“Gay? Fine By Me.” - LGBT Resource Office (Student-Centered, Excellence, Respect and Inclusion)

The "Gay? Fine by Me." t-shirt campaign is about displaying a simple sign of support and inclusion on campus by giving away free shirts with this message. The shirts were distributed in March at Wright Plaza and the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center where people came to take pictures in their shirts.

During Barefoot on the Mall a Human Rainbow picture was taken of everyone who shows up with his or her shirt. These photos, along with other coordinated pictures of particular faculty and staff, and student clubs and groups in their shirts, will be displayed on the LGBTRO's website and social media and will become a series of Campus Allies posters.

ECU Launches Green Zone Training

Student Affairs, the Office of Student Transitions and Student Veteran Services rolled out a new initiative this spring called “Green Zone Training.” The Green Zone Training is designed to support student veterans, servicemembers and their families by designating locations recognized as a safe place. Similar to Safe Zone Training for GLBT students, Green Zone Training identifies faculty and staff throughout East Carolina University who are knowledgeable about issues faced by student veterans and the resources available to assist them.

Green Zone participants are trained on information and resources related to issues faced by student veterans; display a Green Zone emblem outside their office doors or on their syllabus to indicate they are available to provide support and information about resources for student veterans; and serve as a resource to other faculty, staff or students who may have questions about student veteran issues.

ECU Elite Pirates launch leadership initiative with a tree planting ceremony

The Elite Pirates started a new student-led ECU leadership initiative with a tree planting ceremony on Friday, April 19. Students planted a red oak next to Mendenhall Student Center. The tree was chosen to create a lasting legacy of student leadership on campus and the students hope this becomes an annual tradition.

ECU senior Mia Marshall, a 2013 Elite Pirate, said the red oak was chosen specifically. “A red oak is a great tree,” Marshall said. “It has a great base and the roots are sturdy and strong. The leaves on the tree tend to be very different, which represents the diversity of our student population.”

The Elite Pirates program honors top student leaders at the university while encouraging positive change in the ECU community. The program, based out of the Center for Student Leadership and Engagement, provides students the tools needed to engage in the leadership process to create positive sustainable change.
Capital Projects Updates in Student Affairs

- **Student Centers** – The planning for the two new student centers continues moving forward. Architectural firms were hired for both the Main Campus building and Health Sciences building.
  - Perkins and Will was hired for Main Campus
  - MHA Works/ Holzman Moss was hired for Health Sciences
The next phase of the projects will be to hire the Construction Management firms for each building. Programming and Space planning finalization will begin in July 2013.

- **Belk Residence Demolition Plan** – In January, the University has made a decision to replace the original architects tasked with the demolition of Belk Residence Hall and the design of the two new living learning buildings that will replace it. Davis Kane Architects from Raleigh has been hired to complete this process. Davis Kane has recently been responsible for the Scott and Tyler Hall renovations that have begun to reshape the look and life on College Hill. Work will begin this summer on the utility relocations on College Hill that precede the demolition of Belk, which is scheduled for January 2014. This work will close College Hill Drive from mid-May through early August. With additional work being performed on College Hill which includes utilities tie-ins for the Belk Residence Hall replacement and a new set of stairs on the west side of College Hill Drive, summer school students will reside on central campus in Cotten and Fleming residence halls.

- **Dining Services** - A lot will be going on this summer in dining services; four locations will have major work performed.
  - In anticipation of the meal plan changes taking place for this fall; both West End Dining Hall and Todd Dining Hall will get new paint, carpet, tables and chairs and both will receive new booth seating, upping the feel of “home” for the residents.
  - Destination 360 in Mendenhall will have a portion of the servery reorganized to include the addition of a Panda Express to the existing lineup of venues (Pirate Grill, Bleecker Street and Chick-fil-a).
  - We will see our second Starbucks installation in Joyner Library; as part of the front desk renovation.

Pirate Academy Graduates moving on in Student Affairs

Four recent graduates of the Pirate Academy have secured Graduate Assistantships so that they continue their path in the field of Student Affairs.

- Kelsey Jones - Mississippi State
- Ann Schafer – Oklahoma State (Ann is also an Elite Pirate)
- Brad Teague – Kansas State
- Demetrice Baskerville – Arkansas State
  - Demetrice was deployed twice to Iraq during his matriculation at ECU and will be featured as a part of the ECU Commencement stories in early May on the ECU website.

The Pirate Academy provides ECU students with the tools to help them prepare for a career in Student Affairs. The academy provides programming, resources, experiential learning and mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students considering a career in SA. The Pirate Academy is one of the three pieces of ECU Student Affairs Professional Development programs launched in 2010. Congratulations to Waz Miller and Krista Wilhelm, Pirate Academy co-leaders, as well as to all the SA mentors and contributors.

Student Involvement and Leadership help make ECU Alumna’s 95th Birthday special

In March, Student Involvement and Leadership was contacted by the family of Lillian Kimrey and was told that she was celebrating her 95th birthday. Kimrey, then Lillian Parrish, was the Student Body President way back when ECU was East Carolina Teaching College and her daughter said she often talks about her time in Greenville.

The staff sent a box of goodies to Lillian as a surprise present from ECU. The goodies included a stuffed PeeDee doll, sunglasses, multi-colored beaded necklaces and more. As you can see in the photo, Lillian is still one happy Pirate!!!
New ECU Alert System
ECU enhanced its campus emergency notification system, ECU Alert, through a partnership with RAVE Mobile Safety. The new system will allow for easier access to receiving text messages when ECU Alerts are sent. If you were already signed up for text messages, you stay connected and no action is required. If you want to register your cell phone, follow the directions that will come in an email from ecu@getrave.com. If you are already signed up, you won’t get an email from RAVE. You can also read more information from the ECU home page.

Student Affairs Year End Celebration - May 3rd at North Rec Complex
Make sure your calendars are marked for the Student Affairs Year End Celebration. We are planning a very fun and entertaining afternoon on May 3rd from 2-5pm at the North Recreation Complex. We will have plenty to do as you brush off the stress of this past academic year including, kayaking/canoeing, corn hole and horseshoe tournaments, beach volleyball, disc golf, the zip line and a dunking booth. That’s right, a dunking booth. Ever want to throw something at a Student Affairs Executive Council member? Here’s your chance.

Things you may want to bring:
• Towel (for kayak/canoe)
• Closed toe shoes (required for zip line)
• A chair (beach or folding chair if you want to chill)
• Sunscreen

You will also want to bring a change of clothes for this day. You can wear bathing suits/shorts, t-shirts, jeans, etc. to the event, but do not wear them to work that morning. Student Affairs will be providing snacks, fruit, and water for the celebration too. Please RSVP to the calendar meeting sent out from Dr. Hardy’s office so we can have an accurate count of those attending!!

ECU concludes the 50th Anniversary of Desegregation Celebration
In 1963, Laura Marie Leary Elliott stepped foot on East Carolina’s campus as the first black student. On April 24th, ECU wrapped up a yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of Elliott’s historic accomplishment with a wonderful lecture and discussion from world-renowned poet Nikki Giovanni at Hendrix Theatre.

As part of the yearlong events, Student Affairs produced a very special “Thank You” video to present to Ms. Elliott. Please click here to see this amazing video.

Student Affairs Accomplishments and Successes
• Volunteer and Service Learning Center
  • Civic Engagement Institute at Elon University
    A delegation of 11 Student Affairs educators, faculty members, and students attended North Carolina Campus Compact’s Civic Engagement Institute this spring at Elon University. Student Affairs Academic Affairs, Health Sciences, and the Chancellor’s Office supported ECU’s delegation. Several ECU faculty, staff and students also attended the Pathways Aligning Civic Engagement conference the following day, also held at Elon. Several delegation members – Rebecca Dumiao, Kate Lamere, Dennis McCumney, Paige Schneider, Beth Velde, and Alex White – delivered a workshop at the conference entitled “Sense of Place in Rural Community Partnerships.”

  • Ethics of Public Service Symposium
    Five campus departments – Volunteer and Service-Learning Center, Office of Public Service and Community Relations, Office for Human Research Integrity, Faculty Senate Service-Learning Committee, and Office for Faculty Excellence – partnered to host the Ethics of Public Service Symposium on March 7 at the East Carolina Heart Institute. More than 100 ECU community members as well as local community partner representatives participated in the daylong discussion. Keynote speakers included KerryAnn O’Meara, associate professor of higher education at University of Maryland, and Stephen Thomas, director of the Center for Health Equity at University of Maryland. Various ECU community members offered hands-on workshops and poster presentations on topics such as service learning, conflicts of interest, campus-community partnerships, and measuring community engagement.

• Phi Kappa Phi Induction
  • Congratulations to LaNika Wright, Student Health Services, for being inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.
SA well represented in 2013 Chancellor Leadership Academy

- Congratulations to the 2013 class of Chancellor’s Leadership Academy Fellows. Eric Gardner (Campus Rec and Wellness), Karen Thompson (Career Center) and Chris Stansbury (Marketing and Communications) completed the academy on April 23rd. Student Affairs has had a consistent presence in the CLA since its inception in 2008. Other CLA Fellows still with ECU and SA include Adeea Rogers (2008), Audra Thomas (2008), Catrina Davis (2009), Gretchen Brockman (2010), and Karen Smith (2011). All are encouraged to apply for the 2014 Chancellor’s Leadership Academy – applications should open this fall.

Campus Rec and Wellness makes splash at NIRSA Conference

- CRW had a very strong presence at this year’s NIRSA (National Intramural and Recreational Sports Association) Conference in Las Vegas. Among those who presented included the Campus Wellness team. Karen Warren, Tywanna Purkett and Georgia Childs, presented an exciting program entitled "Wellness Passports: Get 'em While They're Fresh." The presentation was to a standing room-only crowd of recreation professionals at the annual meeting and was met with enthusiasm from audience members who were ready to take the program back to their respective campuses and implement it immediately. This innovative program encouraged those attending to be proactive and creative in increasing participation and campus collaboration. Ideas were shared with the audience regarding best practices and success on ECU’s campus.

ECU Orientation Assistants and OST staff at the Southern Region Orientation Workshop

- The Southern Region Orientation Workshop (SROW) is an annual conference for orientation professionals and students in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. At the conference, over 2,000 orientation staff members gathered together to share information about their programs, best practices, emerging trends and issues, and school spirit. The attendees get to participate in skit competitions, during which they get to see ideas of how to make students feel welcome at their own schools. They attend and present educational sessions during which they learn about customer service, teamwork, motivation, leading small groups, diversity, and many other topics.

ECU’s students participated in the skit competition and presented two educational sessions. One, titled “Summer Lovin’”, discussed how romantic relationships among Orientation Assistants affect the job, and how to remain professional while working. The second, titled “Building Bridges”, was about welcoming new staff members and making them feel like part of the team when there are returning staff members.

ECU Report on SACS Accreditation

ECU is in receipt of and has reviewed the written report of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) On-Site Reaffirmation Committee Review completed April 4, 2013. The committee provided only three recommendations out of the 90 Principles of Accreditation addressed in our Compliance Certification Document and Quality Enhancement Plan. The remainder of the SACSCOC principles we were found to be in compliance. Our thanks once again to the many faculty, staff, students and administrators who have contributed to this form of self-regulation and an institutional commitment to student learning and achievement. In Student Affairs, we want to offer our thanks to Kathy Hill, the Student Affairs Assessment Team members and the representatives working within TracDat for our unit assessment plans. Great teamwork everyone!!

ECU Club Lacrosse learns about history of the game from the Tuscarora Nation

The East Carolina men’s club lacrosse team enjoyed a very unique opportunity to learn the history behind the game of lacrosse, as told by the Tuscarora tribe. The Tuscarora taught the Pirates how their ancestors played the game when they inhabited the Eastern Plains of North Carolina during the 1700s. The Tuscarora tribe originally inhabited the lands of eastern North Carolina before being driven north by European Colonialists during the 1713 battle at Fort Nooherooka. March 21-31, 2013, signified the Nooherooka 300th Commemoration with various events and discussions taking place throughout Greenville, Snow Hill, and other parts of eastern N.C.

Standing in mid-field, one of the elder Tuscarora members explained to both his tribal counterparts and the ECU players of the old ways in which his ancestors used to play the game. He spoke of the game being played for days at a time, and how only warriors were allowed the play. He said when you’re born the first thing you receive from your parents is a lacrosse stick.

After learning the history of the game, ECU players were joined by multiple Tuscarora who had brought their lacrosse sticks for the day’s event. The Pirates and Tuscarora split into two teams and played a full field no contact scrimmage. Wearing only gloves and helmets, some of the ECU players joined the Tuscarora team to even out the teams. The tribe wore no padding as a sign of respect to their ancient game. The Pirates and tribe members played for about an hour as a crowd of locals and tribe members watched from the sidelines. The scrimmage ended with a prayer by the older Tuscarora to promote good spirit and health.