Debate Series Continues: Security Needs vs. Concerns for Civil Liberties

Since it was initiated under the leadership of former chapter president Thomas Feldbush in academic year 1999-2000, the debate series sponsored by the ECU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi has tackled a number of interesting and controversial topics. That tradition continued with the April 25th debate on the need for increased security vs. the potential for erosion of basic civil liberties.

In the wake of September 11, Congress passed and President Bush signed the USA Patriot Act, designed to provide new tools to track down terrorists and to prevent terrorist attacks. The law and its broader implications were the focus of a debate between two of ECU’s most eminent faculty members: Dr. Tinsley Yarbrough, Distinguished Professor of Arts and Sciences and Distinguished Research Professor of Political Science and Dr. Michael A. Palmer, Chair and Professor of History.

Professor Yarbrough, a highly respected scholar in the fields of constitutional and administrative law, judicial and legislative politics in the United States, and American national government, argued the concern for infringements upon basic liberties. Since receiving his PhD at the University of Alabama in 1967, he has been a faculty member at East Carolina University. He has authored seven books, including a series on prominent justices of the supreme court, and has edited another on the Reagan administration. He has also published over 50 articles, book chapters, and encyclopedia entries. Along the way during his illustrious career at ECU, Yarbrough has managed to find time to chair the Department of Political Science for three years and to serve two years as Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Professor Palmer, who earned his Ph.D. from Temple University in 1981, argued the need for increased security. From 1983-1991, Palmer worked at the Naval Historical Center in Washington, DC, serving first as assistant editor of the Center’s The Naval War of 1812: A Documentary History series and then helping to produce the monograph—Origins of the Maritime Strategy: American Naval Strategy in the First Postwar Decade. In 1988 Palmer worked as a field historian for the Center in the Persian Gulf, where he focused on the operations of Special Forces and in 1990, during Operation Desert Shield, he worked in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations’ Strategic Concepts Group in the Pentagon. The author of eight books and over 20 articles, Palmer has chaired the History Department since 1999. A recognized expert in naval history, he has received the Department of the Navy’s Meritorious Civilian Service Medal, the Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature from the Naval Order of the United States, and the Moncado Prize from the Society for Military History.

These two scholars enjoyed a vigorous exchange of ideas, providing those in attendance with much food for thought on both sides of this complex issue.
The concept of a permanent installation to recognize East Carolina University’s honor societies originated with James Beraden, director of the university’s BB&T Center for Leadership development. During the early 1990s, Jim represented Beta Gamma Sigma (Business) as a council member on the Association of College Honor Societies. He also chaired the Association’s Committee on Standards and Definitions. As an outgrowth of these involvements, he became aware of another campus’s project to promote honor societies, and this led him to suggest that ECU develop a similar tribute to these important components of the university community.

In January of 1996, the ECU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, under the leadership of chapter president W. Keats Sparrow (Dean of the college of Arts and Sciences) undertook the task of developing the “Wall of Honor.” Chapter executive committee members Donald Boldt, Archie Smith, and Helen Grove formed the project committee which planned for a wall-mounted display of bronze plaques, one for each of the honor societies on campus.

Tinsley Yarbrough, then Interim vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, supported the concept, and the committee identified organizations that qualified for inclusion. The nationally recognized standard for an academic honor society is “an association of primarily collegiate members whose purposes are to encourage and recognize superior scholarship and/or leadership in either a broad field of education or in a discipline-based field at either the undergraduate or the graduate level.” The project committee conducted a systematic, campus-wide search, results of which were cross-checked against records of the Association of College Honor Societies.

The next step brought Carol Hime (Facilities Architect with Campus Planning and Design) into the project. Himes designed a wall that called for plaques cast in bronze to be arranged chronologically, with the first honor society established on campus occupying the first position. The imposing display would measure approximately sixteen feet wide by nearly nine feet high and contain 4-inch by 12-inch plaques, each bearing the name of an organization and the year in which the campus chapter was established.

Two important questions remained. Where would the wall be located and how would its construction be funded? The site selected was the General Classroom Building (now renamed in honor of Harold H. Bate), and after administrative review by the Chancellor, the project moved into the implementation stage.

The official unveiling and dedication of the ECU Wall of Honor took place as part of the university’s October 9, 1998, Founder’s Day celebration. Because of its
leadership role in the project, the ECU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi retains a permanent standing committee for oversight of the Wall of Honor. Quite appropriately, given their personal leadership in bringing this to fruition, Don Boldt and Keats Sparrow have chaired this committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Year founded at ECU</th>
<th>Field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phi Sigma Pi</td>
<td>1937</td>
<td>All academic fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pi Omega Pi</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Business Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kappa Delta Pi</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Theta Upsilon</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Tau Delta</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epsilon Pi Tau</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi Upsilon Omicron</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Human Environmental Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pi Kappa Lambda</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Kappa Delta</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi Alpha Theta</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psi Chi</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Gamma Sigma</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phi Sigma Tau</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pi Mu Epsilon</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omicron Delta Epsilon</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phi Sigma Iota</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Foreign Languages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pi Sigma Alpha</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phi Kappa Phi</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>All academic fields</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Pi Sigma</td>
<td>1972</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Theta Tau</td>
<td>1974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Xi</td>
<td>1974</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lambda Alpha</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
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<td>Alpha Mu Alpha</td>
<td>1980</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>Health Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Iota Epsilon</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Gamma Epsilon</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Geology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pi Alpha Alpha</td>
<td>1986</td>
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<td>Sigma Lambda Chi</td>
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<td>Construction Management</td>
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<td>Alpha Iota Delta</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Decision Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Tau Chi</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Technical and Professional Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chi Sigma Iota</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Counseling</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Phi Sigma</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Pi Epsilon</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Business Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Beta Beta</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi Alpha</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phi Beta Delta</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>International Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinnacle</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Non-traditional scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Alpha Psi</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
</tr>
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Jennifer Paige Foushee, a sociology major, is completing her junior year at East Carolina University and has been selected for a Brody School of Medicine Early Assurance Scholarship. One of Phi Kappa Phi’s first study abroad scholarship recipients, this semester Foushee is experiencing life and education "Down Under." Located in Australia’s third largest city, the 30,000 student "uni" provides a strong educational environment in the context of a vibrant city offering an array of cultural activities. Foushee stated that she would encourage anyone to take advantage of this sort of wonderful opportunity. "It takes a lot of courage, time, and planning to get prepared, but study abroad is definitely a worthwhile experience." When Foushee returns to ECU in the fall, she plans on doing an honors thesis in sociology and continuing her community service as a member of the Chi Omega sorority.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi has helped to provide the resources that lead to educational and cultural opportunities such as Foushee’s. Her spring 2002 email greeting to readers of this newsletter attests to Foushee’s own cultural interchange: “G’day from the wonderful land of Oz!”

**Spring 2002 Initiates**

**Juniors**
- Nancy Leann Auman
- Rima Balja-Kolleh
- Aleeze Arthur Banks
- Joshua Elliott Blakely
- Kimberly A. Bond
- Sheila A. Brown
- Melissa Jean Cherry
- Cheryl L. Elmstrom
- Justin K. Gibbons
- Jamie Alexis Groppuso
- Katherine V. Hill
- Richard Anthony Hourigan
- Thil D. Hurley
- Lindsey Catherine Jeffords
- Cynthia Ruth Johns
- Joyce Ann King
- Sara Eve King
- Ashley Brooke Medlin
- Bethanie Jane Miller
- Cheryl C. Mills
- Eva-Marie Franke Morrow
- Robert Clifton Nobles, Jr.
- Michelle Jean Parkhurst
- Kerry L. Partis
- Linda Faye Petteway
- Gant G. Saturley
- Gary Michael Shickora
- Stephanie Lynn Short
- Mary Ellen Smith
- Adam James Tyson
- Mary Beth Warner
- Melissa Allison Wheeler
- Nathan Mitchell Wood
- Nathan P. Wood
- Regina Ann Wyman
- Amanda S. Zimmer

**Outstanding Students Recognized**

**Outstanding Freshman** - Amit Aravapalli
**Outstanding Senior** - Jessica Tipscord
**Outstanding Graduate Student** - Tracy Miller

**Graduate Students**
- Roderick Turner Merritt, Jr.
- Lisa H. Metts
- Donelda A. Mullen
- Mindi Mae Nardella
- Allison Catherine Needham
- Roy Earl Parker, Jr.
- Amanda J. Renner
- Jennifer Midgette Scott
- Anna R. Smith
- Jon Travis Snyder
- Sherry Windley Stotesbury
- Angela Dove Sutton
- Angela Marie Vaughn-Styons
- Kristine Louise Young

**Graduate Students**
- John Hart Asher II
- Lyndel Evan Barnes
- Julie M. Bateman
- Jennifer Joy Beacham
- Melissa A. Beaman
- Jennifer Guthrie Brezina
- Heather Leigh Cain
- Karen Olline Catoe
- Linda Marie Czhuai
- William James Dewan
- Colena M. Gardner
- Jill Ann Chartier Harrison
- Melissa Lewis Hendrickson
- Jonathon Woodard Hooks
- Igor Ivanovych Ivanov
- Honor Keane
- Misty Hayes Rumberger Kerrigan

**Outstanding Students Recognized**

**Outstanding Freshman** - Amit Aravapalli
**Outstanding Senior** - Jessica Tipscord
**Outstanding Graduate Student** - Tracy Miller

**Faculty**
- John G. Cope
- Charles Emmanuel Fantazzi
- Glen Gordon Gilbert
- James Craig Holte
- Chia-yu Li
- Ron Mitchelson
- Walter Emerson Pofahl II, MD
- Elmer C. Poe

**Distinguished Alumni**
- Charles R. Franklin, Jr.
- James R. Talton, Jr.

**Special Honorees**
- Louise H. McNamee
- Lisa Johnson Overman
- Margaret A. Pio
Chapter Spotlight: Dianna Beaman Lowe

Since 1987, Dianna Beaman Lowe has served as the East Carolina University Chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi’s Executive Director. A continuing appointment, the executive directorship provides important continuity on the chapter’s Board of Directors.

Born and reared in nearby Snow Hill, Lowe stated that "East Carolina University was [her] first and only choice for college" because she had seen throughout her life the service that ECU renders to the region. Lowe’s commitment to East Carolina is matched by her commitment to Phi Kappa Phi as an organization that both promotes collegiality among the professional staff and demonstrates strong concern for students.

As Executive Director, Lowe is involved in a wide range of chapter responsibilities: developing agendas and schedules, meeting deadlines, coordinating paperwork, and assisting with arrangements for chapter initiations.

Lowe’s deep involvement with PKP dates to her ECU undergraduate days. Originally initiated in 1972 as a double major in psychology and sociology, Lowe completed her master’s degree in sociology the following year. Since then, Lowe has completed all but the comprehensive examination for a Master’s in Public Administration.

After completing her first master’s degree, Lowe joined the university staff in Institutional Research where she worked for ten years as associate director. In September of 1983 she was tapped for her current position as the Academic Affairs Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Personnel.

Lowe noted a high point for her at the chapter’s thirtieth anniversary celebration. The event brought together all of the former presidents of the ECU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi—an inspiring and energizing reunion. Reflecting on her years of service, Lowe affirmed, “I feel strongly that Phi Kappa Phi is the interdisciplinary honor society for East Carolina University. The society’s high standards provide the opportunity for faculty and staff to support the academic excellence of our students.”

Bransford Addresses Pivotal Environmental Issues


Dr. Bransford is a board-certified specialist in medical oncology and hematology, having completed his undergraduate training in biochemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, and attended medical school at Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. After subspecialty training at the Norris Cancer Center, University of Southern California, he practiced in a community cancer center and served part-time on the clinical faculty at the University of California, Irvine. While on sabbatical, he served as medical director at a remote clinic in Nepal, and now volunteers his time as a consultant in free clinics in California and Mexico.

Bransford is a member of the National Board of Directors for Physicians for Social Responsibility, working with the national office in Washington D.C. He currently serves in the Environment and Health Division, speaking on the health impacts of energy usage and global climate change. His presentation focused on why we are experiencing climate change and increased air pollution, the resulting implications for public health and the environment, and how we can begin to reverse these changes through smarter, profitable energy choices. His no-nonsense approach integrated environmental responsibility with profitability and economic feasibility. A standing room only crowd appreciated his candid approach, keeping him occupied with a barrage of questions that lasted longer than his presentation.

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