appropriate sessions. This was an excellent way of breaking up the routine of sitting in long sessions with hundreds of Fellows. The highlight of the weekend was definitely hearing Ron Clark, a former ECU Teaching Fellow speak on Saturday night. As ECU Fellows, we were especially proud of Mr. Clark and his accomplishments and we

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took great pride in our school and campus program. Mr. Clark's speech was very inspiring and quite comical; particularly because we all knew of the Dunkin Donuts he referred to in his story. It was also nice to get a sneak peek at his TV-movie that came out a few weeks after Conference.

The summer of 2006 was bittersweet, for most of us it was our last official summer as undergrads. While some of us have plans to attend graduate school next year, others are diving right into the field and pursuing the dream of becoming a teacher.

- Ashleigh Phillips

Juniors: Conferences and Enrichment

As Teaching Fellows, ECU's Juniors had an eventful summer. All of the Teaching Fellows participated in the Junior Conference, a weekend event held at UNC-Charlotte. The conference focused on the aspect of diversity and how it will affect teaching in today's extremely diverse public schools. The Fellows enjoyed seeing their friends made on the Discovery Trip the end of their freshmen year. During the Conference, Fellows were broken up into smaller groups and had lively discussions involving race, sexual orientation, religion, and economic status, just to name a few. These smaller groups were called "Homegroups." Not only did the Fellows enjoy the small group discussions, but they also participated in sessions involving all of North Carolina's Junior Teaching Fellows. The entire conference was beneficial in helping the Teaching Fellows realize what it means to live and teach in a diverse world.

The activities did not end there for Junior

Teaching Fellows. The summer was also a time when many completed their Junior Enrichment. The Fellows got to choose their own activity, which ranged from Study Abroad, Special Olympics, to Camp Friendship. For example some ECU Teaching Fellows went to Costa Rica, some relaxed in a mountain relaxation seminar, while others were counselors at a camp for children with cancer. Whatever the Fellows did for their Junior Enrichment, they all enjoyed their activity.

As the school year is underway, the Junior Teaching Fellows are activity busy with their classes. As the Fellows get closer to graduation, their classes are getting harder. In addition to their classes, Junior Teaching Fellows participate in a tutoring program set up by the Teaching Fellows program. Each student is placed in a grade and subject appropriate area to tutor and get experience in teaching. The Fellows are required to tutor one hour a week.

The school year will fly by as usual, and soon the Junior Fellows will be the Senior Fellows and one more year closer to North Carolina's finest teachers.

- Karlee Fee

Sophomores: Discovering Discovery

This summer the rising sophomore class took a trip around the state of North Carolina on "Discovery." We stayed at five different college campuses including ECU. We traveled as far east as Nags Head and as far west as Haysville. We visited elementary schools, middle schools, high schools and day cares. We visited local businesses including a printing press, a vineyard, a pig butcher, and museums, plus so much more! We had a talent show including several of our own ECU Fellows where dance, singing, drama and other rare abilities were displayed. Even more im-

Each bus was filled with enthusiasm and became an inseparable family. We felt as if we had known the Fellows from the other campuses forever.

portant than all of these activities, as exciting as they were, we also made friends. We came in contact with Fellows from across the state of NC with countless different backgrounds, beliefs and interests. Each bus was filled with enthusiasm and became an inseparable family. We felt as if we had known the fellows from the other campuses forever. They became some of our closest friends and I know many of us still talk to our wonderful "new" friends. We also became closer and filled with pride for our dear old East Carolina.

Discovery was more than just a trip. It was a turning point in our lives and in the perspective we hold of the things life deals our way.

During the school year, we will tutor one hour a week in local non-profit agencies, working primarily with at-risk children. It's an exciting but heavy responsibility, especially as we juggle classes and look forward to applying for Upper Division in the spring.

- Marina Bonner

Freshmen: Finding Our Way

This year the freshman class is off to a great start. During the summer, the entire group of fellows went to the Columbia 4 H Center. Here the fellows spent two days with each other, learning how to canoe and kayak, along with creating friendships. While the fellows were breaking the ice, they underwent a course for team building with various activities that the center provided. It was a great success for the fellows to finally get together and bond. On the way to the trip, several people were asleep and stayed to themselves, but on the way back the bus was a bundle of talk.

Currently, the Freshman are benefiting

from the first Teaching Fellows and Maynard Scholars section of the COAD 1000 class. This class is developed to help students become organized and pretty much get a handle on the transition between college and high school. This is the first year it has been done, so everyone is still trying to feel it out. The Fellows were split into two sections, and right now it seems to be going well. Having the section as a class is an ideal way to make sure the freshman become accustomed to the college way of life. It puts you in a class with Ms. Corbin and Ms. Parrish, twice a week, so you can keep in touch with the office as well as with the entire freshmen class. Recently the class was required to attend a seminar given on campus by Jane Elliot where she discussed the distribution of power by discrimination. This was a great seminar that opened the eyes of many students to the level of discrimination in the classroom. She touched every sort of discrimination, from geographic to height.

Other than that, the freshman are getting acquainted with their new homes. It is absolutely great to see the amount of potential in my other fellows. Good times are along the way for East Carolina, are you ready though?

- Dannie Gray

About the Chalkdust

The *Chalkdust* is written, designed, and edited by members of the Communications Committee, one of the six student-led committees that comprise the ECU Teaching Fellows and Maynard Scholars programs.

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Marina Bonner, Sophomore
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Dannie Gray, Freshman
Talia King, Junior



Left: The ECU Teaching Fellows team for the ALS Walk, "Marching for Megan's Mom."

Below: The first class of Maynard Scholars enjoyed a dinner with their benefactors, Mr. and Mrs. James Maynard.

Bottom left: This year's freshmen Teaching Fellows and Maynard Scholars enjoy an afternoon out on the sound as part of their Freshman Orientation retreat at the Eastern 4-H Center.



Bottom right: This year's senior class pose out in the sun after their final General Meeting at the beginning of the school year.



Alumni Corner

We look forward to bringing you an expanded "Alumni Corner" in the spring. In the meantime, if you have any updates, and/or accomplishments—personal or professional—please send them to parishm@ecu.edu and we will feature them in our spring newsletter.

We hope to see many of you at Homecoming and throughout the year!