**ECU-Sponsored Camps Let Kids Be Kids**

By Jeannine M. Hutson

ARAPAHOE—For the 77 children who attended Camp Rainbow and Hope in June, it’s a much anticipated week at Camp Don-Lee. They look forward to sailing, swimming and just being kids on the banks of the Neuse River. Their common bond is cancer, hemophilia or sickle cell disease and a longing to have some fun.

One evening around a campfire, a counselor asked campers why they come to camp. “One child said, ‘I come because everybody plays with me and nobody calls me names here,’” said Jacque Sauls, director of Rainbow Services at the Brody School of Medicine. “The children get to play and have fun like any other child at summer camp.

For 21 years, Camp Rainbow has hosted children aged 5 to 18 diagnosed with cancer, hemophilia and other blood disorders. Camp Hope is for children with sickle cell disease, an inherited disorder affecting the ability of red blood cells to carry oxygen, causing these children to have painful events, tire more easily and be susceptible to infection. That camp started in 1991.

In previous years, the two camps had separate weeks at Camp Don-Lee, but funding shortages forced Sauls to combine the two camps into one week.

“We used to have 100 kids for two weeks; this year, it was one week with a total of 77 children,” Sauls said. “It’s a huge cut in what we’ve been able to do. We would love to go back to two camps and more campers. It’s sad when you have to tell chronically ill children they can’t attend camp because you are full.”

Donations cover camp costs for patients of the division of hematology and oncology at the Brody School of Medicine; camp scholarships cost $550 per patient for the week.

Both camps have a pharmacy and nursing station. At least one pediatric oncologist-hematologist is always present, along with a nurse to administer chemotherapy, draw blood samples and provide daily medical care. ECU medical students and residents volunteer as camp counselors.

Each morning, Jennifer Medlin, an ECU nurse specialist in pediatric hematology/oncology, organized campers’ medications in Ziploc sandwich bags for daily dispensing.

“It’s a good time down here,” Medlin said. “We are able to build a fun relationship and that helps you when you’re back in clinic.”

During camp, all sickle cell, hemophilia and cancer patients received their routine medications along with three oncology patients who received chemotherapy. One camper had to leave camp early because she was running a high fever. Sauls said that incident shows why it’s important to have a physician and nurses at camp. “We have to...”

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**Novick Directs MPH Program**

Dr. Lloyd Novick, a nationally known public health expert, has joined the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University to lead the Division of Community Health and Preventive Medicine and the master’s program in public health.

Novick was formerly professor of medicine and director of the preventive medicine program at the State University of New York Upstate Medical Center and commissioner of health in Onondaga County in New York. He has served as a leader of statewide health agencies in New York, Vermont and Arizona, and he is the author or editor of five books, including a widely used textbook in public health administration.

Dr. Michael Lewis, vice chancellor for health sciences at ECU, said, “Dr. Novick is a nationally known and respected figure in public health, and we are delighted that he will be joining ECU. I am convinced that under his leadership, our program will make a real difference in the lives of eastern North Carolina residents.”

continued on page 3
Grant Supports Medical Education, Resource Clinic

By Doug Boyd

The Brody School of Medicine at ECU has received a two-year, $194,665 grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust to support a clinic that will provide care for indigent patients and be a primary training site for health care students and professionals.

The Medical Education and Resource Clinic at ECU will coordinate care for indigent patients by assembling a team of professionals, including social workers, nutritionists, nurses, pharmacists and family therapists, and their respective trainees, under the auspices of a team coordinator.

Dr. Lisa Staton, assistant professor of medicine, and Dr. Sangnya Patel, clinical associate professor of medicine, will serve as co-medical directors of the clinic. Dr. Bruce Johnson, professor of general internal medicine; Dr. Mark Darrow, medical director of ECU Physicians; and Regina Coyle, a physician extender with ECU CARE, will provide comprehensive care. All of this will be transferable to a proposed community health center once that is developed.

The clinic will be part of the division of general internal medicine inside the department of internal medicine.

ECU Seed Grants to Further Faculty Research Projects

By Erica Plouffe Lazure

ECU’s Division of Research and Graduate Studies awarded $555,000 in seed grants to 23 professors last month. The grants will enable researchers to develop preliminary data for a major research grant application to an external sponsor, said Glen Gilbert, then director of major research grant applications to the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, and the American Cancer Society.

This year, the program received 89 proposals from faculty representing all 11 colleges and schools. To respond to the number and quality of the grant proposals, the division was able to obtain more than double its original plan of sponsoring 10 projects with $270,000.

Grant recipients for 2005 are:

- Shawn Akula (Microbiology and Immunology), Analyzing Kaposi’s Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus Entry ($26,416)
- Christine Avenarius (Anthropology), Understanding Changing Concepts of Fairness and Justice in China ($19,986)
- Fred Bertrand (Microbiology & Immunology), Regulation of the PTEN Tumor Suppressor Gene by the Notch-1 Signaling Pathway ($30,000)
- Colin S. Burns (Chemistry), Metal Cofactors in Natively Unfolded Proteins: What Binding Motifs are used by these Species and what Functions do they fulfill? ($28,885)
- David Chalcraft (Biology), The effects of biodiversity on pond communities: incorporating natural patterns of diversity loss ($28,621)
- J. Randolph Daniel, Jr. (Anthropology), Tar River Geochronology ($25,000)
- Melanie Elliott-Wilson (Psychology), Taking a closer look at mother-infant interactions across time and across contexts ($24,798)
- Robert Hickner (Exercise and Sport Science), Suppression of lipolysis by nisitric oxide in overweight children ($23,376)
- Tibor Hortobagyi (Exercise and Sport Science), Transcranial Magnetic Brain Stimulation to Assess Brain Function in Health and Disease ($30,240)
- Terry Jones (Physical Therapy), Transcriptional regulation of muscle’s glucose transporter protein in response to exercise and a high-fat diet ($29,150)
- Jamie Brown Kruse (Economics), Spatial, Environmental and Behavioral Determinants of Valuation of Coastal Erosion Risk ($30,000)
- Yong-ling Li (Physics), New Techniques: Incorporating natural patterns of diversity loss into gene expression analysis ($29,497)
- Kwang Hun Lim (Chemistry), Understanding the development of the human brain ($28,621)
- Art A. Rodriguez (Chemistry), Understanding the development of the human brain ($28,621)
- David Loy (Recreation and Leisure Studies), Examining the effects of aromatherapy on the biological and behavioral markers of individuals with Alzheimer’s disease ($20,919)
- Joseph J. Lucevich (Pharmacology), Evaluating the impact of 2-benzathine on aortic function in aortic aneurysm patients ($30,220)
- Rebecca Maria Torres (Geography), Rural Transformation and Latino Settlement in the U.S. South ($28,423)
- Alexander Murashov (Physics), Treatment of Experimental Spinal Cord Injury with Embryonic Stem Cells ($30,000)
- Megan A. Perry (Anthropology), The effect of cigarette smoking on the health of children in low-income families ($29,497)
- Kyle Summers (Biology), The evolution and ecology of reproductive strategies in Amazonian poison frogs (Dendrobates imitator and Dendrobates variabilis) in northern Peru ($30,220)
- Pamlico Sound ($28,423)
- Martin Toussaint (Anthropology), Understanding the development of the human brain ($28,621)
- Carol Martocia Bickle (center) stands with her sons Randall Martocia (right) and Doug Martocia. (Contributed photo)

Martocia Library Dedicated

By Nancy McGillicuddy

East Carolina University’s Department of Psychology recently dedicated a library in honor of the late Charles “Tom” Martocia, who taught at the university for 39 years. A native of New Jersey, Martocia earned his PhD in psychology at the University of Virginia in 1966. After teaching at the Ravel Building, the Martocia Library comprises a collection of journals and articles from Martocia’s private collection. The former classroom now holds bookshelves with Martocia’s historical psychology books and worktables designed to create a comfortable working space. A memento shelf includes Martocia’s vintage Underwood typewriter, his black and white portrait and longhand letters written to him from noted American anthropologist Margaret Mead and Harvard psychologist Edward G. Boring.

“The library is a perfect space to be named in his honor,” said Larry Bolen, acting chair of the psychology department who worked with Martocia for 30 years. “He was the type of person that devoured anything in print.”

Bolen recalled how his former colleague’s office reflected that passion. Journals and books stacked up to his waist as Martocia kept up with the latest psychology publications for himself, his students and his colleagues.

The late professor’s enthusiasm transferred to his students and his sons. One of his sons, Randall, is a lecturer in ECU’s Department of English.

“He’s children — even as young adults — continue to be influenced by his work,” Bolen said.

By Doug Boyd

The family of Tom Martocia attended the dedication of the library in the psychology department, named in the late professor’s honor. A photo of Professor Martocia rests on a shelf in the background as Carol Martocia Bickle (center) stands with sons Randall Martocia (right) and Doug Martocia. (Contributed photo)
ECU Joins Ecosystems Pact

ECU has joined a regional consortium designed to foster ties between universities and federal resource management programs. ECU’s inclusion into the Piedmont-South Atlantic Coast Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit will expand research opportunities for faculty and students and establish relationships with federal agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Lauriston R. King, director of the Ph.D. Program in Coastal Resources Management, will represent ECU. As a member institution, ECU will collaborate with six other universities in the Southeast to address problems that concern resource management. The other universities are: Auburn University, Clemson University, North Carolina State University, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and the University of Central Florida. The universities work together to provide research and technical assistance to federal organizations such as the Agricultural Research Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Geological Survey Biological Resources Division, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Audubon societies of Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina are also members. Information is available at http://www.ecu.edu/currentcesus/piedmont/index.html.

Biology Department Establishes Advancement Council

The ECU Department of Biology established its first advancement council with an inaugural meeting on April 9. Sixteen individuals were selected to serve on the council, for the purpose of advancing the academic and research programs in the department. The council provides advocacy, consultation, and support; and promotes good relations for the department. Councilors will advise departmental administrators and serve as liaisons with other institutions and businesses to acquaint students with educational and employment opportunities. The council is slated to meet again this fall on the Friday preceding the ECU homecoming weekend. The council includes friends and alumni with a variety of backgrounds and experiences, including academia, business, law, financial management, government, medicine, pharmaceuticals and environmental science.

Staff Senate Executive Committee Officers Named

The executive committee of the ECU Staff Senate has selected officers for the 2005-06 academic year. Those officers are: chair, Kim Wilson (Academic Affairs); chair elect, Alise Rowan (Health Sciences); secretary, Pat Tutino (Student Life); and treasurer, Darlene Garland (Health Sciences). Elected by a majority vote of staff senators, executive committee members develop the agenda for faculty senate meetings and support the mission of the staff senate, to promote communication between ECU staff and administration, faculty, and/or students. The staff senate reports directly to the chancellor.

Program Kicks Off for AIG Certification

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction in ECU’s College of Education has initiated a new certification program for teachers who would like to acquire a license to teach the academically or intellectually gifted. The program includes two weeks of online instruction, and two weeks of face-to-face interaction. The first face-to-face week was held at Elmhurst Elementary School June 6 – 10. The second face-to-face week will be held next summer, at which time students will plan and implement instructional programs in the classroom with gifted children. Elmhurst teacher Suzanne Hackmeister is the lead teacher for the program. The AIG Licensure Program is a partnership between the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and Pitt County Schools. The program will fill a void expected when the Department of Public Instruction, which offers AIG licensure across the state, completes its AIG licensure programming in June 2006. Contact Patricia Anderson at 328-4123, or e-mail andersonp@mail.ecu.edu.

Exhibit Shows Personal Side of Life after Stroke

A black-and-white photography exhibit in the Regional Rehabilitation Center at Pitt County Memorial Hospital uses art to increase understanding of life after stroke. Opened May 19, “Travels in Stroke Country” documents the journey of several stroke survivors including project organizer Dr. Heidi Kelly, who suffered a massive stroke at age 41. Now 47, Kelly has progressive MS, but still lives with her husband, Ken Betsalel, and ECU Allied Health Sciences professor, Dr. Don Enslow. Enslow’s wife, Ramona, is also a stroke survivor. The exhibit focuses on survivors who live in the “stroke belt,” which includes all of North Carolina, particularly the eastern part of the state. The exhibit is sponsored by the ECU School of Allied Health Sciences and the Regional Rehabilitation Center, with support from the N.C. Humanities Council. The exhibit will remain at the rehabilitation center through the summer and will be moved this fall to the School of Allied Health Sciences’ Belk Building.

Faculty Convocation to Open Academic Year

The 2005-06 academic year will officially get under way with the annual faculty convocation at 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 22, in Wright Auditorium.

The event, open to all ECU faculty members, is traditionally the largest faculty gathering of the year.

Stavros Rizgos (Geology), chair of the faculty, will preside, and speakers will include Chancellor Steve Ballard, Provost and Vice Chancellor James LeRoy Smith, Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Michael J. Lewis and Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies Deirdre Mageean.

Mageean began her duties last month, coming to ECU from the University of Maine.

Romer Selected as Chair

Frank Romer, a professor of classics at the University of Arizona, has been named chair of the ECU Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, effective Aug. 1.

“We try to recruit leading scholars from the major research universities and Dr. Frank Romer is the latest example of how this practice works for us,” said Keats Sparrow, dean of the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences.

Romer’s professional experiences range from teaching, academic administration and academic writing to archaeological excavations. He holds degrees in classics from New York University and Stanford University and has taught at several institutions, including Johns Hopkins University.

His academic awards include a National Endowment of the Humanities Summer Seminar at the American Academy in Rome, a travel grant from the American Council of Learned Societies and membership in the School of Historical Studies at Princeton University’s Institute for Advanced Study.

He will succeed Sylvie Debevec Henning, who has been named director of the Masters of Arts degree program in International Studies program at ECU.

Arts, Sciences Dean Named

White said, “East Carolina is an institution that is actively growing in a thoughtful way. It is an exciting and fun place to be, and it is the size and type of institution that will be a good fit for me.”

White, a native of North Carolina, received a B.S. degree in biology in 1977 and a Ph.D. in botany in 1981, both from UNC-Chapel Hill. Before joining NDSU, he was a faculty member at Marshall University in West Virginia.

He is the author of 37 refereed publications in books and scientific journals over the last 25 years, and his research grants have totaled more than $9 million. He will succeed Keats Sparrow, who is stepping down after 15 years as dean.

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Zipf Book Examines Forced Apprenticeship of Children

By Erica Plouffe Lazure

Apprentice labor laws in North Carolina existed as a means to control the composition and character of families, to provide sources of cheap labor and to ensure a white patriarchal social order, an ECU historian contends.


“My interest focuses on the apprenticeship law, its evolution and its effects on families,” Zipf said. “The courts didn’t really consider the rights of the child or the parent, but more often that of the local landowner needing labor.”

North Carolina’s apprenticeship laws enabled any local magistrate to claim guardianship of children whom they believed lived in “unfit” families. They would contract children into the care of farmers, artisans, blacksmiths or members of the upper class who needed domestic servants. Zipf said. The law defined “unfit” heads of household to include black men and women, or any widowed or unmarried white woman. Women did not have full rights to their children during this era. Drawing from more than 1,000 court and Freedmen’s Bureau records from Brunswick, Dublin, Robeson, Guilford, Wake, Mecklenburg and Wilkes counties, Zipf reconstructs the state apprenticeship process and family circumstances that led to the placement.

Among the estimated 100,000 children affected by the law was Andrew Johnson, who, as a teenager, fled a tailor apprenticeship with his brother to be reunited in Tennessee with their estranged mother. While he went on to become president of the United States, some children never saw their parents again.

After the Civil War, former slaves who lived like husband and wife and had children were found their families under threat by the apprenticeship law. “We are dealing with a whole population of people who are not officially married, all their children are considered illegitimate,” Zipf said. “There are difficult and confounding legal contradictions that the state faced.”

Eventually, attitudes about laws governing families shifted in courtrooms and in the legislature. The apprenticeship law was replaced in 1919 by the Child Welfare Act. “The change happened because of shifting perceptions about what was best for children and who has rights to a child. Judicial interpretations of the laws also played key roles in making the change, which then enabled legislators to eventually abolish the apprentice law in favor of the Child Welfare Act,” Zipf said.

Zipf, a Durham native who grew up in Rocky Mount, is now working on the next leg of her project: North Carolina’s Child Welfare Act from 1919 to 1996. She received an ECU Research Development Grant award for $5,093 for her project, “Buked and Scorned: Gender, Race and the Welfare State in North Carolina.”

ECU Physician First to Use Device to Open Airway

By Doug Boyd

A 55-year-old New Bern woman with cancer was the first U.S. patient to receive a new device designed to help keep her airway open during a procedure last Thursday in Greenville.

Dr. Gordon Downie, a pulmonologist and associate professor of medicine at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, inserted a new type of tracheobronchial stent in the patient, who has a cancerous tumor in her bronchial tube. That tumor blocked approximately 40 percent of her airway, Downie said. After the stent placement, only about 10 percent of her airway remained blocked, he added.

Downie said the procedure helps patients breathe more easily even though it doesn’t directly treat the cancer.

“This is a palliative procedure for patients who are beyond a cure and you’re looking to make the symptoms better,” Downie said. “I think this procedure can definitely improve quality of life.”

A stent is a tubular device made of an alloy metal such as nickel or titanium. It is compressed onto a delivery device and delivered to the area of the trachea, bronchus’ main stem or branch stem where the narrowing is.

The physician then releases the stent, and it springs open, propping open the airway so the patient can breathe more easily. Stents can also be coated with a film that prevents tumor growth into the airway. Placing the stent takes approximately 15 minutes, Downie said, and does not require general anesthesia.

This improved stent, made by Charlotte-based Alveolus and called the Aero Tracheobronchial Stent, has a collagen coating that reduces the formation of scar tissue around it that could narrow the airway, Downie said. The Aero stent has been used successfully in Europe and is undergoing trials in the United States, according to Alveolus. Downie’s use of it Thursday was the first in those trials.

“Probably about half of lung cancer patients could benefit from this at some point,” Downie said. He already uses stents in 80 to 100 patients yearly, he added. The new stent should reduce the number of patients whose airways re-narrow due to scar tissue formation.

“In some cases there will be a dramatic improvement in symptoms,” he said. “In other cases, the effect is that there is not a dramatic decline.”

The devices are similar to stents used to open blood vessels, but are much larger. The trachea is approximately 2 centimeters in diameter, Downie said, while the right and left main stems are 14-16 millimeters and the branches from those are 8-10 millimeters. The stents he used Thursday was 14 millimeters in diameter and 4 centimeters long.

The New Bern patient has cervical cancer that has spread to her lungs. The tumor the stent was applied to is in her left main bronchial stem. The procedure was done at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, the teaching hospital of the Brody School of Medicine at ECU. Downie also sees patients at the Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center.
Hughes To Join ACE Fellows

Dr. Karla Hughes, dean of ECU’s College of Human Ecology, has been selected to participate in the American Council on Education Fellows Program for 2005-2006. The ACE Fellows Program, established in 1965, is one of the longest-running leadership-development efforts in the United States and focuses on identifying and preparing senior leaders for the nation’s colleges and universities. Hughes was nominated for the program by ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard and chosen among a class of 40 fellows nationwide who will spend time working with a college or university president and other senior officers at a host institution, attending decision-making meetings and focusing on issues of concern.

Hughes will spend the fall semester working with the chief executive of another university. She is interviewing now to determine where she will work. In the spring, she will return to ECU and participate in projects with Ballard and Provost James LeRoy Smith. “This is a wonderful professional opportunity,” Hughes said. “When I return to the deanship, the experience will be invaluable in taking this new college to the next level.”

Dr. Margie Lee Gallagher, associate dean of the college for research and graduate studies, will serve as acting dean for the 2005-06 academic year.

Rotondo to Lead Surgery

Dr. Michael F. Rotondo was named chairman of the Department of Surgery at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University.

Rotondo, a professor of surgery, had served as interim chairman for more than a year. “Dr. Rotondo assumed the responsibility as interim chairman of the Department of Surgery in December of 2003, and has done an exceptional job in this undertaking,” Dr. Cynda Johnson, dean of the medical school, said in an official e-mail announcing his appointment. “Dr. Rotondo is an accomplished surgeon, leader, mentor, innovator and kind and caring physician and colleague.”

Rotondo came to ECU in 1999 to serve as chief of the section of trauma and surgical critical care in the Department of Surgery. Rotondo will continue to serve as director of the Center of Excellence for Trauma and Surgical Critical Care of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina and its flagship Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville.

Rotondo succeeds former chairman Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood, who recruited him to Greenville. Chitwood was named director of the Eastern Carolina Cardiovascular Institute, ECU senior associate vice chancellor for health professionals.

Russoniello to Study ‘Fun’

By Erica Plouffe Lazur

An East Carolina University professor took his study of the healing benefits of fun to the National Institutes of Health this summer.

Carmen Russoniello is spending two months as a guest researcher at the Mark O. Hatfield Clinical Research Center in Bethesda, Md., to further the findings of his doctoral dissertation, which uncovered links between recreational activity and improvements in participants’ physical and psychological symptoms. By examining shifts in participants’ brain chemistry, hormone levels and mood, Russoniello hopes to expand the study and track how recreational activity can affect symptoms caused by depression, stress and pain.

“It’s hard to be worried when your mind is occupied with doing something, especially when it is something you enjoy. While we intuitively know that it is impossible to have fun and be depressed at the same time, we had never looked at what biochemical changes occur when people engage in activities they enjoy,” Russoniello said.

Establishing a link between recreational activity and feeling better could someday provide a “prescription” for fun, Russoniello said, where a person could reliably engage certain kinds of activity in order to boost desirable chemical and hormone levels. Biochemical changes, such as levels of cortisol, serotonin and dopamine, will be measured and compared to how participants report how they feel before and after recreational activities.

“By doing so we hope to further understand the processes that underlie enjoyment and how they affect dysfunctional conditions such as depression,” he said.

Palliative Care Focus of Book

By Doug Boyd

Health care professionals treating terminally ill children now have a resource they can turn to for guidance.

Dr. Ronald M. Perkin, chairman of the Department of Pediatric Surgery at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, along with Dr. James D. Swift of the University of Nevada and Julia Raper of Children’s Hospital of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina, have written a book titled, “Primer on Pediatric Palliative Care.” The book was published in March by ECU’s University Printing and Graphics.

“Nobody expects their child to die, but unfortunately we have children who die,” Perkin said. “This book is to help health care professionals deal with children who will not survive to be adults.”

The 255-page book has six sections with titles such as “Ethical and Legal Issues in Pediatric Palliative Care,” “Intensive Symptom Management” and “Behavioral.”

End-of-life care for adults has received growing attention in recent years, but end-of-life care for children has remained largely a taboo subject. One reason is, as Perkin mentioned above, that children aren’t expected to be terminally ill or mortally injured. Another reason is that children are not old enough to have legally binding advance directives, wills or other items available to adults.

Perkin said children facing death often understand what’s happening and should be able to refuse treatment if they desire.

EUC Labs on Solid Ground

By Doug Boyd and Erica Plouffe Lazur

Despite budget pressures, laboratory education at East Carolina University is largely alive and well thanks in part to new facilities and lower-cost approaches to teaching.

Dr. Paul Gemperline, a chemist and associate vice chancellor for health professionals, said that the labs help students learn and understand concepts taught in lectures.

“People emphasize teaching, but I think what is important to emphasize is learning,” Strausbaugh said. “How do students learn?”

Lab courses also foster collaboration, he added.

“One of the most important aspects of medical care is the concept of team care,” he said. “A patient is cared for by an M.D., nurses, a physical therapist, nutritionist, and social worker. The modern M.D. must learn to be a team player.”

Approximately 72 second-year medical students spend 60 one-hour sessions in lab as part of their pathology course. Students rate the laboratory portion highly, Strausbaugh said. Even so, labs face challenges.

“One area putting labs at risk is their expense. According to Strausbaugh, simply equipping a pathology lab with microscopes can cost $350,000 plus $50,000 for upkeep in subsequent years. Add in the cost of 300 specimen slides at and that can happen in a lab,” Gemperline said.

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Bernard is ‘Shining Star’ at ECU’s Christenbury Gym

In coordination with the Recognition and Rewards Committee of the ECU Staff Senate, the Pieces of Eight series honoring exceptional ECU staff members recognizes Arthur Bernard.

By Judy Currin

The folks who work in Christenbury Memorial Gymnasium are fortunate to know Arthur Bernard. A member of the ECU Housekeeping Staff for 16 years and the sole caretaker of Christenbury for the past six years, he shows up for work early every morning with a smile on his face and a good joke to share.

“I take life for what it really is,” Bernard said. “It’s about the beauty of just living, enjoying the things you have, and really looking and taking in your surroundings.”

Most days, he’s up at 4 a.m. administering medication to his wife, Teresa, who suffered kidney failure and partial brain damage eight years ago. He helps her get dressed before the aide arrives to transport her to her thrice-weekly dialysis treatment. Bernard’s position at Christenbury allows him to be home with her in the evenings.

“I enjoy my work and when I’m here I think I do a pretty good job,” Bernard said.

“People don’t believe me when I tell them I’m having fun.”

Maintaining the hardwood court in the old gym is one of Bernard’s most satisfying tasks.

“When I see the old floor after it has gotten dirty and I clean it and I know it’s as clean as I can get it, well that’s just a great feeling,” he said. “I love to see it shine.”

Jason Denius, director of ECU’s Volunteer and Service-Learning Center, located on the lower level of the building, sees Bernard regularly.

“When I first met him I was just seeing him in the hallways,” Denius said. “He has the most positive attitude, and more energy than my 3-year-old son.”

Denius said during last year’s hurricane season, Christenbury would flood after every hard rain. Bernard had the difficult task of cleaning up the water as well as removing mold that subsequently grew on the walls. “Because of his hard work and dedication, everyone in Christenbury enjoys the cleanest and safest working environment, and for that I’m thankful,” Denius said.

Bernard is more humble about his contributions.

“I just do what needs to be done,” he said. “My Dad taught me to do that. His line of work was similar to mine.”

Bernard grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. His father, Arthur Bernard Sr., was a mason. “The only problems with those lines of work was that I couldn’t stand to get dirty,” Bernard said. “My boss said ‘I can’t keep paying you if you’re going to spend so much time in the bathroom cleaning your hands.’”

He is also a musician. “I play guitar and drums, write music and sing,” Bernard said. In 2003 he recorded a Christian CD called “I’m Ready.”

Bernard leads a full life. He attributes his positive attitude to his strong belief in God and family. His 79-year-old mother, Doreatha, a minister for 60 years, serves food to the homeless every month and cares for 78-year-old Bernard Sr., who suffers from diabetes.

Bernard Jr. is proud of his son’s accomplishments. Their eldest, Alvin Moore, is the regional manager for Ruby Tuesday’s restaurant chain. Their youngest son, Tuwondo, is a 2005 graduate of Virginia Tech. He enlisted in the Navy last month and aspires to become a nuclear submarine officer.

“They’ve learned that if you want to do things in life, you can do it,” Bernard said. “No matter what the obstacles.”

Campaign Raises Money, Awareness for AIDS Orphans

Students under the supervision of Kelli Munn, instructor in ECU’s School of Communication, are combining efforts with the Alliance for Youth Achievement to raise both money and awareness for Africa’s escalating AIDS epidemic.

While fund raising was an important goal, the campaign also focused on raising awareness of the AIDS/HIV epidemic spreading throughout the continent of Africa. “As students went out into the community to raise money, they were also charged with spreading the word about the AIDS pandemic in Africa,” Munn said.

The idea for the project came from a conversation between Munn and School of Communication alumnus Ginger Dail. After hearing about Good Hope, Munn realized the project was appropriate for service learning, while satisfying the learning outcomes of her public relations courses. In that course, students are assigned group work in which they complete a proposal for a mock public relations campaign. This time the campaign would be real.

Munn asked her students to conduct...
Divers Study Sunken Gunboat in Blackout Conditions

By Nancy McGillicuddy

ON THE ROANOKE RIVER, N.C. — With visibility of three to four inches on good day and near-darkness when clouds block the sun, maritime studies students at East Carolina University recently practiced one of the strengths that the university’s program is known for — conducting research in total blackout conditions.

The experience, which entailed researching a Civil War vessel on the Roanoke River, was a part of ECU’s summer field school, work that could help students land prized jobs in a tough field. “It’s exhausting work,” said Larry Babits, director of ECU’s maritime studies program. “But you can’t learn how to do this type of research without actually doing it. These conditions are some of the most challenging ones, but our students get jobs because they can handle these different environments.”

This year, as part of a summer field school, students honed their black-out research skills while exploring the last known Union gunboat of its kind, the USS Otsego. The 974-ton double-ended vessel sank in December 1865 after striking Confederate mines on the Roanoke River at the end of the Civil War. No men were lost in the explosion that sank the boat, but two soldiers died on the USS Bradley, a smaller vessel, that hit mines when assisting in the rescue of the Otsego’s crew. Both ships remain in graves at the bottom of the river, north of Plymouth, N.C.

“The USS Otsego is part of a class of vessels that has already disappeared,” Babits said. “It’s the sole survivor of its class. And even if it’s broken up, it’s still important.”

The Otsego’s sand-filled cavities and rusted crevices hold a vast research site where East Carolina University students and researchers get a first-hand opportunity to explore Civil War history. As a sassafras class vessel, the Otsego was constructed to maneuver narrow, shallow and twisted waterways. As one of 22 vessels constructed, the ship is considered a national archeological resource, said Brian Dively, a graduate student who is writing his thesis on the Otsego.

“All the other vessels of this class were either scrapped after the war or lost in the records,” Dively said. “This is the only one that we have been able to uncover any information about in our search.” Twelve students and seven faculty and staff members participated in the field school. Divers worked most of June exploring the wreckage of the 230-foot ship in order to map the Otsego site. While a permit from the U.S. Navy allows the researchers to bring artifacts to the surface, divers left the vessel and its appendages below the silt-screened waters, partly due to the cost of conserving. Babits estimated that it would take $300,000 to raise the ship properly to avoid the deterioration surface exposure inevitably invokes.

“IT’s not really an option,” he said. “To bring it up would be criminal if you didn’t have a way to preserve it.”

While the vessel sank 140 years ago, the ECU field school participants are not the first humans to interact with the ship since its demise. In the 1930s, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dragged the ship from its original wreck site and deposited it into a 60-foot hole about a half-mile south of Plymouth. The dredging cleared up the river for navigation, but made the first archeological visit to the site a bit more of a challenge, said Nathan Richards, a professor in maritime studies who described the L-shaped site as “an unarticulated mess.”

Despite the messy wreckage and the fact that union soldiers salvaged the ship after its fall, ECU’s researchers did not surface empty-handed. Students emerged from the brown waters with plastic slates and mechanical pencils, which allowed them to draw parts of the ship underwater. On the slates the students noted portholes, paddles, hatches, shot rails and reinforced iron bars — all identified and documented during one of their 90-minute dives.

The field school was an archeological dive debut for Jennifer Cobb, a Ph.D. student in Coastal Resources Management, who said the experience helped solidify her choice of academic specialty.

“It’s fun; I want to be out there in the field,” she said. “We are out there touching a piece of history that has not been touched since the 1930s.”

Babb Honored with Distinguished Service Award

By Crystal Baity

Dr. Joseph D. Babb of ECU’s Brody School of Medicine has received the Distinguished Service Award from the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions. The award is the highest honor given by the 3,300-member society.

Babb is a cardiologist and professor of medicine and past director of the cardiology fellowship training program at Brody School of Medicine, director of the cardiac catheterization laboratories at Pitt County Memorial Hospital and immediate past president for the North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. He is a fellow of the SCAI.

“I was deeply honored to receive this award,” Babb said. “Teaching medical students and residents creates an opportunity to have a lasting impact on our profession, as does volunteering in professional associations. I feel enormously privileged to be a physician and believe it’s appropriate to give back to my profession in thanks for all it has given me.”

The award is presented annually to a SCAI fellow who has worked tirelessly and effectively on behalf of the cardiovascular profession and on the society’s mission of advancing the field of invasive/interventional cardiovascular care for patients. Babb received the award in May at the 28th Annual Scientific Session of the Melvin P. Judkins Imaging Symposium, held in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Babb served as society president in 2001-2002. Previously, he headed the group’s Continuing Medical Education Committee, spearheading its effort to earn accreditation status for the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education and developing guidelines for SCAI educational programs.

As president, he oversaw a successful effort to expand the society’s membership. He also brought together representatives of all the international medical societies focused on interventional cardiology, launching a “cardiology roundtable” to address the common concerns of cardiologists and their patients.

The effort led to the development of a new organization, the Coalition of Cardiovascular Organizations, which Babb chaired in 2004.
ECU Dialysis Technology Earns Top Spot in Competition

By Doug Boyd

A business plan for a kidney dialysis technology devised at ECU was one of two winners at the 12th annual $10K Business Plan Competition managed by the Entrepreneurship Education Initiative at the North Carolina State University College of Management.

The technology, designed to help reduce the number of hours people with end-stage renal disease spend in dialysis, was developed by a team led by Dr. Paul Bolin, associate professor of internal medicine and chief of the nephrology division at the Brody School of Medicine.

Working with Bolin on the technology was Dr. Craig J. McCotter, now chief cardiologist fellow at the University of Virginia and a former ECU medical student, and Dr. Cindy Christiano, a clinical assistant professor of medicine at ECU.

NCSU students Matt Hallam, David Hodl, Eric Hulssey and Nocha van Thielten developed the business plan for Pulse Filtration Technologies, a company that would bring the technology to market. They assessed a variety of ideas before settling on the ECU dialysis concept, made available to the students through the ECU Office of Technology Transfer. All four medical schools in the state submitted biotechnology product ideas for the competition, according to Bolin.

Their plan netted them a $6,000 prize. Hodl said team members haven’t decided what they’ll do with the money or what’s next for the proposed firm. “The company is in its infancy,” Hodl said.

Bolin’s group built prototypes based on the operation of a heart-lung machine, which delivers oxygen to the brain in a pulsing manner similar to the natural heartbeat. They then tested their prototype and found it was up to 35 percent more efficient than a normal dialysis pump. The benefit works two ways: dialysis patients who typically reach their target level of urea and salt removal during dialysis could reach that target in one-third less time, and patients who have a hard time reaching their target at all could come one-third closer to reaching it.

Bolin said pursuing a National Institutes of Health grant to further study the idea and detail its benefits would be a good next step. Christianso, also a former medical student and resident at ECU, received a national resident research award for her work already on this technology.

The business plan competition drew nearly 150 participants with a total of 50 business plans submitted. Awards were presented at the Capital City Club in Raleigh, May 4.

In the Spotlight

Appointments/Elections

Ralph Scott (Joyner Library) was appointed editor of North Carolina Libraries by the North Carolina Library Association Executive Board.

Jeff Johnson (Sociology) was selected to serve as a member of the Organizational Modeling Committee of the National Academies of Science.

Michael Bassman (University Honors) was re-appointed by Gov. Easley to a two-year term on the North Carolina Council on the Holocaust.

Jason Denis (Volunteer and Service-Learning) was elected vice president of communications for the N.C. Association of Volunteer Administration.

Mary Kirkpatrick (Nursing) was appointed to the national honor society, Sigma Theta Tau International, 2006 Education Planning Committee.

Lloyd Novick (Medicine) was elected president of the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine. He will serve as president-elect until his term begins in spring 2006.

David Long (History) was named editor of Lincoln Lore, a quarterly bulletin published by the Lincoln Museum of Fort Wayne, Ind.

NewsMakers

Hunt McKinnon (Human Ecology) and his students on Public Radio East, regarding their design for an art studio and gallery in downtown Tarboro, May 23, 24 and 27.


Sue Martin (Career Center) in the National Association of Colleges and Employers’ newsletter, Spotlight Online, on the new HIRED (Helping Individuals Reach Employment Destinations) practice interview program, May 26.

A book by Charles Calhoun (History), Benjamin Harrison, was reviewed by the Washington Times, May 28.

H. A. Barakat (Medicine) in the Raleigh News Observer on research about fat and tissue damage, June 1.

Jim McAtee (Career Center) on WFXI-TV discussing career readiness preparation for students and how to land the best internships and jobs, June 4.

Nicholas Benson (Medicine) on WTN-TV, on staying hydrated while working in heat, June 6.

Tina Roper (Medicine) on WCTI-TV, on heat stroke, June 14.

Brian McMullen (Health Sciences), in the Daily Reflector, WTN-TV, WCTI-TV, and the Associated Press on a study of freshman drinking, June 16.

Service, Honors and Professional Activities

Jack Schmidt (Education) received a 2005 Distinguished Career Award from the UNC – Greensboro School of Education, where he completed his doctorate in counseling in 1979.

The Section on Personnel Administration and Labor Relations of the American Society for Public Administration presented Bonnie Mani (Political Science) with the Best Article, Review of Public Personnel Administration (RPPA) for “The Employer’s Advantage in Sexual Harassment Cases: How the Courts have Discouraged the Victims of Sexual Harassment.” The article was published in RPPA, Vol. 24, No. 1.

Seodial F. Deena (English), Debbie Deena (Medicine), Tope Bello (Business), and Terry Congleton of PMH organized a second semester of CLASS—Center for Learning and Advancement of Scientific Studies—through which 38 students participated in a Saturday Academy taught by ECU professors and Pitt county residents. Also participating from ECU were Sunday Ajose (Math and Science Education), Ted Jones (ITCS), Gera Miles (English), Anthony Hayford (Chemistry), Lisa Staton (Medicine), Ben Irons (former ECU Attorney), Wendy Peterson (Medicine), Jennifer Harris (Medicine) and doctoral student in microbiology, Heidi Dunreple.

Second quarter Facilities Services Awardees for Excellence winners are James Clemons (Building Services, Facilities Services Center) for safety and heroism; and Johnny Chapman (Grounds Services), Neal Thorne (Utilities Services), Bruce Rose (Health Sciences Campus) for devotion to duty.

Campus Operations Awards for Excellence 2005 were presented to John Williams (Environmental Health and Safety), Johnnie Eastwood (Parking and Transportation), and Gina Shoemaker (Facilities Engineering) for devotion to duty; and to Kim Walters (Facilities Engineering, Campus Operations) for human relations.

Facilities Services Supervisors Awards for Excellence, for devotion to duty, went to Ed Traylor (Building Services, Facilities Services Center), Johnnie Turner (Grounds Services), Robert Newell (Utilities Services), Ray Baldree (Medicine), and Valeria Bradley (Housekeeping).

Maralyn Sheerer (Education) was among three finalists for the 2005 Jay Robinson Leadership Award honoring innovative, creative, effective leadership for public education in North Carolina. A team from the Small Business Institute, an outreach program of the ECU College of Business, won second place in a national case competition sponsored by the Small Business Institute Director’s Annual Conference. The Small Business Institute works with small businesses in eastern North Carolina to offer comprehensive business assistance. The winning team worked more than 400 hours on a consulting project for Toys 4 Trucks in Pitt County. Team members include ECU seniors John Dickens, Jonathan Lowe, Melissa Poag, and Jeffrey Reece.

Kathryn Yandell (University Development) received the Oakwood Guardian Award from Oakwood School of Greenville, in recognition of her volunteer efforts. The Oakwood School’s Capital Campaign co-chair, president of the Board of Trustees and Development Committee chair.

Jason Denis, Shawn Moore, Jessica Gage and Rita Gonsalves (Volunteer and Service-Learning) attended the N.C. Association of Volunteer Administrators Conference in Wilmington. Moore and Gage also attended the N.C. Campus Compact Community Service and Service Learning Directors Conference in Black Mountain.

Sharon Bland (Academic Affairs) completed the requirements for the graduate certificate in academic advising from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Ks. Bland completed an intensive online program on academic advising theory and skills, and concepts such as career development, multicultural advising, student development and learning principles.

The Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center was nominated during the meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncologists in Orlando, Fla., to receive the society’s Clinical Oncology Education Award, recognizing cancer trials for underserved areas. Howard Homesley (Medicine), who presented at the event, accepted the award.
Volunteers Needed

By Doug Boyd

ECU researchers have found a link between asthma-related inflammation and heart and blood vessel illness.

The illnesses, such as congestive heart failure, angina and vasculitis, or inflammation of blood vessels, previously had been attributed to medications used to treat asthma.

Researchers with the Department of Physiology at the Brody School of Medicine discovered that inflammation associated with asthma affects the heart’s recovery from a heart attack, confirming growing evidence that indicates asthma may affect the cardiovascular system.

“The findings are clinically important because they provide the first evidence of a direct contribution of asthmatic conditions to cardiovascular complications, independent of any asthma drug therapy,” said Surroví Hazarika, a physiology graduate student and lead author of the study. “If the findings are confirmed in human trials, asthma could be identified as a potential risk factor for post-operative complications and recurrent events following such cardiotherapy interventions as angioplasty.”

Hazarika presented the research at the 35th Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences in San Diego this spring.

Dr. Michael Van Scott, professor of physiology; and Dr. Robert Lust, assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine, coordinated the research.

ECU researchers have found a link between asthma-related inflammation and heart and blood vessel illness. (Contributed photo)

Heart, Asthma Link Found

By Ann Dickerson

The Coastal-Maritime Council (CMC) has completed a review of coastal-maritime academic and research activities on campus. Under the auspices of the ECU academic council of vice chancellors, the CMC conducted the review through an expert panel of scientists. In review sessions held on campus over the course of the fall semester, the faculty presented their data and perspectives to the academic council of vice chancellors. A formal written report will be presented in July.

Comprised of 15 members from across ECU’s academic and research units, the CMC works to organize, plan and coordinate research programs that bring social, economic and natural scientists together. These scientists address complex scientific questions concerning citizen cultural, development, and public use impacts on the ecosystems of the state’s coastal environment. Scientists also collaborate in the writing of large multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional grant proposals, and in the conduct of externally funded research in an integrated and interdisciplinary manner.

The external review is part of ongoing activities sponsored by the CMC to promote interdisciplinary research and to encourage collaboration. Other activities include workshops, seminars, retreats, and communication with affiliated faculty on funding activities. These activities draw graduate students from the Coastal Management Resources doctoral program and from the master’s programs of the academic council of vice chancellors.

Members of the CMC are Lisa Clough (Biological), Reade Corbett (Geology), Steve Culver (Geology), Rick Ericson (Economics), Joe Fridgen (Recreation and Leisure Studies), Jim Gibson (Pharmacology and Toxicology), Jeffrey Johnson (Sociology), Lorry King (Coastal Resources Management), Jamie Kruse (Economics), Ron Mitchell (Geography), Chairman Ron Newton (Biology), Bill Queen (Institute of Coastal Marine Resources), Stan Riggs (Geology), Tim Runyan (Maritime Studies), and Hans Vogelsong (Recreation and Leisure Studies).

The expert review was coordinated by Bill Queen, director of ECU’s Institute for Coastal and Marine Resources and a member of the CMC. The panel included Dr. B. J. Copeland (chair), former director of the UNC Sea Grant Program; Dr. Paul Sandifer, senior scientist for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, S.C.; Dr. John Gatewood, professor of anthropology and sociology at Lehigh University; Dr. Al Hine, associate dean of the College of Marine Science, University of South Florida; and Dr. William Cogar, professor of anthropology and sociology at Lehigh University; Dr. Al Hine, associate dean of the College of Marine Science, University of South Florida; and Dr. William Cogar, professor of anthropology and sociology at Lehigh University.

The panel included Dr. B. J. Copeland (chair), former director of the UNC Sea Grant Program; Dr. Paul Sandifer, senior scientist for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, S.C.; Dr. John Gatewood, professor of anthropology and sociology at Lehigh University; Dr. Al Hine, associate dean of the College of Marine Science, University of South Florida; and Dr. William Cogar, professor of anthropology and sociology at Lehigh University.

The report is part of a collaborative project between Lust, who studies acute coronary syndromes, associated with a prolonged deficit in blood flow to the heart; and Van Scott, who studies lung diseases.

“The goal was to investigate the inflammatory mechanisms underlying the asthma-associated increase in cardiac injury following a heart attack,” Hazarika said. These findings could lead to better treatments for people with asthma and heart or blood vessel disease.

And in the longer term, identification of the precise cause of cardiac changes induced by asthma and the appropriate therapeutic targets should provide better, specific alternatives for patients symptomatic for both asthma and cardiovascular disease,” she said.

“Previous studies have shown blood levels of certain markers of inflammation are related to increased risk of heart and vessel problems. Inflammation also underlies asthma, which is characterized by higher numbers of inflammatory cells in airways and other parts of the respiratory system. Earlier studies from the Van Scott/Lust laboratory showed the amount of damaged heart tissue increases after an acute heart attack in laboratory animals with asthma symptoms.

Earn Carolina University
Presentations


Presentation by Mary Kirkpatrick (Nursing) on “Mind-Body-Spirit” at the 4th World Conference on Breast Cancer: Community, Culture, Connection in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Kirkpatrick also presented on “Reflections,” at the Multi-disciplinary Learning Conference - Enlightened Holistic Care in Reykjavik, Iceland, sponsored by the Icelandic Nurses’ Association and Cancer Society. She presented “Nursing Excellence: Nursing Education Innovation Project – Inflining Palliative Care into the Nursing Curriculum,” at UNC – Pembroke and at Duke University. Also by Kirkpatrick, “Kaleidoscopic Education: What Color is Your Teaching,” at the Chicago Institute for Nursing Education in the 21st Century. Beyond the Textbooks, held at Saint Xavier University.

Presentation by Jim McKernan (Education) as the keynote speaker for the 30th Anniversary Meeting of the Educational Studies Association of Ireland, held at the National University of Ireland, Cork. McKernan spoke on “Educational Research and the Pursuit of the Future Prospect.” He also delivered a paper, “Evolving Forms of Action Research: Towards Situational Understanding through Critical Realism,” McKernan was a founding member of the Irish Educational Studies Association in 1975.

Presentations by David Long (History), as keynote speaker at the annual Lincoln Forum Symposium, held in Gettysburg on the anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. Long presented “Lincoln and Liberty: The 1860 Presidential Election,” Long also keynoted the Normal, Ill. meeting of the David Davis Association. He presented at Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan; conducted radio interviews; and spoke at several dinners and luncheons.

Presentation in absentia, at the International Conference on the Modernization of Pedagogical Education in the Context of the Bologna Process in Balashov, Russia, by Leon Gipson (ICTES), “Open Source Course Management Systems: A Virtual Learning Environment on a Shoe String.” He co-presented with Olga Novova, chief information officer at Balashov finial of Saratov State University. The invited presentation and opening speech was presented in real time over the Internet.

Presentation by Brad Simons (Career Center), “Utilizing Technology to Improve Career Services”, at the Cooperative Education and Internship Association conference, Anaheim, Calif.

Presentation by Georgia Childs (Student Health Services), “Recruiting and Retaining Peer Educators: Keeping the Excitement Alive and Well,” at the annual meeting of the American College Health Association in San Diego, Calif.


Presentation by Howard D. Humesley (Medicine), “Advances in the Treatment of Endocrine Cancer” at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Obstetrical and Gynecological Society in Asheville. Also, a poster, “Phase II Trial of Liposomal DOXOxubicin at 40 MG/M2 Every Four Weeks in Endometrial/Carcinoma: A Gynecologic Group Study.” at the annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncologists in Orlando, Fl. The Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center was nominated by the fellow cancer investigators to receive the society’s Clinical Trials Award for conducting cancer trials for underserved areas.

HOPE Funds Support Orphans

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a public relations campaign that would raise awareness about the AIDS and orphan crises in Africa, while motivating people to participate in a solution through donations.

Incorporating the service learning project into her classes “was a challenge at times,” Munn said, because she gave up class time to talk logistics and manage the fund raisers. But what they missed in class lectures, she said, was more than compensated for by what they learned while implementing their projects and interacting with their target audiences in the community.

Their public relations work included survey and focus group research, designing the campaign name and logo, writing newspaper stories and press releases, appearing on television and radio programs, planning and implement- ing fund raising events, and producing public service announcements.

“Employers will be seeing a lot of HOPE Campaign materials in student portfolios,” Munn said.

For more information, visit www.allforyouth.org.

Martoccia Library Dedicated

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children — would sit in Tom’s study and just read and read and read some more,” Ru said. “How he got them to do that I just don’t know.”

Martoccia began his academic career at Davidson College in 1960 before joining the faculty at ECU in 1961. He was a graduate of the University of Virginia, where he was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa. He received his master’s degree and his Ph.D., both in psychology, from the University of Florida. He also served as a corpsman in the U.S. Navy’s Naval Cadet Program.

Martoccia died Dec. 12, 2000 after he was diagnosed with Lou Gehrings Disease. An initial $25,000 donation from the Martoccia family started the library and the ECU Board of Trustees approved the naming of the space last fall.

Russoniello Researches ‘Fun’

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said. While the recreation for this study will be limited to sedentary activities such as making crafts, playing cards or chess, Russoniello hopes to expand the inquiry to include recreational activity requiring moderate physical activity, such as ping pong, billiards or walking. An important aspect in the study is that the participant enjoys the activity.

The study could last as long as two years and could help further establish the effects of recreational therapy interven- tion. Ninety participants will be randomly assigned to three groups. One group will watch a set of videos about stress management, another group will engage in a recreational activity with a therapist and a third group will be asked to do recre-ational activity alone. Russoniello will note how a therapist’s presence affects improvements in reported symptoms.

“This lets us compare recreational activity with non-recreational activity and with participation alone or with a ther-apist. We want to measure how these interventions work, whether they are effective in reducing physical and psycho- logical symptoms,” he said.

Russoniello, who teaches in the recreation and leisure studies department, will conduct his study with Lynn Geber, chief of the NIH rehabilitation medicine department, and George D. Patrick, chief of recreation therapy at NIH.

Physical Therapy Opens Clinic

By Crystal Bait

ECU Physical Therapy, a new outpatient orthopedic clinic, has opened at ECU Physicians Firetower Medical Office on Firetower Road.

Kevin Youngs works with patient Megan Davis in the orthopedic clinic at ECU Physicians Firetower Medical Office. (Photo by Cliff Hollis)
Paralympian Ron Curl of Greenville underwent a physical evaluation recently at the ECU’s Walker Center. House in the College of Health and Human Performance’s FITT Center, the Walker Center provides assessments to athletes. Curl, a swimmer who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1979, was the first wheelchair-bound athlete to undergo assessment at the Walker Center. Jenn McCartney, an exercise and sport science researcher and instructor, directed Curl’s assessment, along with student research assistants. (Photo by Erica Piouffe Lazure)

Perkin Text Focuses on Palliative Care

The book also addresses the importance of sibling support. Perkin said a dying child and his or her parents often get the bulk of the attention from caregivers and others while brothers and sisters are sometimes forgotten. Regarding care-givers, Perkin said studies have shown health care professionals who care for dying children sometimes suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome in addition to burnout and compassion fatigue, all of which can lead to absenteeism, poor job performance, hostility toward coworkers, turnover and other problems.

At Children’s Hospital, staff members and physicians have cared for enough terminally ill children that they are aware not all can be saved, Perkin said. Publishing costs for 700 books were paid for with a $12,000 grant from the Children’s Miracle Network. The book is free, and copies are available by contacting Perkin at 744-2540 or perkinr@mail.ecu.edu.

Laboratory Education at ECU on Solid Ground

During the past few years, biology researchers have received grants to purchase a DNA sequencer and an electron microscope, two expensive pieces, Christian said.

The Howell Science Complex, which houses most biology labs, is slated for minor renovations next year. They will primarily involve upgrades to the building’s heating and air-conditioning system, said Mark Myer, one of the university architects in charge of the project.

As far as student laboratories, Christian believes student lab experiences aren’t as rich as they used to be, in part because of the lack of more modern facilities and because some sections of biology courses do not require a laboratory component.

“It’s safe to say the educational experience, especially in a formal lab, is worse now than it was five or 10 years ago,” he said. Christian said programs that do receive additional funding often have links with an outside need or interest. For example, he said, the surge in nursing enrollment required more funding for the department’s anatomy and physiology courses.

“There were upgrades,” he said. “In time, they may need an upgrade for microbiology as well.”
Novick Directs MPH Program

ECU's master's program in public health began in 2003 and now enrolls more than 50 students. It and the division that Novick will lead are housed in the Department of Family Medicine at the Brody School of Medicine.

Novick said he was attracted to ECU by the "opportunity to work with a new, developing program and to teach public health. It is a very interesting community to work in with lots of health problems and lots of interest in public health."

He holds a medical degree from New York University, a master's degree in public health from Yale University and a B.A. from Colgate University. He has been in his current positions since 1996 and previously served as first deputy commissioner of the New York State Department of Health; director of the State of Arizona Department of Health Services; secretary of the Agency for Human Services for the State of Vermont; commissioner of health for the Vermont State Department of Health; and deputy commissioner of the New York City Department of Health.

He has held academic appointments at the University at Albany (SUNY), University of Arizona, University of Vermont and Columbia University.

He is the editor of the Journal of Public Health Management and Practice and has written more than 70 articles in scholarly journals.

His wife, Carole Novick, also will join the university, as executive director of the Medical Foundation of ECU.

In Memoriam

Sandra Lou Joyner (retired, Registrar's Office) and mother of Kim Moore (Economics) died May 25.

Emma Flye Lanier, mother of James Lanier (University Advancement) died May 8.

Rotondo to Lead Surgery

continued from page 5

ECU's master's program in public health began in 2003 and now enrolls more than 50 students. It and the division that Novick will lead are housed in the Department of Family Medicine at the Brody School of Medicine.

One of the camps, Kelina Hardesty of New Bern, made several jumps off the rope swing into the water. "She is one of the most amazing children I know," Sauls said of Kelina, a 10-year-old who had her left leg amputated below the knee because of bone cancer two years ago and is a former CMN poster child. "She just jumps in the pool or hops into a canoe. I've never heard her complain. She just takes her leg off when she's in the water."

While at camp, Medlin and Kelina even had to "operate" on her prosthetic leg to clean out some sand that had worked its way in. After a thorough cleaning, Kelina was back with her fellow campers.

"Seeing their faces and hearing them laughing and having fun makes it all worthwhile," Sauls said.

The camps are sponsored by the Department of Pediatrics at the Brody School of Medicine and supported by funds from the Children's Miracle Network, the ECU Medical Foundation and others. To donate toward next year's camps through Rainbow Services, a non-profit program of the ECU Medical Foundation, contact Sauls at 744-4102.

In Philadelphia and a fellowship in traumatology and surgical critical care at the University of Pennsylvania.

Rotondo has published more than 130 manuscripts, abstracts, book chapters, monographs and educational materials and delivered over 125 regional and national presentations. He is credited with the development of the concept of "damage control," an innovative approach to critically injured patients that aims first to control bleeding and prevent wound contamination and further injury, then repair damage as the patient recovers and is able to withstand further surgeries.

Thirty Pirate Winners Named

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ECU’s master’s program in public health began in 2003 and now enrolls more than 50 students. It and the division that Novick will lead are housed in the Department of Family Medicine at the Brody School of Medicine.

One of the campers, Kelina Hardesty of New Bern, made several jumps off the rope swing into the water. "She is one of the most amazing children I know," Sauls said of Kelina, a 10-year-old who had her left leg amputated below the knee because of bone cancer two years ago and is a former CMN poster child. "She just jumps in the pool or hops into a canoe. I’ve never heard her complain. She just takes her leg off when she’s in the water."

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The winners are: from the Office of the Provost – Karla Hughes, Gloria Harrell, Patricia Green, Gerald Clayton, Roberson, and Christy Daniels. From Health Sciences – Edna Johnston, Joyce Kurt, Kathleen Roberson, and Christy Daniels.

Jordan Evans of Grifton and Jeremy Jordan of Jacksonville, 18, met while working at Camp Rainbow for eight and seven years, respectively.

"It’s fun and everybody is the same as you, the same situation," said Jordan, 17, who was diagnosed with leukemia at 9 and again at 11. "And it’s fun to see the nurses and doctors not in the hospital or clinic. Dr. (Charles) Daeschner is not in his doctor’s coat. It has helped a lot through the years to see them as a person, not just their job."

Jordan and Jeremy, 18, met while receiving treatments for leukemia, developing an instant bond, they said. Now, the two see themselves becoming counselors instead of campers.

As they talked, children were laughing as they jumped off the high dive into the chlorinated pond that serves as the camp’s pool.

Camp Lets Kids Be Kids

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monitor the children closely because they might not complain since they probably don’t want to go home or miss out on activities,” she said.

In addition, both camps provide support sessions to talk about cancer, sickle cell disease and hemophilia as well as strategies for staying healthy.

This year, campers came from 20 eastern North Carolina counties.

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