Congratulations to everyone in Student Affairs who made such a large contribution to the planning, conceptualization, design, building, and unveiling of East Carolina University’s Student Memorial Garden. The ceremony was emotional and the unveiling was breathtaking. The appreciation from families of children who died while at ECU, as well as from our chancellor, Board of Trustees, and other guests, continues to pour in.

A special thanks to Dean Smith in Student Involvement and Leadership for the major role he played in the project as well everyone who served on the memorial garden committee in the division and across campus.

Please take some time and visit the memorial garden and the sculpture, which was created by ECU student Trey Martin. The memorial garden is located beside Mendenhall Student Center and in between Ledonia Wright and the Erwin Building.

Additionally, please enjoy the articles Crystal Baity, with News Services wrote about the Student Memorial Garden and Trey Martin. Click here to read the stories “Cherished Lives” and you can click the photos on this page to see the slideshow from the event.

Student Activities Finds Success with Pirate Nights

The Office of Student Activities brought back the "Late Night" event concept by introducing Pirate Nights to the students in the fall and spring semesters. Both events kicked off with an event in Hendrix Theatre followed by an evening of novelties, karaoke, free bowling and billiards and of course FREE “midnight” breakfast in Mendenhall Student Center from 8pm-Midnight. The second Pirate Night, held this spring, featured a “Mardi Gras” theme with novelties, giveaways and food items that related to the New Orleans tradition.

These events have attracted 500-750 students each night with the majority engaged for at least three hours of the timeframe. OneCards were swiped at each event to allow the staff to send a short assessment survey to those in attendance for constructive feedback. This information in the fall helped plan the spring event and will help inform the planning for the 2013-2014 programming. The goal is to provide these Late Night activities at least once, if not twice, a semester.

Student Affairs welcome Trish Goltermann, Student Veteran Services

The Division of Student Affairs welcomes Trish Goltermann as the new Assistant Director of Student Veteran Services in the Office of Student Transitions. Trish, a native to Louisiana, comes to us from Massachusetts where she worked as the Director of Advising at Bristol Community College. Prior to that she worked for 11 years with the University of Maryland, European Division in the Middle East.

Trish has two children, one an ECU graduate and the other a current ECU freshman. Please feel free to reach out to Trish at 737-6542 or via email at goltermannp@ecu.edu.
New Student Centers and Parking Garage Move to the Next Steps

East Carolina University is moving forward with plans to build two new student centers – one on main campus and one on the health sciences campus – to provide socializing space for a larger student body and to better meet student organization needs. ECU’s Board of Trustees gave administrators permission to move ahead with the design phase for the project at their regular meeting Feb. 22. The vote was unanimous.

A 208,757-square-foot building, accompanied by a 700-car parking garage, is proposed for main campus. It would occupy space currently used as a parking lot south of Mendenhall Student Center. Parking spaces will be gained, not lost, as part of this project. The 67,788 square foot facility on the health sciences campus would house components of wellness, lounge and meeting spaces.

The new student center on main campus would include:
- A dining marketplace and sports grill,
- The campus bookstore,
- A small theater seating 250 people,
- A game room and numerous lounge and social spaces,
- The Ledonia Wright Cultural Center,
- Meeting rooms and a large event space.

The health sciences student center would include:
- A satellite recreation center,
- A satellite Student Health Services office,
- A wellness resource center,
- A multi-station food court,
- A multi-purpose event space, lounge and meeting spaces.

(Please click here to read Kathryn Kennedy’s full story)

ECU Transit Rolls Out GPS System

ECU Transit officially rolled out its new mobile GPS tracking system this spring. The new technology allows students to check out the times and routes of ECU Transit buses. The initiative, funded and supported by SGA, helps answer the question “When is the next bus?”

Hosted through NextBus, a transit management software company, the Transit GPS system allows passengers to access information about what time a bus will arrive at any stop on the ECU system. For students, any cell phone is compatible with the service, not just smart phones. It can be accessed on a computer via the NextBus website, by phone call or text, or through ECU’s mobile app. The technology also enables users to set alarms for regular bus times and receive alerts if a route is delayed or cancelled. One-time, online registration is required to access those services. (Click here to read the full story)

The Pirate Who Became A Saint

Professional Development is off to a wonderful start this semester. Guest speakers have included Provost Marilyn Sheerer and former Chancellor Richard Eakin. And in February, an ECU alumna came back to the Pirate Nation. The program, “The Pirate Who Became A Saint: One Who Made A Difference,” featured Becky Vinson. This program is a good model of partnering with others across campus. Becky had a very busy schedule of sessions, which included:
- Student Affairs Continuing Career Development session
- RCLS two combined classes
- Lunch with student leaders from RHA and SAB
- College of Human Ecology session
- College of Nursing session
- Large open session in Hendrix Theatre included in the Wellness Passport, Club Sports Officer Training, Alumni, and ECU/Greenville community

Becky’s story was very inspiring, eye-opening, and informative as she presented in such as genuine manner both her own determination and challenging pursuit of a college degree under dire financial circumstances as well as the approaches and important factors in her mentoring of a 14 year old Jimmy Graham whom she helped transform from an angry teen who had been abandoned and was failing in school to a college graduate and current All-Pro Tight End for the New Orleans Saints.
Campus Living and Dining Projects

This summer there will be several renovation and construction projects going on, mainly with Campus Living and Campus Dining as we work to improve the quality of living and student experiences. With this construction comes a little chaos. Please plan accordingly and help to redirect our visitors (Orientation, camps, campus visits, etc.) this summer. Being extra attentive and helpful to our visitors will go a long way. Thanks for your efforts with this.

Housing Projects:

- Traffic will be rerouted on College Hill as preparations are made for the demolition of Belk Hall.
- White Hall - Staff apartment renovations, interior wall repairs, removal of old built-in furniture, fireproofing 1st floor ceiling, and new flooring in halls and rooms.
- Clement Hall - Staff apartment renovations, exterior work to repair masonry/improve waterproofing.
- Greene Hall – Staff apartment renovations
- Fletcher Hall- Replacement of AC units, with refit of windows for the new units, basement public area renovation, and exterior landscape upgrades to tie the building in with the rest of West End.
- Umstead Hall - new flooring in halls and rooms.

Dining Projects

- West End Dining Hall- Interior improvements with new carpet, furniture and paint in seating areas. Adjustments will be made to improve entry area.
- Todd Dining Hall- Interior improvements with new carpet, furniture and paint in seating areas. New exterior stairs and landscape plan coming up from College Hill Drive, which, will create better traffic flow. Additionally, there will roof replacement on the entire building.
- Destination 360- Refit of serving area to add Panda Express, and improve other food options.

New All-Access Dining Plan – Starting in Fall 2013, students will no longer have a meal plan defined by a limited number of meals weekly (9, 14, or 19). All access dining allows students to come and go as often as they like from the dining halls eating light meals and snacks. There is no limit to how often a student may use the dining halls either daily or weekly. Here are some of the advantages to the new, innovative plan:
  - Class schedule vs. meal hour conflicts are eliminated by continuous dining and later hours of operation.
  - Students will now choose their meal plan based solely upon lifestyle, not cost implications.
  - Late night meal hours coincide better with student’s lifestyle and needs, minimizing their needs to purchase late night snacks through other means.
  - Unlimited access and continuous dining turn the dining halls into community centers adding new congregation and study space opportunities for students without additional facility construction.
  - Students will no longer see meals as “all you can eat” affairs. Continuous dining and all access will allow them to eat lighter meals and snacks between as necessary which is a healthier approach to eating and more consistent with current trends.
  - Meal plans have been upgraded to include premium outlets such as Chick-fil-A, Subway and Chili’s.

Student Affairs Accomplishments and Successes

- Kappa Delta Sorority Awards $5,000 to ECU Greek Life as part of “Confidence U” Grants
  - A group of three Panhellenic women worked on the grant proposal. While attending a conference, Panhellenic members were impressed with a speaker named Stacy Nadeau who speaks about women’s body image. However, they didn’t have enough funds to bring her to ECU. Kappa Delta Sorority, creator of the Confidence Coalition, awarded ECU $5,000 to fund the event. This is the first time ECU Greek Life has applied for this grant.

Out of the many topics for women’s confidence programming, but the Panhellenic women chose body image as something they would like to focus on based on what they believe are the needs of the community. This program will be open to all women students as well as hopefully local Girl Scout troops and other young women’s groups in Greenville. This is great for Greek Life and ECU and casts a positive image for our institution on a national stage by being one of the 10 schools nationwide to be given this grant.
ECU Gaming Team Wins National Invitational Championship

The ECU Gaming Team won the National Invitational NVIDIA Call of Duty Black Ops 2 Rivalries Competition at the NVIDIA headquarters in Santa Clara, California. Team members Michael Mangelli, Mathew Mangelli, Cliff Stubbs, Nate Kellum, and Stephan Loehr played with masterful teamwork using expert strategy and in-game communication to dominate the competition.

The team won an all expenses paid trip to the Golden State to have a chance in the competition by playing against Oregon State University for the quarterfinals wild card slot. ECU beat OSU 4-1 in the best of seven match. The action was intense in the first ECU-California (CAL) match as ECU and CAL were tied at 74 points each for a nail biting ending, but ECU put them away to end the streak of the yet undefeated CAL team. ECU then shut out CAL 4-0 for a slot in the finals.

Student Affairs Awards – The Division of Student Affairs will once again be presenting awards to the staff at the year end semester celebration. The nomination deadline is March 15th for the following awards: Campus Community Award; Student First Award; Leadership Award; Spirit Award; Emerging Professional Award. Please visit the Student Affairs website for the awards criteria, forms and program information.

VSLC and ECU make the Presidential Honor Roll – For the seventh year in a row, East Carolina University was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The Honor Roll recognizes exemplary community service and meaningful outcomes in the community. The award is the highest federal recognition that honors a university’s commitment to service and civic engagement. Winners were announced March 4 at the American Council on Education annual conference in Washington, D.C.

Community outreach at ECU is supported through the efforts of the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center, which engages students in volunteer and service-learning activities that benefit the community while enhancing the students’ academic experiences. For additional information about the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center, visit http://www.ecu.edu/vslc/. The entire Honor Roll list is available at http://www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll.

Volunteer and Service Learning Receives Award – VSLC was awarded a $2,000 grant by Campus Kitchen. The funds will be used for operating expenses to continue the program since the start up program money had just run out.

ECU Transit New Home – The ECU Transit team, buses and equipment have a new home on Easy Street. The new facility, located off Memorial Drive near the Staton Fire House, has plenty of office space for staff and students, as well as a state of the art dispatch center. The dispatch center has a communication system for staff to talk with drivers as well as enhanced technology for better monitoring and tracking of the buses.

SA Educators on WITN TV – A pair of Student Affairs staff made appearances in February on WITN-TV. Campus Living’s Aaron Lucier appeared on the WITN’s morning show with Heather King and Jim Howard to discuss the 2nd Annual Empty Bowls Project. This was a collaborative effort between the ECU Ceramics Guild and Campus Living/Dining. The Empty Bowls Project is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger. Tickets were sold to purchase a ceramic bowl as well as lunch for the day and 100% of the money raised was donated to the Greenville Food Bank.

In the Next Hardy’s Headlines:
- Green Zone Training
- Ethics Symposium Poster Presentations
- Career Fair
- Education Advisory Board