East Carolina University's First Engineering Class Graduates and Gives Back to the Program

East Carolina University graduated the first ever class of engineers during Commencement Saturday, May 10, 2008. The twenty-two graduating seniors represent the development and growth of a program created four years ago to address the local and regional needs of the 21st century economy.

1st Engineers Graduate from ECU

The ECU engineering program is one of a kind in the state of North Carolina because it promotes learning and success through hands-on projects, collaborative teamwork and leadership.
Additionally, each graduate must complete a year-long senior project with a local or regional company and present its final report to faculty, advisory board members and company executives.

The 2008 graduating class will be leaving campus and moving on to a variety of different educational and career opportunities.

"Four of our seniors have already been accepted to some of the best Engineering Graduate Schools in the country, including Auburn and North Carolina State," said Engineering Department Chair Dr. Paul Kauffmann. "Several others will be staying close to ECU and have accepted job offers from local companies like Carver Machine Works in Washington and the Roberts Company in Winterville."

As a generous act, the senior graduating class of engineers got together and decided to make a difference for future classes of the program. The seniors made a donation of $1,500 to the Engineering Foundation. The announcement was made at the College of Technology and Computer Science Recognition Ceremony on Saturday night.

"This generous and forward thinking gift is the start of alumni involvement in the engineering program," said Kauffmann. "Our first graduates have demonstrated their commitment to enhancing engineering access by this donation which will focus on scholarships and financial support for future students."