Parentes of alumna lost to breast cancer shares her story

Parents of East Carolina University alumna Kim Sibbach, who died in April 2011 from breast cancer, spoke as part of Breast Cancer Awareness month Oct. 15 in Hendrix Theatre on campus. Darryl and Vicki Nester discussed cancer awareness, the importance of early detection and the fears associated with living with cancer to more than 75 faculty, staff and students.

Kim Sibbach was diagnosed with Stage 4 Breast Cancer in 2008 while attending ECU. She put her studies on hold while undergoing chemotherapy, a mastectomy and other treatments, but returned to ECU in 2010 to complete her degree. By December 2010, the cancer had spread to Sibbach’s sternum, shoulders, ribs, hips and spine. Following that diagnosis, she wrote her experiences in a blog titled “I didn’t like the left one anyway.”

The Nesters shared their experiences from the moment they heard the diagnosis and throughout Sibbach’s constant fight for a cure. They hoped sharing the story would encourage the ECU community to get regular breast exams to help with early detection, to recognize the signs from their own bodies and realize they are not alone in their fight. This event was co-sponsored by ECU Campus Dining Services, Student Health Services and the Student Activities Board.

Student Affairs Personnel Updates

Since the July 1st restructuring of Student Affairs, there was a need to change/update some position titles (assistant director and higher) to make them more aligned and accurate. The titles below are all current:

- Bobby Woodward - Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Involvement & Leadership
- Mary Beth Corbin - Executive Director for Student Transitions.
- Bill McCartney - Associate Vice Chancellor for Campus Living
- Laura Sweet - Senior Associate Dean of Students
A Vivid Remembrance - Normandy survivor recounts horror, triumph of D-Day

On June 6, 1944, Dr. Harold Baumgarten was one of thousands of American soldiers who landed on the beach at Normandy in World War II. He was wounded five times in 32 hours during the D-Day invasion — three times sustaining life-threatening injuries.

As a survivor of that moment in history, film director Steven Spielberg sought him as a special adviser for the 1998 American film "Saving Private Ryan."

Oct. 24, the 87-year old Baumgarten visited East Carolina University as part of a special tribute the military. He talked with faculty, staff, students and members of the community and presented a lecture called “Saving Private Ryan: Fact or Fiction.” That film has defined the World War II experience for many too young to recall that global conflict. In Baumgarten’s lecture, he walked through the major scenes in the movie, describing what really happened versus cinematic enhancement. (READ FULL STORY HERE)

Baumgarten’s three-day visit to ECU’s campus was sponsored the Office of Student Transitions, Military Programs, Lifelong Learners Program, the Department of History and the Student Activities Board.

Civil Rights Activist/Author Bob Zellner is 1st speaker in LWCC New Horizons Lecture Series

East Carolina University and the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center welcomed civil rights activist Dr. Bob Zellner to campus on Oct. 25 for a special lecture in Hendrix Theatre. Zellner’s lecture was entitled “Wrong side of Murder Creek” which is also the title of his newly released book.

Zellner was the first speaker in the New Horizons Lecture Series sponsored by the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center (LWCC). The lecture series is designed to present a unique perspective, from a cultural awareness viewpoint, which will infuse a level of cultural competence to people inside and outside a specific cultural paradigm.

Zellner was the first white southerner to serve as field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and played a significant role in the civil rights movement throughout the 1960’s. In addition, Zellner’s father was a member of the Ku Klux Klan. (Click here to read the full story of Zellner’s visit)

SA Making Headlines and Winning Awards

ECU Transit featured on front page of the Daily Reflector

- A heavy smell of perfume and cologne hangs in the air as music — country or pop depending on the driver’s preference — plays softly through the speakers and young women put the finishing touches on their makeup. At 11:30 p.m., most riders on East Carolina University’s Pirate Express bus are heading to downtown Greenville, anticipating a night of drinking and partying with their friends. “We’re saving lives, let’s not candy-coat it,” ECU senior and Pirate Express driver Mark Poczontek said. (Read the full story on the Student Affairs Home Page)

ECU Campus Dining use of Biodiesel fuel helps Pitt County Schools – As Seen on WNCT-TV News

- Every wonder what happens to all the wasted cooking oil restaurants throw away? Now more than 100 local restaurants and East Carolina University are donating it to help Pitt County Schools save money. So far ECU has collected more than 700 gallons from its kitchens. This year the university partnered with “Green Circle NC” and placed 14 used cooking oil containers outside its dining halls. The university puts the used cooking oil in purple and gold containers everyday. "Green Circle" then picks up the oil and takes it a biodiesel plant in Wilson where it’s turned into gas for buses. (Read the full story on the Student Affairs Home Page)

ECU Sophomore wins TeenNick Award for Service – Nick Cannon surprise visit to Mendenhall for award

- Taylor Waters, 19, will be featured in this year’s TeenNick HALO Awards, scheduled to air on Nickelodeon on Nov. 19. The award recognizes teens who are “Helping and Leading Others” (HALO), according to network sources. She founded and is president of the Red Cross at East Carolina University student organization. Waters learned of the award after she agreed to be featured in a Nickelodeon segment about teen volunteers. Filming took place at ECU on Oct. 19, and in her hometown, Sanford. (Read the full story on ECU website)

Campus Living’s Brandon Thompson wins award – The North Carolina Housing Officers (NCHO) named Brandon Thompson the 2012 Outstanding New Professional Award winner. Congrats to Brandon!!!
NCAA Sportsmanship Award winner Mallory Holtman spoke on sportsmanship, character and leadership on Oct. 23. Holtman’s presentation “Because Nice Matters” was a part of the Student Affairs Professional Development programs. During her visit, Mallory spoke to more than 1,000 people over the course of the day including: SA session, EXSS class, RCLS classes, and a large group session at Wright Auditorium. ECU News Services, The East Carolinian and The Daily Reflector covered this event.

Mallory Holtman’s visit was a true collaborative effort between Student Affairs, Greek Life, SIL, Campus Rec and Wellness, Kinesiology, Dowdy Student Stores and the community.  

In November, the Student Affairs Continuing Career Development Committee is excited to announce the next two programs in our 2012-2013 series. Registration is now available on OneStop under the University Training tab.

- **Mr. Mark Dreibelbis**, special guest speaker for a program entitled, *Dealing with Difficulty People and Situations*, which will be held on Thursday, November 8th, 2012 from 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM in Mendenhall Student Center, Room 244.
- **Mr. DJ Gregory**, guest speaker for a program entitled *Reaching for a Dream* will be visiting ECU to speak on Thursday, November 15th, 2012 from 3:30 – 4:30 PM in Mendenhall Student Center, Great Rooms.

Creative Design for Student Affairs

- Campus Living is rolling out a special poster series this year with very specific messages surrounding going to class, sportsmanship, respect, and community service. ECU alumni were contacted to either provide or submit photos to be a part of the series, including Grammy winning artist Scott Avett (from the Avett Brothers), former SGA president Tremayne Smith, Miss North Carolina 2012 Arlie Honeycutt, and our own VC, Dr. Virginia Hardy. In fact, Scott Avett was reached while on a photo shoot in Alaska and the photo submitted is an exclusive for ECU audiences and can be seen no place else.

- Also, Bystander Intervention started as Thematic Programming project, now managed by Karen Clegg in Greek Life, more than a year ago and continues to evolve and grow. The first phase was to develop a passive campaign that provided a scenario to ECU students and asked them the question “Can you do that?” The point of the program is to empower the bystander to take action for the friends, family or even a stranger. The next phase was to include some information on a website for people who wanted to know what they could do and the website [http://www.ecu.edu/bystanderintervention](http://www.ecu.edu/bystanderintervention) was released. Now, it’s the final phase in the campaign, a poster series with a unique design look to grab students’ attention. Take a look at the final project designs.
More Successful Events in Student Affairs

Peace.Love.Pirates.Cure – The 5th Annual event was held October 3rd in the Student Rec Center. More than 500 people attended the four-hour event, which helped kick off Breast Cancer Awareness month at ECU. Nearly 400 participated in the survey with some amazing statistics:

- 96% reported they have an increased awareness of different types of cancer that affect college students.
- 97% reported they have an increased awareness of ways to reduce or eliminate risk for certain types of cancer.
- 97% reported they have an increased awareness of campus and community resources
- 77% reported they intend to make a health behavior change as a result of what they learned at the event. Responses included diet changes, paying attention to food dyes, quitting smoking, exercise more and stop going to the tanning bed.

Homecoming – A week’s worth of events included the Cannon Ball Dance, NHPC Step Show, Homecoming court voting, the Homecoming concert and parade and of course the football game. Mrs. Laura Marie Leary Elliott, the first African American student at ECU in 1962, was also recognized during the game as a part of the 50th Anniversary of Desegregation of ECU.

Midnight Madness – How could we leave out this great event? Please click here to see the full 130 photos from Midnight Madness including the dance, games, and lots of fun.