Student Affairs Values - Respect, Inclusion and Excellence

The Diversity Education Team of Campus Living and Dining hosted the Fifth Annual Culturefest on April 11 on the Mendenhall Brickyard. This festival offered a variety of cultural encounters designed to educate, entertain, and strengthen our resolve to embrace all cultures within our community, through performance based art and multicultural foods.

“We started Culturefest in 2007 in response to racially motivated incidences that were occurring in the residence halls,” said Jamie Butler, Culturefest founder and chairperson. “It is important for students to realize that everyone can be celebrated as well as we want to bring a global experience and opportunity to ECU students.”

This year’s theme for Culturefest was “Together We Are Stronger” and this event continues to grow stronger, too. The event has grown in student participation from 50 back in 2007 to nearly 400 students in 2012. More student groups and organizations are also jumping onboard such as S.A.L.S.A., Word of Mouth, NAACP, Black Student Union, ASO and Caribbean Student Organization.

Career Center - Making Headlines

The Career Center has been grabbing media headlines and fielding interview requests on a regular basis in the last month. Larry Donley spoke with WITN TV and WNCT TV about the job market and how it’s impacting ECU students and college students in general. Click here to view the story from WNCT TV 9.

WNCT also contacted the Career Center following President Obama’s speech in Chapel Hill where he discussed interest rates on student loans.

SAB Visual Arts Chair Receives Accolades from RCAW Committee

Congratulations go out to student Joshua Craig!!! Joshua, who is the SAB Visual Arts Chairperson, was praised by Research and Creative Achievement Week (RCAW) chair Dr. Tom McConnell for his contributions during the annual ECU event. Here is an excerpt from the letter from Dr. McConnell to Joshua:

You deserve special recognition for initiating, and organizing, the first ever RCAW Visual Art and Design Awards. The increase in student participation in RCAW was due in significant part to your initiating these awards! The presentations in this category were a resounding success, and also resulted in the School of Art and Design encouraging their graduate students to participate in oral presentations, resulting in a great professional experience for all!
Searches Updates
There are several position searches that are in progress or will begin very soon. Here are the current EPA searches:

- Executive Director for Marketing & Communications
- Director of Development (Major Gifts Officer)
- Director of Volunteer & Service Learning Center
- Assistant Director for Club Sports, Campus Recreation & Wellness
- Staff Physician, Student Health Services
- Director of Student Media (starting soon)

We also have some EPA searches that have contracts pending including:

- Four Staff Counselors in Counseling Center
- Four Coordinators in Campus Living
- Assistant Director for Student Rights & Responsibilities
- Staff Physician, Student Health Services

Capital Projects Update

Belk Hall: Planning is underway for the demolition of Belk Hall for sometime in 2014, and the replacement of these beds with two new residence halls. Ratio Architects has been selected to lead the design process; regularly scheduled meetings are underway that will shape the future of living on “The Hill” as a result of this project. In addition to the 700 beds for student housing, there will also be a swimming pool and community center.

Tyler Hall: The plastic covering around Tyler Hall is beginning to come down as the renovation work moves towards an on time August opening. Students will be move into Tyler - a building that has been rebuilt from the ground up with new exterior window walls, renovated bathrooms and common areas, a newly designed outdoor plaza and an entirely new look. Barnhill Construction is overseeing the restoration of Tyler as they did Scott Hall in 2009-10. The completion of these two adjacent projects has created over 1,100 beds spaces of newly restored student housing for future generations of Pirates.

Student Centers: The initial programmatic focus group meetings for the new East Campus and Health Sciences Campus student centers will be held this Thursday (May 24) and Friday (May 25) in Mendenhall Student Center. This meeting will provide invaluable information from the ECU community to the design team as they prepare an official proposal of the new student centers to East Carolina University.

June 1st Deadlines

- All divisional assessment plans for the year 2011-12, as well as any plans/outcomes from previous years must be completed and posted to Trac Dat by June 1st. For questions or information about last minute training/prep sessions, please contact Kathy Hill in the SA Office of Assessment, Research and Retention.

- New Student Orientation is around the corner! If your department is interested in giving family members information during orientation, OSTFYP will compile and distribute in packets. You must submit 2,200 copies of the flyers, postcards, papers, etc. and must be delivered to the basement of Fletcher Residence Hall on Friday, June 1 between 9:30am-11:30am. Also, make sure that your staff can carry in the boxes as there may not be staff available to help. Contact Karen Smith with OSTFYP with any questions. Just a reminder that student information is now compiled on the flash drive; they do not receive paper not related to orientation activities.
Student Affairs Yearend Celebration and Awards
What a way to cap off the 2011-12 year!! More than 200 divisional staff invaded West End Dining Hall and enjoyed the fellowship, ice cream and sharing of successes. For the first time in many years, we also presented some divisional awards and recognized those who have committed many years of service to ECU. Special thanks to the SA Awards Committee (Laura Sweet, Laura McMaster, Karen Thompson, Jolene Jernigan, Matt Dwyer and Emily McLamb) for their work on the awards nominations and selection process. The two divisional awards presented this year were the Emerging Professional Award and the Spirit Award.

Emerging Professional Award – Patrick Roberts from the Career Center (excerpt from nomination)

“Patrick spearheaded the planning and implementation of the Spring Career and Leadership Mini Conference, which provided more than 100 students with substantive training and development activities. Patrick has worked diligently to build relationships with faculty and staff; this has resulted in collaboration and partnerships that benefit students. Dr. Lisa Baranik reports that Patrick has helped her develop, teach, and evaluate her Careers in Psychology course while providing individual coaching to her students.”

Spirit Award – Georgia Childs from Campus Recreation and Wellness (excerpt from nomination)

It has been said that she should wear a warning sign that reads: “Caution! Contact with this individual will infect you with Purple Pride!” Anyone who has worked with Georgia can testify that her enthusiasm and love for her work, the students, and the university is contagious. She is willing to become involved with all aspects of her department, the division, and the university, and has devoted countless hours on nights and weekends to numerous events, programs, and projects. She is the first one to say, “I’ll do it!” when volunteers are called for action.

CONGRATS and THANK YOU! Many Student Affairs Educators were also recognized for their years of service to East Carolina University. As of the year ending 2011, these staff members reached the following milestones:

5 Years of Service
Jessica Gagne Cloutier
Susan Boyd
Keith Tingley
Norm Cole
Katina Cooper
Hank Bowen
April McClung
Jennifer Rook

10 Years of Service
Wan-Yu Lee
Erica Hughes
Megan Thomas
Alan Nielson
Andie Harrelle
Maggie Olszewska

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15 Years of Service
Georgia Childs
Sam Combs
Mary Baker
Timothy Williams

20 Years of Service
Betty Johnson
Janet Stancil
Susan Chapman

25 Years of Service
Charlene Padgett
Shirley Williamson

30 Years of Service
Gray Hodges