

NEWS RELEASE

East Carolina University News Services

For immediate release

Contact: Dawn Wainwright, wainwrightd@ecu.edu

Telephone: (252) 328-4090

ECU's Joyner Library to mark Banned Books Week

GREENVILLE, N.C. (September 25, 2009) —East Carolina University's Joyner Library will mark Banned Books Week on Tuesday, Sept.29, at 7:00 pm in the Teaching Resources Center with a lecture.

Banned Books Week is an annual event held the last week in September that celebrates our freedom to read and the importance of the First Amendment.

Dr. John Harer, a professor in the ECU College of Education, Department of Library Science, will present the lecture, "Banned in the USA: Stories for Banned Books Week." Harer holds a doctorate in Educational Administration from Texas A&M University and a master's degree in Library Science from Clarion University. He is the author of "Intellectual Freedom: A Reference Handbook", published by ABC-Clio and "Censorship of Expression in the 1980s: A Statistical Survey," published by Greenwood Press. He is currently the chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the North Carolina Library Association and a former member of the American Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee.

"Faculty and staff in Joyner Library are committed to promoting intellectual freedom and will strive to provide collections and resources that present all points of view on current and historical issues," said Larry Boyer, dean of Academic Library and Learning Resources at ECU.

Banned Books Week is sponsored by the American Booksellers Association; American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression; the American Library Association; American Society of Journalists and Authors; Association of American Publishers; and the National Association of College Stores. It is endorsed by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

This free program is open to the ECU community and the general public. No registration is required.