**Student Affairs Values - Excellence - Transfer Student Conference**

East Carolina University, Student Affairs and the Office of Student Transitions hosted a statewide conference regarding best practices for meeting the needs of transfer students on Sept. 19 at the Hilton Greenville. The event was developed in collaboration with University of North Carolina General Administration.

The decision to hold the conference arose from an increase in transfer student population paired with a need to better understand the diverse population and needs of transfer students.

Dr. Mark Allen Poisel, associate provost for Student Success at Pace University in New York was the keynote speaker. Poisel serves on the boards of directors for the National Resource Center for First-Year Experience and Students in Transition and the Association for the Study of Transfer Students. Additional speakers included Chancellor Steve Ballard, Vice Chancellor Virginia Hardy and leaders from UNC General Administration and the North Carolina Community College system.

Congratulations to Angela Marshall and the Office of Student Transitions for this successful event, which will return to ECU in 2014.

**CSLE welcomes Franklin McCain for LEAD Week**

The Center for Student Leadership and Engagement hosted Dr. Franklin McCain, one of the Greensboro four, as a finale to 2012 LEAD Week. McCain led the Greensboro Woolworth’s sit-ins for civil rights in 1960. At ECU, he met with students, faculty, staff and senior administration to talk about making sure we all leave our campus, our community and the planet in a better place then when we found it.

McCain, only 17 years old at the time of the sit-ins, encouraged his audiences not to stereotype people of any race, gender or sex. He shared advice and life lessons such as “get to know people before concluding what they are” and “if there is something you feel compelled to do, don’t wait for the masses, take action.”

Check out a full story Crystal Baity from News Services in the ECU Today.

**Say goodbye to OSTFYP - Hello to OST**

Effective July 1, 2012, the Office of Student Transitions and First-Year Programs was renamed the Office of Student Transitions. This office includes First-Year Experiences, Transfer Students, Non-Traditional Populations (Student Veterans, First Generation Students), and The Career Center. The office seeks to understand and enrich the experiences of the first-year student at ECU. It will continue to offer programs, services and opportunities for students and educators interested in the college student experience and the innovative pedagogies impacting the undergraduate student.

The Office of Student Transitions, the Division of Student Affairs and East Carolina University continue to shine a brighter spotlight on our first-year experiences. The commitment to our first year students was strengthened through visits to peer campuses as well as the data produced from the Foundations of Excellence self-study in conjunction with the John Gardner Institute. (Read the full story here).
Start of the semester - slammed with great events

- The 2\textsuperscript{nd} annual NRC Beach Festival was a great success. Despite having to move the event back one week due to severe weather, hundreds of students poured into the North Recreation Complex to ride the Zip Line, water inflatables, kayaks, and canoes. We all know that students love some free food, and there was plenty to offer including hot dogs, chips and Coke beverages, but also a lot of fresh fruit and vegetables. Several of the club sports teams were located at NRC as part of the fun and games. The more activities students participated in, the better the prizes they won. The prizes included t-shirts, Beach Fest drinking glasses, sunglasses and more. Click here to view more than 40 photos from the event.

- Soap Box Derby racing returned to ECU’s campus in 2012. The Residence Hall Association hosted the Pirate 500 on College Hill in September. With the streets blocked off, students poured into their racing derby cars and roared down the hill. While only half the cars survived the days activities, all the drivers and spectators walked away unharmed but not without t-shirts, prizes and smiles on their faces. Check out the video recap or the photo gallery to see the fun.

- King and Queen of the Halls hit a major milestone in 2012. The tradition, which pits students from the residence halls against each other in fun and competitive activities, celebrated its 25\textsuperscript{th} anniversary. The students marched onto the field at the bottom of College Hill with banners, specialized shirts, chants, noise and lots of excitement. Games included relay races, slip and slides, corn hole, putt-putt, football toss, basketball and, of course, tug of war. Missed the fun?? Here are more than 250 photos from this great ECU tradition.

- Festival of Lanterns lights up the ECU skies. Asian cuisine and cultural activities highlighted the Festival of Lanterns at East Carolina University Sept. 26. Activities included a launch of sky lanterns to promote prosperity, ward off bad spirits and bring good luck for the new school year. Floating water lanterns were available for those who wanted to make a wish, along with displays of artifacts and information on study abroad opportunities. The event was open to ECU students, faculty and staff. It was sponsored by the Student Activities Board in collaboration with the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, the Asian Student Association, the Asian Studies Program and Japanese language classes.

- Thousands of parents and families invaded Greenville for ECU’s Family Weekend. And more than 1,000 of those families participated in a pair of brand new SA initiatives. On Friday Sept. 28\textsuperscript{th}, parents and their students mingled with ECU faculty at the inaugural Family/Family Jazz Mixer. Chancellor and Mrs. Ballard, Greenville mayor and former SGA president Allen Thomas as well as several faculty members talked with students and families while the ECU Jazz Ensemble entertained. The next day was a day filled with rain and storms. However, the skies cleared long enough for the Family Weekend Tailgate, which was held at the North Rec Complex for the first time ever. Families listened to music, kayaked on Lake Mize, played corn hole and then rode ECU Transit buses to and from the football game. This was the largest participation for Family Weekend events.

Student Affairs Intern

Shelly Hoover-Plonk is joining our division for the fall of 2012 to complete an internship for her doctoral program in Higher Education here at ECU. Her interest area and career aspiration is in student affairs; she is hoping to learn all she can about our division by seeing it from the inside. She will be attending our executive council and leadership team meetings and any other engagement that will give her insights to the inner workings of our division. Shelly will be shadowing members of the EC as well as select others in the division. Please do all you can to make Shelly feel welcome in Student Affairs.
SA Making Headlines

SA Marketing, Campus 31 Productions and the ECU Police department collaborated to create a series of crime prevention videos. The subject of the videos is associated with the largest type of crimes occurring on campus, larcenies. These videos, which involved students as the actors, show a variety of scenarios where students might leave themselves open to be a target for theft and ways to protect your property such as bikes, books, computers, residence hall rooms and your vehicle. A fifth video looks at how people who witness larcenies should contact the police department and report these crimes. The crime prevention videos caught the attention of WCTI-TV 12. Cara Friez and Lt. Amy Davis were featured in the news story. You can view the Channel 12 video story here and the full list of the crime prevention videos produced by SA Marketing and Campus 31 Productions can be seen here.

Rachelle Chapman - Professional Development Speaker

ECU alumna Rachelle Chapman returned to campus Sept. 18 to present, “The Glass is Half Full – Drink Up!” as a part of the SA Professional Development Continuing Career Development Committee.

Chapman, a 2008 ECU graduate in recreation and leisure studies, was paralyzed in May 2010 following an accident at her bachelorette party. Her response to the life-altering challenges that followed has been chronicled nationally on the Today Show, CNN and Inside Edition. After a cookout with her bridesmaids, the group started playing around near the pool. “It was just spontaneous horseplay,” said Chapman, former dance and aerobics instructor. “My friend pushed me into the pool…and I landed wrong. I suffered a spinal cord injury and paralysis from the chest down.”

Chapman’s quest to remain independent has inspired supporters across the country. Only days after leaving the hospital and while still wearing a neck brace, Chapman joined and attended practice for the Raleigh Sidewinders Wheelchair Rugby team. Fourteen months after the accident, she married Chris Chapman. A wedding company in Nevada paid for the wedding ceremony and honeymoon and Toyota Motor Sales USA, along with Braun Corp., gave the couple a new wheelchair accessible van.