

Dental centers a novel approach to care, education

ENTREPRENEURS
WIN AT ECU

Campus and research news, faculty and alumni interviews and more

EAST

THE ECU MAGAZINE



SPR
2019



Creativity

HOW SOME OF OUR MOST IMAGINATIVE CONJURE THEIR MAGIC



From left, freshman Nazmokeem Harvey, an ensemble member, and senior Brandi Campbell, in the role of Kate, a kindergarten teacher, rehearse "If/Then" on Feb. 11. Both are theatre arts majors.



On the Cover: Alumni, students and faculty tell us what sets their minds to work. Read about it beginning on page 18. (illustration by Mike Litwin)



A definitive impression is taken using polyvinyl siloxane in preparation for making a complete denture. Dentists use PVS to make more accurate impressions for better-fitting restorations. Read more about how the ECU dental school and its statewide centers thrive on innovation beginning on page 30.

EAST

IN EVERY ISSUE

- View from Spilman 4
- ECU Report 6
- Discovery 14
- Faculty Focus 16
- Pirate Nation 38
- Pirate Spirit 40
- Horizons 44

More coverage including links to videos and more photos is at east.ecu.edu

on the cover



18 Focusing the Mind's Eye

How alumni, students and faculty unleash their creativity



24 Opportunity Knocks
Student entrepreneurs put their ideas to work

36 Student Snapshot
In February, Connor Gerney produced his first play – and indications are more will follow

38 Musical Marvels
Nathan Mills '13 is merging his music skills with his passion for movies and video games.

East Carolina University is a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina. It is a public doctoral/research-intensive university offering baccalaureate, master's, specialist and doctoral degrees in the liberal arts, sciences and professional fields, including medicine. Dedicated to the achievement of excellence, responsible stewardship of the public trust and academic freedom, ECU values the contributions of a diverse community, supports shared governance and guarantees equality of opportunity. ©2019 by East Carolina University



View from Spilman

Creating solutions

Whether it's reading historical accounts or talking with people with lifelong connections to ECU, I'm always amazed at how not only our founders but also subsequent generations of leaders, faculty members and students have come up with creative new ways to expand opportunities and solve problems.

Those efforts were gaining recognition as early as 1914, when a delegation of educators from China came to East Carolina to learn about Western methods of training teachers.

In the middle of the 20th century, John Sneed and Edgar Loessein gave our theatre arts department a national reputation. And in the 1970s, Dr. William Laupus led the opening of our four-year medical school that has become a national leader in educating family physicians.

Today, our new Innovation and Early College High School is helping teenagers gain the educational foundation they need to excel in college. Our groundbreaking Rural Prosperity Initiative is combining the resources of the university and private enterprise, such as software giant SAS, to address the chronic issues that hold rural economies back.

In this issue of *East*, we celebrate ECU's long tradition of creativity. And while Catherine and I have decided it's time for us to take the next step in our lives, today is a great time for our students and students-to-be to create brighter futures for themselves at ECU.

Go Pirates!

Cecil P. Staton, D.Phil.
Immediate past chancellor

D.H. Conley High School student Ben Schafer draws on a Cisco TV in the Black Box Theater at the Main Campus Student Center during a March 22 "Grow Local" event hosted by ECU's Information Technology and Computing Services. More than 50 Conley students participated in this community outreach program that offered hands-on educational opportunities and technology demonstrations such as data analytics, programming, networking, virtual reality, augmented reality and multi-factor authentication. Grow Local is led by the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce and Pitt County Development Commission.



Staton steps down, Gerlach named interim chancellor

► Following Chancellor Cecil Staton's March announcement that he was leaving his position at East Carolina University, Dan Gerlach, who for more than a decade has led the Golden LEAF Foundation, has been named interim chancellor.

Staton announced his resignation March 18, effective May 5. He was named chancellor in 2016. While at ECU, Staton led a rebranding effort to raise the university's national stature; launched the Rural Prosperity Initiative in partnership with SAS to improve health care, education and economic disparities across rural North Carolina; and began the largest campaign in university history.

"Catherine and I are very grateful for our time at ECU," Staton said. "We have enjoyed every moment working with our inspiring students and world-class faculty and staff. As we prepare for this transition in leadership, we remain committed to the idea we arrived with – ECU's future is full of promise. There are no limits to what ECU can attain in service to the East, North Carolina, our nation, and our world and we look forward to following the progress of this great university in the years to come."

During his tenure, retooling the athletics program was a key priority. He brought on former ECU athletic director



Chancellor Cecil Staton, shown with his wife, Catherine, was named ECU's 11th chancellor April 27, 2016.

Dave Hart to serve as a special advisor for athletics. Hart guided the efforts to hire Jon Gilbert as athletic director, Mike Houston as football coach and Joe Dooley as the men's basketball coach.

"I am grateful that we have been able to press the reset button for Pirate athletics and prepare a foundation for future success," Staton said. "I am confident that ECU athletics are in a good place and that our best days are ahead."

Kieran Shanahan, chair of the ECU board of trustees, said the Statons' departure is a great loss for ECU. "Cecil Staton has served ECU with distinction, dedication and an uncompromising commitment to excellence," Shanahan said.

Gerlach, who has led the Rocky Mount-based foundation since 2008, was named to the interim chancellor post April 16. He officially began May 6.

Gerlach described his new role as "an honor and a privilege" and said reversing last year's enrollment decline at ECU and stabilizing university finances will be priorities.

"I will measure success by convincing people, more North Carolinians, that ECU has the great breadth and depth of resources to offer them, and they can come here and get a high-quality education," he said.



The Statons sign the final steel beam for the southside expansion of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium during a topping-out ceremony July 12.

While Gerlach lacks experience in higher education administration, University of North Carolina Interim President Bill Roper said he was confident Gerlach would be a strong leader for ECU.

"He has a career-long pattern of making and implementing tough decisions to get things done," Roper said.

Golden LEAF was formed to manage money received from a 1999 legal settlement with the big U.S. tobacco companies, which sought to avoid further litigation related to the health impact of cigarettes. The foundation has assets of about \$1.1 billion and typically provides annual grants to N.C. municipalities, universities and other organizations totaling \$50 million to \$100 million.

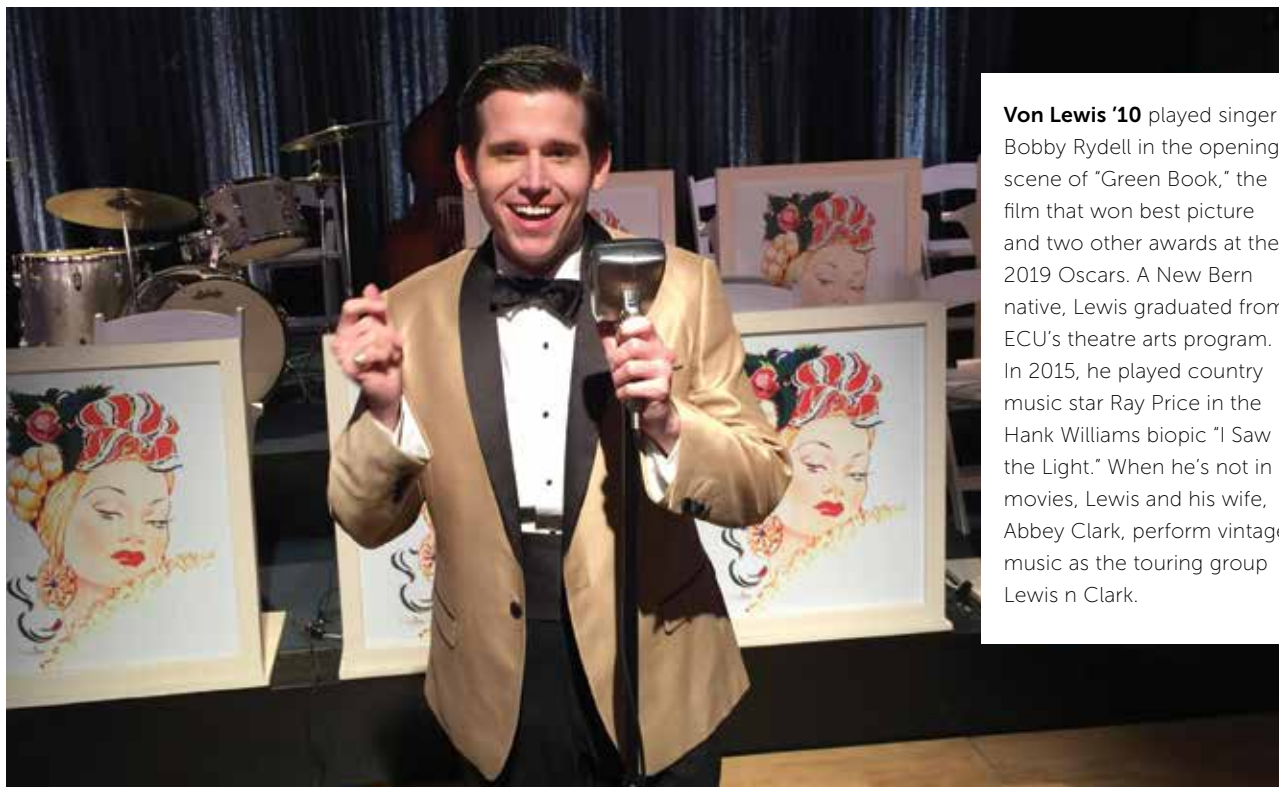
Gerlach was serving on the transition committee assisting Roper, according to the Golden LEAF website. As a chancellor of a UNC System campus, Gerlach will report to Roper.



ECU Interim Chancellor Dan Gerlach talks with students Juan Chavez and Morgan Ridenhour at the Main Campus Student Center.

Gerlach has a bachelor's degree from Notre Dame University and a master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University. He also served as an adjunct instructor at UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University.

– ECU News Services



Von Lewis '10 played singer Bobby Rydell in the opening scene of "Green Book," the film that won best picture and two other awards at the 2019 Oscars. A New Bern native, Lewis graduated from ECU's theatre arts program. In 2015, he played country music star Ray Price in the Hank Williams biopic "I Saw the Light." When he's not in movies, Lewis and his wife, Abbey Clark, perform vintage music as the touring group Lewis n Clark.

New equipment trains students for future of manufacturing

The ECU College of Engineering and Technology on Feb. 11 unveiled new Haas computer numerical control machining tools that symbolize the start of an effort to create a unique advanced manufacturing lab in the high bay of the Science and Technology Building.

Students and industry representatives demonstrated the use of two CNC lathes and two CNC mills, which were funded in part by a \$100,000 contribution from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

The Haas CNC machines are only the first step toward the ultimate goal of creating an integrated advanced manufacturing space in combining robotics, 3-D printing, production line and warehousing technologies – and the cybersecurity necessary to ensure the integrity of internet-connected manufacturing operations.

“We want ECU to be the school that people talk about when they think advanced manufacturing, especially with regard to cybersecurity protection,” said Tijjani Mohammed, chair of the Department of Technology Systems. “This space represents the first step in creating a complete environment for education and workforce development in advanced manufacturing.”

The College of Engineering and Technology is forming an advanced manufacturing advisory board

to help understand the industry’s needs and provide advice on future investments in equipment and educational programs, said Dean Harry Ploehn.

“Our industry partners, now and in the future, need engineers, technologists and computer scientists with not only a solid theoretical foundation, but also practical hands-on experience with cutting-edge advanced manufacturing technology.”

– Jules Norwood

Sean Wear, a junior in the ECU technology systems program, demonstrates the operation of a CNC mill.



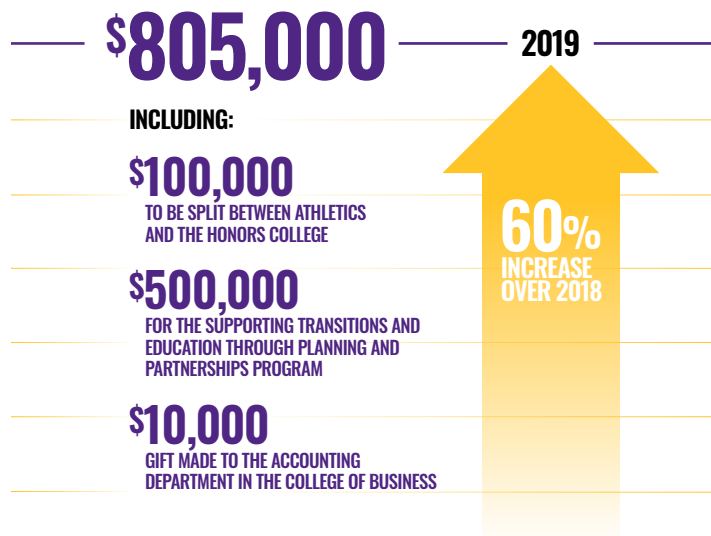
PIRATE NATION GIVES™

On March 20, Pirate Nation Gives raised \$805,000, a 60 percent increase over the 2018 event.

Among that amount were two recent pledges the donors wanted counted for Pirate Nation Gives: \$100,000 to be split between athletics and the Honors College, and \$500,000 for the Supporting Transitions and Education through Planning and Partnerships, or STEPP, Program.

A \$10,000 gift was made to the accounting department in the College of Business.

Next year’s Pirate Nation Gives will be March 18.





Raven Delgado carries her daughter, Ava Milan, as she holds her Match Day envelope March 15 at the East Carolina Heart Institute. Delgado matched to a pediatrics residency in San Antonio, Texas, one of the more than half of ECU's 73 graduating medical students who matched to primary care residencies.

Nearly a quarter matched to residency programs within North Carolina. Nearly half of those will remain at Vidant Medical Center, ECU's affiliated teaching hospital, for their residency training.

Harriot descendant speaks at ECU

► Georgia Dunn Belk, who has traced her lineage to Thomas Harriot – the namesake of the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences at East Carolina University – spoke with the Dean's Advancement Council at its spring meeting Feb. 22 in the Main Campus Student Center.

Although there is no record of Harriot getting married, Dunn Belk is related to Harriot through a son born out of wedlock to Margaret Grimditch, who, in records, is said to have moved to Ireland with Harriot as "his family."

Dunn Belk says she is part of the 13th-generation of Harriot (or Harriott) descendants and is actively involved in preserving history related to the Harriot legacy.

"Thomas Harriot played a key role in England's 'Age of Exploration,' but his contributions are not contained to his advancement of math and science, nor to the service to the queen in the mid-Atlantic region of the 16th-century world," said Dunn Belk.

Harriot's son, Thomas, was among the first settlers to colonize Bermuda in the early 1600s and, with his family, eventually settled at Salt Cay Island, a small island in the southeast Turks and Caicos.

The Salt Islands – Grand Turk, Salt Cay and South Caicos – are known for their export of sea salt, an important preservative during the 17th and 18th centuries.

The Harriot family cultivated the salt trade, which continues today under the name Morton's Salt. However, with the decline of the salt industry in the late 19th century, Dunn Belk said Salt Cay became like Colonial Williamsburg.

"It is a land that time forgot," she said.



Georgia Dunn Belk poses with a banner showing her ancestor, Thomas Harriot, during a February visit to ECU.

In 1585, during the exploration of the New World and Britain's preparation for settlement of Jamestown, Virginia, the elder Harriot took ginger from the Caribbean to Great Britain. He developed and popularized fermented ginger beer, the first of the British to make beer in the Western Hemisphere.

Dunn Belk, after learning of the connection to ginger beer, began the process of re-popularizing the local product by changing the formula to allow for greater shelf life and commercial viability. She is

president and CEO of the British West Indies Trading Company Ltd., which makes the fermented low-alcohol ginger beer she re-formulated under the name of Islander Ginger Beer.

"Every family has an amazing history behind it. We are all, in our own way, standing on the shoulders of giants, all of whom faced great risk, hardship and sacrifice, which made our lives possible today," she said.

Dunn Belk is married to William "Bill" Irwin Belk, descendant of the Belk department store founder, and daughter-in-law of Irwin "Ike" and Carol Belk. The Belk name is a familiar one at ECU, found on the former Belk Residence Hall, now Gateway, and the Carol G. Belk Building.

– Lacey L. Gray



Registered nurse Wanda Carter prepares Greenville resident Jason Glisson for an intravenous antibiotic treatment at ECU Physicians' new infusion center on Hemby Lane in Greenville.

ECU Physicians opens infusion center

Eastern North Carolina residents in need of long-term intravenous antibiotic treatments now have an alternative to a hospital visit.

ECU Physicians recently opened a designated infusion center led by a team of infectious disease specialists – a rarity in eastern North Carolina.

Before, patients typically had to go to a hospital to receive their intravenous antibiotic treatments. Dr. Rabindra Ghimire, an assistant professor in the ECU Division of Infectious Diseases and International Travel Health, said this often resulted in lengthy visits, subjected patients to higher costs and increased exposure to hospital-acquired infections.

The new state-of-the-art center at 2390 Hemby Lane in Greenville is an effort to change that.

The center can treat patients with a range of infections – from those in bones and heart valves to those in skin and soft tissues. Most treatment regimens require a visit weekly or every other day, depending on the type of antibiotic needed and a patient's insurance requirements. Individual treatments can take anywhere from 30 minutes to a few hours.

Greenville resident Jason Glisson has been receiving weekly intravenous treatments at the new infusion center since developing a post-operative infection in his foot in December.

"This is a great place and the staff is nice, so I'm glad it's here because I don't like going to the hospital," Glisson said. "My appointments here take about 20 minutes, but if I have to go into the hospital it's an all-day wait, and I'm not a big fan of that."

In addition, the infusion center's onsite lab reduces the amount of time patients have to wait between bloodwork and treatment, Ghimire said.

"With this new center, those issues are all gone," Ghimire said. "It's also easier to follow the patients because they're here with us every week."

– Rob Spahr

Geology professor helping farmers figure out salty soil

▶ Alex Manda, associate professor of geological sciences and co-director of the ECU Natural Resources and the Environment Research Cluster, is studying how saltwater intrusion negatively affects soil in the region. His work with eastern North Carolina farmers was part of a story published March 1 in *The Washington Post*.

Saltwater intrusion happens when salt water moves into freshwater sources, introducing salt water to areas where a high salt content could be problematic. The article notes a mixture of "rising seas, sinking earth and extreme weather are conspiring to cause salt from the ocean to contaminate aquifers and turn formerly fertile fields barren."

Dawson Pugh, whose Hyde County farm is featured in the *Post* article, said flooding and salinization on his property cost him \$2 million in crops over the past five years. Now, Pugh is working with Manda to find a solution.

"Our research group is collaborating with scientists and agricultural agents from North Carolina State University to address a multifaceted problem that involves crop science, geology and hydrology," Manda said.

Manda and his team are monitoring salt levels in soil, groundwater and surface water. Saltwater intrusion has been linked to sea level rise caused by climate change, but the article says scientists aren't sure how the salt winds up in fields like Pugh's.

There are a few hypotheses, including wind pushing salt water from the area's canals and ditches into farmland or storm surge events dumping salty water on agricultural land.

Manda's work is part of a concerted effort by ECU faculty members to put their research into practice. The university has sought to increase partnerships between researchers and the community, ensuring the work of faculty members provides real-world benefits and applications for those in the region.

"This work is important because it highlights how ECU can engage with various stakeholders to tackle projects that are of mutual benefit in eastern North Carolina," Manda said. "For example, farmers may benefit by finding solutions to the saltwater problem, whereas ECU may benefit by offering its students opportunities to take part in authentic research experiences."

– ECU News Services



Below, from left, ECU students Hannah Allen, Monica Mayefskie, Elizabeth Smith and Courtney Kirchner review details about their family roles.

Poverty simulation builds understanding, empathy

More than 50 ECU undergraduate students participated in a poverty simulation Feb. 8 with the goal of increasing their understanding of the day-to-day realities faced by people with low incomes.

The simulation helps participants, who'll likely serve families with low incomes, learn what to look for. Additionally, organizer Tamra Church, health education and promotion instructor, said she hopes they'll be "motivated to become involved in activities that help reduce poverty in this country."

The students, public health/pre-health or social work majors, spent the afternoon grouped in families, experiencing scenarios based on real experiences. A ballroom at the East Carolina Heart Institute became "Realville," with chairs grouped into family units. Tables lining the walls became a bank, a school and a pawn shop. And a local "criminal element" roamed the pathways, avoiding police patrols.

Some of the families were dealing with unemployment, incarceration and/or teen pregnancy, while others were caring for elderly relatives, grandchildren or younger siblings. Several were living in a shelter.

During 15-minute-long "weeks," they went to school or work, searched for employment and housing, paid bills and sought needed services, from health care and child care to food shopping and social services at stations staffed by nearly two dozen community volunteers.

Junior Hannah Allen and seniors Courtney Kirchner and Monica Mayefskie, all public health/pre-health majors, along with junior social work major Elizabeth Smith made up the "Wescott" family, a married couple in their 50s caring for their two young grandchildren.



Their monthly income from Winona Wescott's full-time job as a cashier and Warren Wescott's disability benefit falls \$25 short of their basic expenses. That's before covering transportation costs, buying glasses for their granddaughter and paying fees for school projects.

And it's before something goes wrong. For example, one month the Westcotts ended up paying nearly double their mortgage – and still owed money – due to an unscrupulous collector demanding receipts of what they had already paid.

Difficulty with the mortgage payment meant there was no money for food one week. "I lied and told my teacher that I had an apple for breakfast because I didn't want us to get taken away," said Mayefskie in her role as the Wescott's 9-year-old granddaughter. School project fees also went unpaid. "It was embarrassing that we were the only ones who didn't have our two dollars," said Kirchner as their 7-year-old grandson.

"This is stressing me out. They don't tell you all the rules. There's a lot that I don't know the best way to get done. I'm so frustrated," said Smith.

"Poverty doesn't always look like what you think it looks like," said simulation volunteer Cathy Dixon of the Pitt County Health Department.

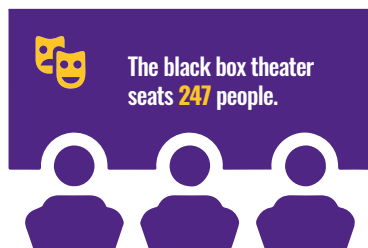
– Kelly Rusk

The Student Center by the numbers

The intersection of Charles and 10th streets is where modern meets traditional. That's where ECU's new student center sits. Here are some facts and figures that help tell the story of this latest Pirate treasure.



The concrete reinforcement for the project weighs more than **350** full-size pickup trucks.



Crews moved **25** trees from the construction site to other parts of campus, saving them from destruction.

Native plants such as longleaf pines are featured in the landscaping around the center.



▲ The LEED-certified center is **220,000 square feet** built on about seven acres. The total project cost was **\$122 million**. T.A. Loving and Barnhill Contracting Co. built the center, its chiller plant and the **724-space parking deck**. Out front, lofty "ECU" letters make a bold statement, welcoming Pirates and visitors to the new front porch and living room of the university.

◀ Left, the north side exterior holds the **1,008-square-foot** Pirate Vision screen.



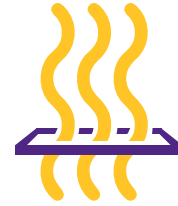
Electrochromatic glass allows the windows to automatically tint according to the weather.



An underground cistern on the north side of the center provides irrigation water for plant beds outside the building.

The Main Campus Student Center features **6** dining options.





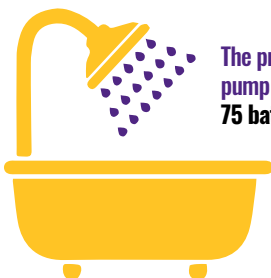
Hot-water coils beneath floor provide invisible heating.



At three stories, the building has enough glass inside and out to cover a football field.

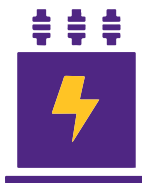


Left and above, years in the making, the building pairs cutting-edge technology with time-honored Pirate roots such as the ECU creed on the main staircase and the outline of eastern North Carolina on the floor of the main ballroom, a nod to our home state with an X marking the spot for Greenville.



The primary 14-inch chilled water pump in the regional plant can fill **75 bathtubs** in less than a minute.

The structure houses **15 miles** of mechanical and plumbing piping.



The backup generator for the center can power **405 homes**.



Read about ECU alumni who helped build the center at bit.ly/2FzSAPW.

Project tests concrete mixes using recycled materials

An ECU construction management professor and a local construction company have teamed up in search of a solution to a problem facing the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

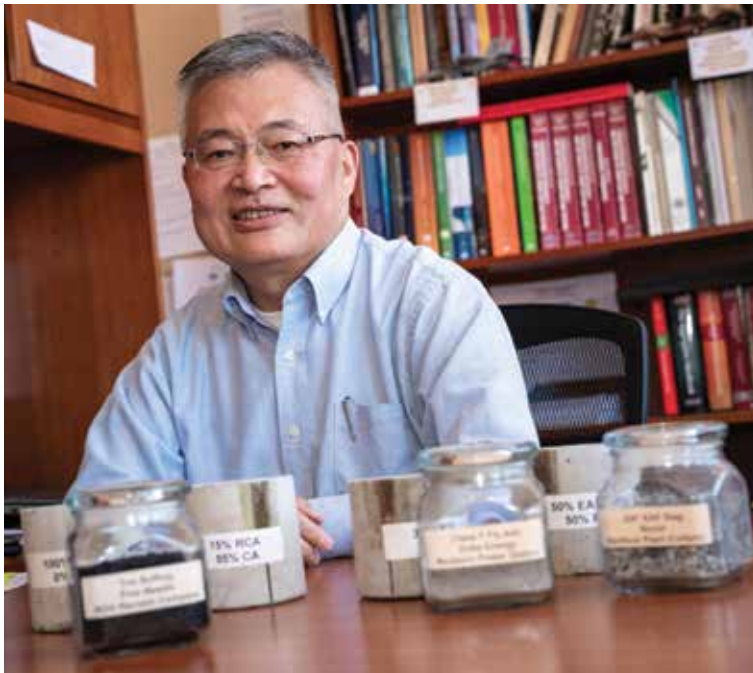
The NCDOT's State Transportation Improvement Plan identifies approximately 100 bridges and more than 700 miles of roadways in eastern North Carolina's 29 counties that need to be rebuilt within the next 10 years.

"That means a lot of concrete will be used," said George Wang. "And this area has a lack of quality aggregate, the crushed stone used for infrastructure."

Concrete is a mixture of fine and coarse aggregate and water bonded with cement. In some cases, he said, contractors drive to quarries 100 miles west to get the material they need. That means time, fuel, emissions, and wear and tear on vehicles and roadways, so the NCDOT was interested in studying alternative formulations for concrete that would be more sustainable.

Approximately 10 states, Wang said, already allow the use of recycled aggregate (old concrete) to make new concrete.

Before the NCDOT can start using the material in structural applications, "research must be done to determine any negative effects that may be caused," said Brian Hunter, state laboratory operations manager for NCDOT's Materials and Tests Unit. "They also need to determine how feasible it will be to maintain enough stockpiles of quality material."



Wang submitted a research proposal in 2015 and was awarded the project in 2016.

Since then, with assistance from industry partner S.T. Wooten Corp., a highway construction and engineering firm, he has been testing concrete composed of varying ratios of recycled aggregate and steel slag, a byproduct of steel production.

The testing was labor intensive, with large amounts of material that had to be crushed and screened and then cast into cylinders with varying compositions for physical and chemical testing. Wang was there in person when an aging bridge was demolished.

"We crushed the material and removed the rebar reinforcement," Wang said. "Then we brought it to the lab to sieve it and separate the fine and coarse material."

The new mixes were tested for strength, brittleness and slump (a measure of the consistency and workability of freshly made concrete) as well as for contamination and leaching. Further testing for long-term strength was conducted at seven-, 28- and 90-day intervals.

"The results are very good," Wang said. "Blending those recycled materials together makes a better-quality material."

Graduate student Hang Ding was invaluable to the project, as was the participation of S.T. Wooten and the use of its concrete lab in Garner, Wang said. The industry partnership allowed access to equipment and materials the project wouldn't have had otherwise.

The final report on the project has been submitted to the NCDOT, and Wang said he is optimistic the agency will update its specifications to allow the use of the recycled material.

— Jules Norwood

The Department of Construction Management's George Wang is studying the feasibility of using recycled concrete and other materials to make new concrete.



ECU club baseball player Andrew Monroe hits a baseball as doctoral student Chris Curran observes. Watch more at bit.ly/215jUay.

Baseball study aims for better hitting

► Eastern North Carolina has a rich baseball tradition, with a pair of Hall of Famers among its native sons.

That tradition could take a step forward through work ECU researchers are doing to better understand the science of hitting.

Specifically, they are focusing on what a hitter's eyes see as a pitch is hurling toward them at upward of 100 mph and how the brain processes that information and instructs the body to swing.

Kinesiology faculty members Nick Murray and Patrick Rider are leading the study. Using motion-capture and eye-tracking technology, they and a group of students tested hitters in the fall at Next Level Training Center in Greenville.

The findings could help players and coaches know what hitters see, how and why they react to it, and, ultimately, turn them into better players.

"You have a very short time to process what you're seeing and hit that moving target," said Rider, a teaching instructor and associate director of the ECU Performance Optimization Lab.

"This is one more set of data points," said Next Level owner Trent Britt '93, who's worked as a coach, training expert and Major League scout. He also did the pitching for the study. "This is the way sports and baseball are headed. Hitting and anything involving movement is very much an evolving science. It gives us a chance to question are we seeing what we think we're seeing and help kids get better."

Lance Martin, director of baseball instruction and baseball programming at Next Level, was one of the test subjects.

"Once I started to figure out what the body is doing, in time and in space, I see things in a whole new light," said Martin, an all-conference player at Mount Olive College. "In turn, that could be used to help the hitter and also help pitchers get an advantage if they can understand that."

Assisting with the research were doctoral student Chris Curran, who is a former college baseball pitcher; master's students Ryan Silberg, Andy Jung and Nate Harris; and undergraduate Callie Herman.

In kinetics terms, hitting a baseball is what's called an "interceptive task" – a motion that changes the course of a moving object.

"Baseball batting is a cognitively demanding interceptive timing task that requires precision and power," said Murray, an associate professor and director of the Visual Motor Lab. Previous research has shown expert hitters have a greater ability to spot a moving object, but little research has connected that ability with head position and motor control. "And the fact we're studying eye-tracking during a realistic at-bat – that is, using a pitcher instead of a machine – makes this study unique."

If Murray and eye-tracking sound familiar, they should. In 2017, he and kinesiology faculty member Chris Mizelle studied golfers' eye movements while putting. They've presented that research and are in the process of publishing it, Murray said.

– Doug Boyd

Focus

Daniel Kariko

School of Art and Design

Assistant Professor of Fine Art Photography

The beauty of bugs

Daniel Kariko uses some unlikely equipment to capture his subjects: a microscope.

His subjects aren't typical either. For the past few years, Kariko has photographed common insects in larger-than-life detail. Ants. Beetles. Flies. Crickets. The images are brightly colored and a little creepy. But also beautiful.

Kariko started the ongoing project, called "Suburban Symbiosis," after attending an open house for the university's biology department. He was shown how the microscopes worked in the lab and thought about how he could use them for his art.

Much of Kariko's work is in environmental landscapes and portraiture. When he started noticing little insects around his house, in the yard and on the walkways to and from work, an idea was born.

"I decided to experiment with the notion of environment by doing portraits of these almost invisible creatures around us," he said. To most, insects are something to be ignored or even squished. In fact, insects represent the largest percentage of the world's known species.

"My project is meant to bring awareness to what's around us," Kariko said.

The "portraits" are composites of a number of exposures with a scanning electron microscope, which gives the hyper detail, and a stereoscopic microscope, which provides color. Kariko carefully arranges each bug and adjusts the lighting to achieve a portrait-like effect inspired by the 17th-century Dutch masters. One photo can take 15-20 hours, he said.

Originally from Serbia, Kariko first began a career in mechanical engineering, but he transitioned to fine art after moving to the United States in 1994. He's worked at ECU since 2011. Technical research still fascinates him, as does the notion of art and science working together to create new forms of knowledge.

"Fine arts and photography specifically is a really great visual communicator of real-world ideas," he said. "In collaboration with artists and scientists, wonderful things can happen."

— Erin Shaw



FOR
MORE
INFO

See a gallery of Kariko's work at
danielkariko.com/suburbansymbiosis



Paul Schwager has been named dean of the ECU College of Business. He begins July 1. Schwager has served as the college's interim dean since the summer of 2018, when former dean Stanley Eakins returned to the faculty. Schwager joined ECU in 2003 as a faculty member in management information systems. In 2009, he was named assistant dean for assessment, accreditation and curriculum. A year later, Schwager was named associate dean. As the new dean, Schwager will also serve as the W. Howard Rooks distinguished professor, established to provide additional support for the dean. Schwager has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Palm Beach Atlantic University, an MBA from Florida Atlantic University and a doctorate from Auburn University. He has published more than 30 journal articles and conference proceedings.



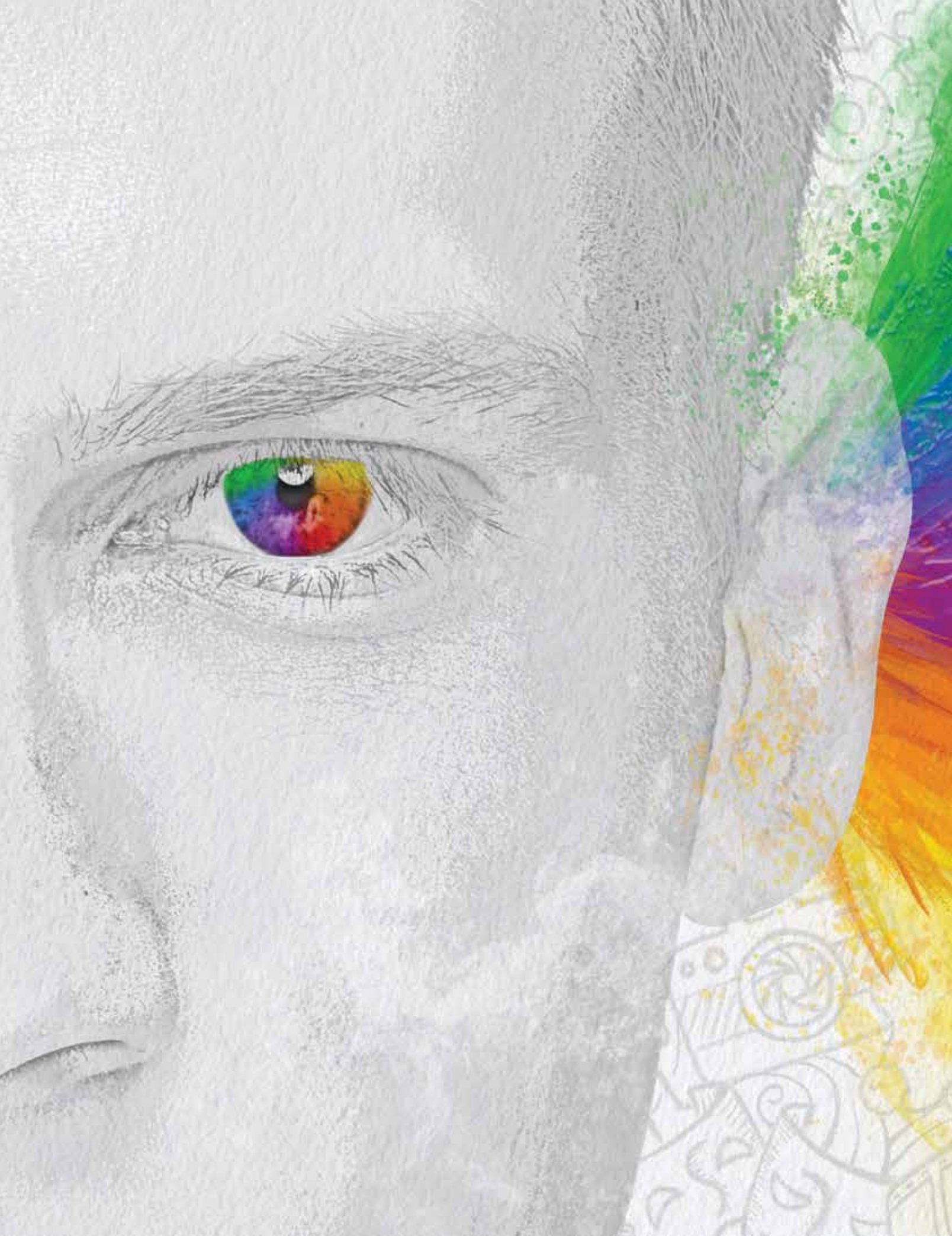
Carroll V. Dashiell Jr. was among 50 African-American musicians, writers and artists honored in February by Gov. Roy Cooper and First Lady Kristin Cooper in celebration of Black History Month. The event was hosted by the N.C. African American Heritage Commission and the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Dashiell was among 13 musicians recognized during the event. He is an associate professor of music at ECU, where he teaches string and electric bass and jazz in the School of Music. He is director of the award-winning ECU Jazz Ensemble A and founder and director of ECU's Billy Taylor Jazz Festival. He is a recipient of ECU's Robert and Lina Mays and Robert L. Jones Distinguished Alumni Teaching Excellence Award.



Dr. Mark Stacy was named vice chancellor for the ECU Division of Health Sciences in December. He had served as interim vice chancellor since mid-2018. Stacy will oversee a division that comprises the Brody School of Medicine, the School of Dental Medicine, the College of Nursing, the College of Allied Health Sciences, the North Carolina Agromedicine Institute, the East Carolina Diabetes and Obesity Institute and Laupus Health Sciences Library. He will continue to serve as dean of the medical school and senior associate vice chancellor for medical affairs.



Dr. Michael Lang, clinical associate professor of internal medicine and psychiatry and behavioral medicine, received the 2018 Outstanding Service Award from the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry during its recent annual meeting in Chicago. Lang directs the internal medicine-psychiatry residency program as well as ECU's electroconvulsive therapy and transcranial magnetic stimulation programs. He also serves as secretary of the AMP and is co-chairing the planning committee for the group's next annual meeting.



FOCUSING THE MIND'S EYE

HOW ALUMNI, STUDENTS AND FACULTY UNLEASH THEIR CREATIVITY

Creativity takes many forms in art, design, business and education. But what does it take to kindle the type of creative thinking that leads to dazzling work? We asked alumni, faculty and students to tell us how they summon their creativity.

For example, one show director listens to film scores as background music, while a writer surrounds himself with the color green. Some patiently wait for inspiration to strike, while others push through with discipline. What they have in common is that they are all living creatively. And they all believe creativity makes life better.

Those without an artistic dayjob might think of creativity as an elusive trait or divine gift, but these artists will tell you it's actually the skilled application of knowledge that they learned or currently cultivate at ECU.



Blake Braswell, '02

Theatre major

SHOW DIRECTOR AND WRITER FOR
UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT

How I got my start: I got into theater because a girl I liked in high school was in a production of “West Side Story.” At ECU, I was introduced to stage combat and had the chance to work as a fight director. After graduation, I was a fight captain and performer at a renaissance fair. Now I work as a show director for Universal Orlando Resort, where I develop concepts for our Halloween Horror Nights. For that, my goal is to scare people, but also to fill them with joy. When most people walk through the scare zones I’ve created, they scream but then immediately laugh with their friends. Creativity serves for pure escapism. All the creating and storytelling I do in my job is built on the foundations I learned at ECU.

How I get my creative juices flowing: I wish I knew the perfect answer so I could bottle it and do it every time. Sometimes I’ll go through art books for inspiration. Sometimes I listen to film scores or music without lyrics. If it has lyrics, I’ll be singing along and not writing! Sometimes neither works and I feel like I’m spinning my wheels, then an idea will come to me while I’m driving home. Working professionally in a creative field, you have to get out of your own way and can’t force the process.

Cat Normoyle

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF GRAPHIC DESIGN AT ECU

How I describe my work: I typically ground my work in experimentation. I rarely have a preconceived notion of what something is going to look like. I’m a big proponent of making for making’s sake. You don’t worry about what you think it should be and instead try things and see what it could be. I was recently part of a research project that explored the role of technology in design by using robots to facilitate remote collaborations. The robot is the tool that is doing the actual drawing. For me, it’s more about setting up the mechanics of an experiment and executing the process.

How I get my creative juices flowing: I enjoy being active and going outside. That’s really important for clearing your head. I often work in blocks of time – I sit down for four hours then take a break and come back to it. I might take my two dogs, Pete and Xena, for a walk around the neighborhood. I also tell my students that travel, whether road trips or something fancier, is such an amazing experience that you can incorporate into the work you’re doing. My husband and I just got a camper. We love being out on the road and camping.



Lisette Fee '12

Fine art major

JEWELRY MAKER, EILISAIN JEWELRY

How I got my start: After graduation, I had an artist space at a gallery called Art Avenue across from Sup Dogs in Greenville. It was perfect because I was able to start my business right after graduation. Soon I was featured on the London-based fashion retail website Boticca, and that led to other articles in *Elle*, *Refinery 29*, *Details* and more.

How I get my creative juices flowing: I used to be really into creating collections with a unifying theme. Claws and talons are the focus of my jewelry and I'm completely inspired by animals and wildlife. I also love mythology, fantasy and tarot cards and like to tie that into my jewelry. For me, it comes down to being curious and paying attention to the world around me. But my process has definitely changed after having my daughter. I work a lot when she takes a nap.



Luke Whisnant '79

English major

CREATIVE WRITING PROFESSOR AT ECU AND AUTHOR OF TWO POETRY CHAPBOOKS, A COLLECTION OF STORIES AND A NOVEL

What I love about my craft: I enjoy bringing something into the world that didn't exist previously. It makes life worth living. A world without art would be really barren. I'm a big advocate for finding art everywhere.

How I get my creative juices flowing: I have a loft in my condo where I do most of my writing. I climb the stairs, sit down at the desk and start. Discipline is the best way to court creativity. Show up at your desk and you're there and you're ready. My process is to sit down without a particular idea in mind and just start writing. The first sentence is likely awful. The second sentence is not any better. The third sentence is bad but there might be something interesting in it. The fourth sentence – wow – there's something there.

I'd seen some research not too long ago that said having something green on your desk helps with your creativity. So, I painted the walls of the loft dark green. I like to think it's helped, but who knows?



Dwayne "Dubelyoo" Wright '99

Art major

VISUAL ARTIST IN ATLANTA; CURATOR AND CO-FOUNDER OF "ART, BEATS + LYRICS," A TRAVELING URBAN ART EXHIBITION

How I describe my work: I describe my work as having an urban lifestyle aesthetic that has roots in hip-hop culture. I'm motivated by pushing the envelope on the art viewing experience. One thing we do in "Art, Beats + Lyrics" and in my personal projects is to create environments that enhance the work being displayed. When we started, urban-themed art was not accepted in many galleries and shows. "AB+L" became a place to showcase the work of artists that we thought was hot. Now, we're getting ready for our 12th national tour.

How I get my creative juices flowing: I enjoy mixing mediums when I paint, but my favorite medium is acrylic. Acrylic is very flexible and I can draw on top of it. When I'm working on a painting, I usually have a documentary, podcast or some music playing. I try to take a break about every three hours. This gives me a chance to come back to the piece and see it with fresh eyes.



Epiphany Knedler

MASTER OF FINE ARTS STUDENT, PHOTOGRAPHY

How I describe my work: I would describe my work as formal explorations of place. I like to find areas of quiet in the chaos or moments of humor in banal environments. I love thinking about what we see in our lives and how putting a lens in front of it can change your perspective. Most of my work is found environments, which I do not alter by moving objects around or editing with Photoshop. I like to find scenes and create compositions with my camera, thinking about the things I am leaving out or keeping in the frame and how that affects the viewer's reading of the image.

How I get my creative juices flowing: I get most inspired when exploring imagery with like-minded people. I was recently in a rut with my work; I hadn't taken photos or been excited about a new project for a few months. My boyfriend took me on a short trip to Kinston and we walked along the main street, finding small moments of visual interest, like old signs and partially ripped posters. I always find it inspiring when I can share my images or experiences with others and they express the same kind of joy.

Also, I am constantly listening to music! I can't work without it. I listen to all types of music, mostly indie folk like The Decemberists and Bright Eyes, but if I really need to get something done, I turn on some ABBA until it's done!





Junghoon Han

SOPHOMORE SCULPTURE MAJOR

What I love about my craft: I fell in love with working with tangible materials, especially with metal. From the coldness of raw metal when I first touch it to the finalized high polished piece of work, I love every bit of the process. At ECU's School of Art and Design, I like the variety of majors and the potential for collaborations. This diversity really encourages students to experiment more broadly, which is a paramount experience during art school.

How I get my creative juices flowing: Every piece starts with thorough research. I start my research with close observation of a problem and work to develop an artwork that solves the problem. Practically speaking, I like to wear long, cushy athletic socks when I create. Half of my work is walking or running around the (Leo W. Jenkins Fine Arts) building, so a good pair of shoes and socks is important. When I am under a tight deadline, my feet have to withstand long periods of standing and walking.

STORY BY MICHAEL RUDD

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS



Student entrepreneurs put their ideas to work



Some of the products of Taylor Hicks' Simple & Sentimental

For Taylor Hicks, what started as a hobby, a creative outlet to practice calligraphy, has now morphed into a business with more than \$250,000 in sales in 2018.



Taylor Hicks poses with then-Dean Stan Ekins at the College of Business' 2018 Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge, which she won. In March, she cut the ribbon on a 2,300-square-foot retail space in Greenville.



Business student Hunter Graves pitches his mosquito-control product, InvisaBarrier, at the 2019 Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge.

“Once entrepreneurs have their products/ideas ready to go to market, I think they should first step away from the actual product itself and go back to what they already know about their customer. That will deepen their knowledge of their customers’ needs and wants and how to meet them.”

Brian Taillon, assistant professor of marketing and supply chain management

Hicks, a senior in the ECU College of Business, owns Simple & Sentimental. The company started in 2016 in her dorm room when she was a freshman majoring in interior design. She would use her calligraphy skills to create bookmarks that she left in a basket outside her room for other students to use. Soon, requests started coming in for personalized Christmas gifts.

Her first step as a business owner came in two facets: She bought a die-cutting machine to create personalized vinyl stickers, and she posted her products on the e-commerce website Etsy. She was doing all this in her dorm room.

In 2017, she created and sold bridesmaid boxes that contained a wineglass and a personalized note. That summer, she made \$9,000; she made \$58,000 for the entire year.

“I then realized you can still be creative and run a business,” said Hicks.

Encouraging ingenuity

As Simple & Sentimental was taking shape, the College of Business and its Miller School of Entrepreneurship were planning to launch their flagship entrepreneurial competition, the Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge.

Established in 2015, the Miller School serves as a regional hub for preparing students to take an entrepreneurial mindset and skill set into their communities. It’s made a concerted effort to develop programs that encourage students to

(continued on page28)



Above, John Ciannamea of SEED@ECU and Arianna Billingsley of the Small Business Technology and Development Center look at student Grace Krell’s SweetSip at an early round of the most recent challenge. SweetSip took second place overall in this year’s event. At right, business students Mariama Ibrahim and Robert Ola pitch his clothing brand, Ola Customs LLC, at the challenge.





Nightclub app wins this year's PEC

Business students **Steven Lipscomb** and **Camden Bathras** won the second Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge in February with their app Vybe. It's a crowd-sourced application that allows users to track how busy nightclubs are at any time. Bathras is a supply chain management major, and Lipscomb is a marketing and entrepreneurship major.

They plan to use the \$15,000 in prize winnings to develop and market Vybe.

"We want to start a pilot test here in Greenville and based on those results, we'll develop marketing campaigns that will expand Vybe in North Carolina schools and then South Carolina," Bathras says.

Brian Taillon, an assistant professor at the College of Business and expert in marketing and retailing, says a good idea for entrepreneurs such as Bathras and Lipscomb who are entering the marketing phase of their ventures is to step away from the actual product itself and go back to what they already know about their customer.

"That will deepen their knowledge of their customers' needs and wants and how to meet them," Taillon says. "Social media will play a key role in introducing their products and services while also giving

entrepreneurs a sort of instant focus group understanding of what their customers think.

"Lastly, entrepreneurs should take advantage of the business networks they've already built. Find out what local resources are available to them. Unless a company is flush with cash, knowing customers and network opportunities would be a good first step to get products in front of a customer," he adds.

– Michael Rudd

Top and below, Camden Bathras, left, and Steven Lipscomb won the 2019 Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge and its \$15,000 prize for their nightclub-tracking app Vybe.



Nick Venditti and Chandler King pitched FOWL, an innovative backpack, during the finals of the 2018 Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge. FOWL finished third in the competition. Venditti and King graduated in 2018, got married and are selling FOWL bags online.



\$1 million to fund rural innovation, student businesses

A million dollars from the Golden LEAF Foundation is aimed at creating a new generation of business owners in the 29 counties of eastern North Carolina.

The grant supports and strengthens partnerships between ECU and Beaufort, Hyde, Martin and Pitt counties. The partners will create a pipeline for ECU graduates to establish new businesses in towns throughout the region, which has been hit hard by the loss of manufacturing and supporting industry.

Faculty and staff at ECU will work with the student teams to develop and refine business plans, obtain sector-specific training, locate workforce needs and access grants and seed money.

Additionally, many students who graduate through the program, dubbed RISE-29, will team with small businesses in the region looking for succession and continuity plans as the owners prepare for retirement.

Students will be recruited to RISE-29 through several pathways, including Golden LEAF Scholars, the Miller School of Entrepreneurship, ECU's Honors College, the university's Horizon Living and Learning Community, the Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge and various entrepreneurship courses and internship programs.

– Matt Smith

express their creative ideas and test the waters to see if those same ideas have marketability.

The Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge is designed to do just that.

The first round is an open-air format in which ECU students pitch their ideas to the ECU community who will vote for teams to move onto the second round. There, 12-15 teams pitch their ideas to judges. Second-round winners are then assigned mentors – community entrepreneurs and ECU faculty and staff who will consult with them to pitch their product to another panel of judges during the final round. It's here the competitors must demonstrate a clear market need for their ideas.

Hicks won the first Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge in 2017-2018 and walked away with \$12,500, money she used to procure Greenville office space.

“Let's face it. Any entrepreneurial spirit has its start in creativity,” said Mike Harris, director of the Miller School. “But that's only part of a solution. For creativity to drive impact, the execution has to happen. That's what Taylor has been able to accomplish.”

And it's been some impact. For 2019, Hicks said she's on track to reach almost half a million dollars in sales.

From idea to reality

To date, more than 150 student teams have participated in the challenge representing more than 10 ECU colleges. As Harris puts it, the challenge is part of an entrepreneurial ecosystem that recruits and nurtures ideas and depends on ECU resources, faculty and students, local institutions and governments, entrepreneurs, alumni, community colleges and the local high school system. The Miller School is helping drive this system to give students opportunities to develop and articulate their creative ideas.

Another entrepreneurial program, I-Corps@ECU, is funded by a \$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. Using proven methods in lean launch, customer discovery and business model innovation, I-Corps@ECU allows innovators to assess and validate their ideas in a safe-harbor environment mentored by entrepreneurs and key stakeholders. The program is making strong strides. Since last fall, 52 teams comprising 100 people have gone through the program. Those that have advanced beyond the ideation phase have succeeded in raising \$300,000 in capital.



Dean Harry Ploehn of the College of Engineering and Technology, left, listens as Magus Pereira '18 describes the technology behind the award-winning Clusterduck hardware.

Marti Van Scott is the director of commercialization and licensing with ECU's Office of Innovation and New Ventures. She says I-Corps@ECU helps students, educators and researchers to understand their ideas could have value outside of the classroom or laboratory by generating products with potential to serve an unmet need in the community and beyond.

"We're very happy that we've been able to use I-Corps@ECU to help tease ideas out of their heads," said Van Scott. "Our interconnected ecosystem has supported diverse projects that have made amazing progress."

Magus Pereira, a recent ECU computer science grad, worked with I-Corps@ECU and other resources at the Office of Innovation and New Ventures. He also participated in the Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge and additional pitch competitions, gained feedback from Miller School advisory boards and participated with several student organizations.

In 2018, Pereira's idea, called Project Owl, was one of 2,500 pitched during the inaugural Call for Code Challenge, co-founded by IBM. Project OWL is a two-part hardware/software solution that provides a communication infrastructure that gives first responders a simple way of managing all aspects of a disaster.

Pereira and his teammates pitched Project Owl to competition judges, including former President Bill Clinton and Jim Zemlin, executive director of the Linux Foundation. The idea took first place and won \$200,000 in cash, product development by IBM and the opportunity to pitch OWL to a venture capitalist firm for potential funding.

"Many of the ideas that arise from entrepreneurs result from trying to find solutions to unmet needs," said Harris. "If the problems had an easy solution, the need would already be met." ► E

“Any entrepreneurial spirit has its start in creativity. But that’s only part of a solution. For creativity to drive impact, the execution has to happen.”

Mike Harris, director of the Miller School of Entrepreneurship



STORY BY **SPAINE STEPHENS**

A CREATIVE SOLUTION

Fourth-year dental students Laura Mercer and Jasmine Schneider work on a patient's teeth at the Elizabeth City community service learning center.



TO CREATING SMILES

ECU dental school and
its statewide centers
thrive on innovation



A narrow ribbon of road winds for 60 miles northeast of Greenville, threading through cotton fields and horse pastures. The road leads to quintessential small-town Ahoskie — where an East Carolina University dental office uses a pioneering combination of creativity, innovation and technology for dentistry and education.



Above, fourth-year dental student Velvet McClurkin talks with patient Tommy Pearson after his appointment at the Ahoskie community service learning center.

The ECU School of Dental Medicine's community service learning center in Ahoskie — along with its seven statewide counterparts that stretch from the Appalachians to the Atlantic — is part of one of the most enterprising recent innovations to dental education and patient treatment. The CSLCs in rural and underserved communities provide students hands-on training while patients receive much-needed dental care.

Now preparing to graduate its fifth class of new dentists, the school has treated more than 63,000 patients who come from all 100 counties in the state. It is educating students who are all from North Carolina and call 82 of those counties home. Following this spring's commencement, the school boasts around 250 alumni.

In March, the American Dental Education Association recognized the CSLC model by awarding it with a 2019 William J. Gies Award for Innovation, Vision and Achievement through its ADEAGies Foundation.

From model to mission

Dental school supporters have long touted its ability to educate new dentists for a state that for years has experienced a dentist shortage, especially in the 80 rural North Carolina counties where 40 percent of the state's population lives. Not only do its rigorously trained graduates fill the slots being vacated by rapidly retiring veteran dentists, they also address the gap in oral health care felt in most of North Carolina's rural and underserved communities.

"Our model focusing on rural communities and underserved populations fits perfectly into ECU's mission of service," said Dr. Greg Chadwick, dean. "Using a curriculum that combines rigorous coursework with a novel approach to service and clinical experiences, we are shaping not only dentists, but leaders who will explore new ways to improve oral health across North Carolina."

The CSLCs have allowed the dental school to create modern solutions for the unique oral health care problems facing residents of North Carolina.

"The Gies Award is a wonderful reminder of our colleagues' innovative work in dental education and how they are improving the lives of the individuals we are committed to serve," said Dr. Richard W. Valachovic, president and CEO of ADEA, when the award was first announced last fall.

63,000
PATIENTS
TREATED
STATEWIDE

PATIENTS FROM
ALL 100
N.C. COUNTIES
TREATED

100 PERCENT OF STUDENTS
COME FROM N.C., REPRESENTING
82 HOME COUNTIES

\$124,000 AVERAGE ECU DENTAL
STUDENT DEBT, COMPARED TO
\$240,000 NATIONALLY



An answer for patients

Amber Doering of Como was tasked with finding affordable, convenient and top-quality dental care not only for her and her husband but also for her eight children. The Ahoskie CSLC proved a perfect fit for the family and helped break down the barriers to care they previously faced.

"This dental school truly met a need where there was a big gap," Doering said. "I have also seen people firsthand who needed help, who lived in pain and were literally missing much-needed teeth out of lack of help or choices due to their budget constraints. Now they are smiling again because they received the help they needed."

For ECU to produce service-minded dentists and take its students and faculty straight to the rural communities in the greatest need was an idea born of the entrepreneurial spirit that sparked the school.

"In the beginning, those leading the charge really had to think outside the box," said Dr. Margaret Wilson, vice dean and associate dean for student affairs. "When they started thinking of the dental

FUNDING PROGRAM CHECKS ALL BOXES

Funds set up to benefit School of Dental Medicine patients in financial need are fulfilling a two-pronged mission across the state.

The patient care funds provide students essential experience in formulating treatment plans based on what the patient can afford and funding available through the PCF.

While each fund has its own donor-established criteria, many of the ECU School of Dental Medicine funds are based on a model that assesses not only the patient's dental needs but also their ability to "partner" in paying for the assessment and care and the educational needs of students. Faculty direct the use of the patient care funds.

"Through these funds, our patients are great partners in our efforts to teach our students the essential skills they need to become the next generation of dental professionals," said Mark Notestine, president of the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation, which houses the patient care funds.

"Since we already provide dental services at reduced fees, this means that each dollar that is donated is stretched even further," said Dr. Matt Causey, clinical assistant professor and chair of the PCF. "The funds cover procedures for patients in financial need, procedures that are of educational benefit to the students. This has a tremendous impact on the health of our patients."

Said one patient who received PCF-funded care, "The difference in what the school and the patient care funds gave me and what it would cost me is basically the cost of food for a month."

school, its curriculum and the CSLC model, they asked questions like, "Why couldn't we do this?" They just had a fresh perspective not hampered by traditional ideas that could box others in."

Returning home

During their fourth year of dental school at ECU, students spend a total of 27 weeks learning and living in the CSLC communities during nine-week rotations. In traditional dental school clinics, students have more limited collaboration with other dental team members and usually see one patient during each clinic session. Students and residents at the ECU CSLCs typically see five to six patients a day and are exposed to the daily workings of a dental practice through interaction with dental assistants, hygienists and administrative staff.



“This model is really unique in that students can think beyond what’s right in front of them and come up with interesting treatment plans for patients. When students learn here, they’re able to think on their feet, assess urgent care quickly and deliver on that.”

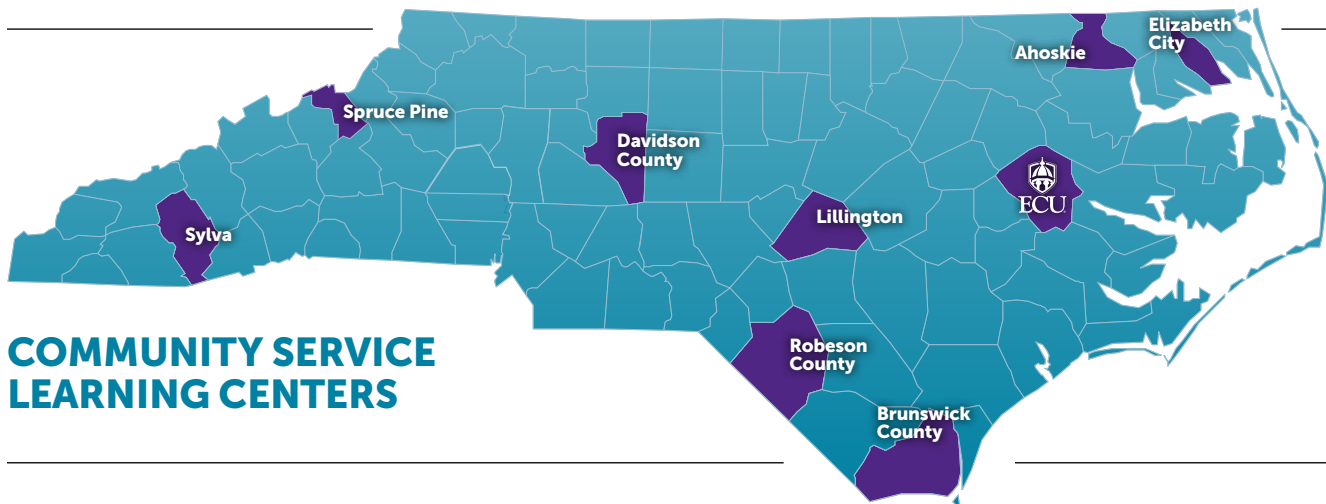
Dr. Carol Anderson, faculty director of the Elizabeth City service learning center

"The school's curriculum model front-loads our basic science and pre-clinical learning, providing students with more time for hands-on clinical training," said third-year student Akeadra Bell.

Dr. Carol Anderson, faculty director of the Elizabeth City center, said the CSLC model urges students to consider every angle of a problem before choosing the best route for the patient.

"This model is really unique in that students can think beyond what's right in front of them and come up with interesting treatment plans for patients," Anderson said. "When students learn here, they're able to think on their feet, assess urgent care quickly and deliver on that."

Students also engage in research and projects that are geared toward solving long-term problems that will increase patient access and improve care.



COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING CENTERS

“The student projects that are executed through the CSLCs focus on creativity to increase our patients’ access,” said Dr. Rob Tempel, associate dean for extramural clinical practices. “They bring solutions to topics from fee reduction and language barriers to transportation.”

The experience also offers students a complete perspective of what to expect after dental school.

Dr. Nicole Beasley ’16 grew up in Jackson and knew early on she wanted to be a dentist. After graduating from the School of Dental Medicine, she completed an advanced education in general dentistry residency at CSLC-Ahoskie. She then returned to Northampton County and works as the only dentist at Rural Health Group, a federally qualified health center that offers care to uninsured patients who meet government guidelines. She credits the dental school’s curriculum and model for teaching her to think more critically and service-minded.

“I always intended to come back to Jackson after dental school,” Beasley said, “but when it was time to start looking for jobs, I considered other locations. I made my decision by asking myself, ‘Where am I most needed?’ And the answer was, ‘At home.’” ➤ E



Dr. Rob Tempel, associate dean for extramural clinical practices, finds videoconferencing an essential tool in working with faculty and staff at the eight community service learning centers across the state.

“The student projects that are executed through the CSLCs focus on creativity to increase our patients’ access. They bring solutions to topics from fee reduction and language barriers to transportation.”

Dr. Rob Tempel, associate dean for extramural clinical practices



SEE
THE
VIDEO

See ECU dental faculty and students working with patients in the Elizabeth City community service learning center at bit.ly/2SZLZC5.

STUDENT **SNAPSHOT**

Connor Michael Gerney



Hometown: Swift Creek

Class: Junior

Major: Professional acting and theater for youth

Career goals: Actor, playwright

Connor Gerney received an Undergraduate Research & Creativity Activity award to help fund his original production of his play “Twilight Boy,” which premiered Feb. 17 at the Whirligig Stage in Greenville.

The play tells the story of the friendship among three sculpting students and what happens when one of them goes missing.

“The show went amazingly,” Gerney said afterward. “We had two shows, and while the crowds were very different, the afternoon more subdued and the evening pretty wild, both audiences had incredibly positive things to say. It really was everything I could’ve hoped it would be, and I’ll never forget it.”

From a young age, Gerney knew he had a passion for theater. An early mentor encouraged him to pursue acting.

“She cast me in my first community theater show and really pushed me a lot. She was a guiding force who really helped me,” Gerney said.

Looking for a university that provides acting training and a program revolving around theater for the youth, Gerney came to ECU. As early as his freshman year, Gerney got involved in school productions and has performed in “The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe,” “Wind of the Willows,” “A Midsummer’s Night Dream” and “The Three Musketeers.”

He’ll work at the outdoor drama “Unto These Hills” in Cherokee this summer.



SEE
THE
VIDEO

Watch “Twilight Boy” at
youtu.be/fre7QPb7biQ.



Yichen Guan, a first year master of fine arts candidate in metal design, uses a grinder as she works on welding and sculpture techniques as part of her upcoming enamel work.

PIRATE NATION ★

MUSICAL MARVELS

Nathan Mills '13 is merging his music skills with his passion for movies and video games.

Think "Avengers: Infinity War," "The Office" or Fortnite. He creates and performs his own classical and fingerstyle guitar arrangements of music from movies, TV shows and video games, then sells them on his YouTube channel, Beyond the Guitar. He recently started teaching others how to do it at www.beyondtheguitar.com.

"I'm arranging something that's not necessarily composed for the guitar, and I adapt it to be played on the guitar," said Mills, who has a master's degree in music with a concentration in classical guitar performance from ECU.

He has more than 31 million views, more than 245,000 subscribers and has created more than 50 videos. A producer with the HBO hit "Game of Thrones" tweeted him. "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" shared on Instagram.

"I was always a movie buff and a gamer," he said. "I felt I had an ability to fill this unique niche with my classical training. I thought I had something unique to offer."

The idea came while Mills was working at a financial services company and teaching guitar lessons after hours. Using the platform Vine, he started making short music videos, themes that people would recognize in seconds. He began teaching music at a middle school part time and continued to teach guitar while starting his YouTube channel.

Reactions from his early posts convinced him to keep going. "I'm not very entrepreneurial," he said. "I thought I would get my doctorate and teach."

But a friend from his church worship band helped open his eyes to the possibility of a successful music business.

Graham Cochrane, who founded www.recordingrevolution.com, helped produce an album for the band. Cochrane's website helps people record and produce music worldwide. "It showed me the potential of making a living and making a good living," Mills said. "It gave me that nudge. He was the first person I met and knew that was making it work and gave me hope it was possible."



Nathan Mills is making a living playing popular movie and game themes on classical guitar.

Mills first played piano, then picked up guitar in eighth grade. He didn't start playing classical guitar until his junior year of high school. After graduating from Virginia Commonwealth University, he enrolled in graduate school at ECU, where guitar professor Elliot Frank offered him a teaching assistantship.

Mills was one of his strongest players, Frank said.

"Since that time, he has taken a unique and innovative approach to creating a career path in music, one which I would not have foreseen, but in the process he reaches many people who would otherwise not be drawn to the classical guitar," Frank said.

Mills, a husband and father of two young children, creates his music in a self-described "nerd shrine," filled with movie and game memorabilia and LED panels, where he taught himself audio engineering and how to make videos.

"It's technically my dream job. I like being home with my family, and I like being able to work from home," Mills said. "Overall, I'm very blessed to do what I love. There are a lot of people not as fortunate. It's a constant reminder to be grateful."

– Crystal Baity

**GRADUATING FROM
ECU A FAMILY AFFAIR
FOR THE DELLINGERS**



Left, Steve Dellinger '18 looks on as his daughter Adrienne Dellinger '94 prepares a ceramic piece for the kiln. Above, husband and wife Adrienne Dellinger '94 and Greg Scott '91 have been working in art since they graduated from ECU. They are a part of a rich family tradition of attending East Carolina.

Art and ECU make up a good portion of the family of Adrienne Dellinger '94. If you include her, her husband, Greg Scott '91, her parents, her siblings and their spouses, seven of them graduated from ECU – four with fine arts degrees.

“I think we all ended up at ECU because of the great art program that they have,” Dellinger said. “They have the best fine art program in the state.”

Their degrees are paying off. Adrienne is executive director of Clayworks in Charlotte, which is touted as the fourth-largest nonprofit pottery teaching facility in the United States. Greg is a senior instructor at Clayworks and is an arts coordinator and arts director for the Cornwell Center in Charlotte.

“I haven’t done a job outside of the arts since I graduated from school,” he said.

Courtney Dellinger and their father, Steve, own Carolina Architectural Precast in Charlotte. Courtney creates custom concrete columns, railings, fireplace surroundings and more.

“He’s a sculptor. He’s really talented for sure,” said his father.

Steve attributes the artistic abilities of his children to his grandmother, who was an oil painter. Although Steve’s degree isn’t in art, he is an accomplished painter in his own right.

“I never thought that I had any art skills at all until I was much, much older. I started in water colors,” Steve said.

Adrienne’s mother, Eloise Hicks, graduated from ECU in 1968 with a degree in chemistry. Courtney’s wife, Katherine, earned her bachelor of fine arts degree in 2000. Their sister-in-law, Caroline Dellinger '02, received her degree in business administration.

“It’s unusual, I think, to have that many people in the family that went to school there,” Steve Dellinger said. “They’re all dedicated Pirates, that’s for sure.”

The newest ECU graduate of them all is 72-year-old Steve. He graduated in December with a university studies degree – 50 years after he was originally a senior at ECU. His wife at the time, Eloise, was pregnant with their son, Sheldon, and was offered a job in Charlotte. Steve left school to help support his family.

“It’s just a matter of will – if you’re willing to put forth the effort, you can do it.” Steve said. “I wanted to finish at East Carolina.”

The number of Dellinger Pirates could rise. Adrienne and Greg have two children, Grace and Quinn Scott. Greg said both have inherited artistic ability, but Grace might be the one to potentially pursue a career in it. She is in high school now and Adrienne said she’s keeping her fingers crossed Grace will be the eighth member of their family to rep the purple and gold.

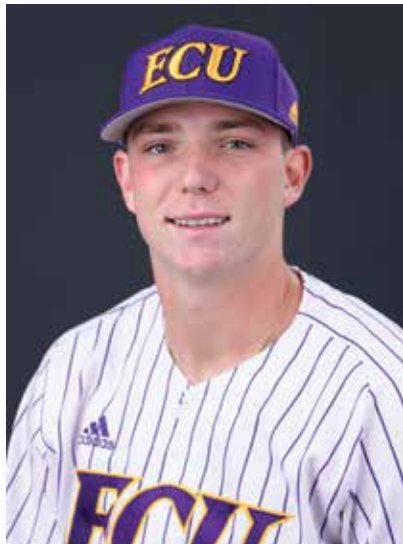
“Going to East Carolina for fine arts – from there you can get anywhere,” Greg said.

– Rich Klindworth



SEE
THE
VIDEOS

Watch the Dellingers at
bit.ly/2J6Rn6x
and
bit.ly/2XRbLfc



Bryant Packard

Year: Junior

Major: Communication

Hometown: Greenville

“IT’S BEEN THE BEST THREE YEARS OF MY LIFE PLAYING HERE. ... MAKING THIS ONE OF THE BIGGEST PRIORITIES IN YOUR LIFE DEFINITELY PAYS OFF.”

Batter up!

DESPITE A POSSIBLE BIG-LEAGUE FUTURE, BRYANT PACKARD IS ALL IN ON ECU BASEBALL

Pirates baseball coach Cliff Godwin calls him “one of the best left-handed hitters in the country.” And junior Bryant Packard is living up to that description this season.

Following a mid-March sweep of Maryland – in which teammate Jake Kuchmaner pitched a perfect game – Packard was batting .324 with two home runs and eight RBIs. Before the season started, he was named to five preseason All-America squads and was the preseason American Athletic Conference Player-of-the-Year.

On defense, the 6-foot-3, 200-pounder plays left field.

Born in Seattle, Packard came to Greenville in fifth grade. His father, a Navy recruiter, was stationed here, and Packard remembers driving by the Pirates’ baseball stadium and saying he wanted to play there. He was a star at D.H. Conley High School and a four-time 4A All-State selection.

Packard said making the jump from high school to college athletics is a challenge.

“Not a lot of people want to put the work in because they have outside – we call it noise – they want to do what all the regular kids are doing,” he said.

“But you have to be different to play college sports.”

Packard also performs in the classroom, placing four times on the Director of Athletics Honor Roll and twice being an AAC All-Academic team selection.

While he’s serious about school and baseball, he has a lighter side, too.

“He’s probably the funniest kid I’ve ever met,” said his roommate and Pirate pitcher Jake Agnos. “He’s an awesome asset to take your mind off the field and baseball.” He’s also an avid Fortnite player, working in a little gaming in the mornings before classes.

There’s a good chance a Major League team will select Packard in the June draft. But he tries to stay focused on today.

“It’s been the best three years of my life playing here,” Packard said. “It’s definitely worth it, all the hard work through high school, through middle school. Making this one of the biggest priorities in your life definitely pays off.”

– Doug Boyd



FOR MORE INFO

Watch Packard talk about this season at youtu.be/UdW3cm34f2Q.

5

5 MINUTES WITH JEFF MANGUM '92

Position: Caricature artist

Degree: Painting

Hometown: Durham

"People ask me all the time if drawing people at events and parties is my real job. And I say yes, it beats working!

"A friend of mine from the ECU School of Art and Design moved to Charlotte after graduation and started drawing caricatures on the side. He thought I'd enjoy doing it too and took me along to a few events. It was the most fun thing ever. I've been doing it full time since 1999.

"The basic thing to excelling at caricatures is good drawing ability and an outgoing personality. What drew me to it was the instant gratification. It's a quick sketch that the subject sees in three minutes. I always want people to leave with something they like, so I don't overexaggerate features in a mean way (I make fun with them, not at them). It's supposed to be a pleasant memento.

"I also paint wall murals around the Charlotte area where I live – everything from hotel lobbies to bowling alleys to a Whole Foods parking garage. I'm currently doing a mural at a laser tag arena with fluorescent paint. It's not exactly the Museum of Modern Art, but it's really fun. And that's one of the reasons I went into art, because I like it so much. Otherwise, I'd still be doing it as a hobby. At least this way pays for the supplies.

"One great thing I learned in the art program at ECU was the importance of meeting deadlines. This piece of art is due on this day, and nobody will care why you don't have it. In the real world, someone won't give you a bad grade, they'll just never call you for a job ever again."

We want to hear stories from alumni about how their experiences at ECU shaped them today and how they pass those lessons to others. Send us an email at easteditor@ecu.edu.



Calendar

ON CAMPUS



Voyages events are at 7 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. Tickets are available at ecu.edu/voyages.

A veteran of cable and network news, award-winning television journalist **Soledad O'Brien** comes to ECU's Wright Auditorium on Sept. 18 as part of the Voyages of Discovery Series. Her talk is titled "Diversity: On TV, Behind the Scenes and in Our Lives." O'Brien, whose immigrant parents are from Cuba and Australia, formed Starfish Media Group in 2013 and today anchors and produces the program "Matter of Fact with Soledad O'Brien" on A&E.

EXHIBITS

The Wellington B. Gray Gallery in the Jenkins Fine Arts Center presents muralist **Layqa Nuna Yawar**, visiting artist and guest speaker, Sept. 11 from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. The **Keaton and Umberger Collection** will be on view Sept. 13-27.



Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays noon-4 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. The gallery is closed for all university holidays. For more information, call 252-328-6336 or visit bit.ly/2zg1yxl.

ON STAGE

The Tony Awards meet "Whose Line is it Anyway" in "**Broadway's Next H!T Musical.**" Every song is fresh, every scene is new and every night is different because the cast fishes made-up song titles from the audience. Once the audience votes on their favorite, five New York City improv actors and a crack pianist craft an entire improv musical to complete the program. This program was rescheduled from last fall due to Hurricane Florence. July 12 at 8 p.m. in Wright Auditorium.

A new series, ECU Summer Fare, presents a new theatre company, Summer Storybook, in "**Yo, Vikings!**" The musical, adapted from the kid-lit book by Pete the Cat author Judy Schachner, is the mini-saga of 10-year-old Emma Katz, the fiercest Viking in Swarthmore, Pa. A class assignment gives her just the platform to become a real Viking. With sweeping melodies, thrilling Viking chants, funky rock n' roll and a heartwarming story, "Yo, Vikings!" will inspire. July 25-27 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and July 25-26 at 7 p.m. in the Main Campus Student Center Black Box Theatre.




"**Dar He: The Story of Emmett Till**" is the one-man production by Mike Wiley. In 1955, a 14-year-old black Chicago youth traveled to the Mississippi Delta with country kinfolk and southern cooking on his mind. He walked off the train and into a world of thick color lines, hard-held class systems and unspeakable taboos. Young Emmett stepped into his

gruesome fate by whistling at a white woman. Through conversations with a *Look* magazine journalist, Emmett's mother and others, this riveting play chronicles the murder, trial and confessions of the men accused of Till's murder. Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. in Wright Auditorium.

From the safety of their suburban life, a girls' soccer team navigates big questions and wages tiny battles with the force of a pack of adolescent warriors. "**The Wolves**" is a portrait of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for nine American girls who just want to score some goals. Presented in the 200-seat Burnette Studio Theatre adjacent to the McGinnis/Messick Theatre Center, this "black box" venue combines limited seating with an intimate theatrical experience. Shows are Sept. 25-Oct. 4.

Information and tickets to these performances are available at ecuarts.com.



Senior dance performance and choreography major Megan Shepherd performs *Terra Lingua*, choreographed by ECU dance professors Teal Darkenwald and John Dixon, at Spring Dance 2019 in March.



Horizons

CHANGING LIVES,

CHANGING COMMUNITIES

Rebecca Breece

What do you enjoy about illustration?

I enjoy being able to take objects, people or environments and changing, stylizing or combining them into something new and different. I get to let people see my own take on how I view the world. I also just feel like illustration is very open, as you can do so many things with it and combine so many different artistic mediums to create an image.

How has having a scholarship helped you?

I have many loans out under my name, so any money is helping me with art supplies and paying off debt. With all the pressure I am under, it has definitely helped lift a bit of the weight off my shoulders. It is important to give art scholarships as you are helping to build someone's future by supporting them in their creative pursuit. Every bit of money donated is going toward creative visual solutions that enhance all of our lives.

Hometown: Smithfield

Year: Senior

Major: Illustration

Career goals: Become a freelance illustrator for children's books or product packaging

Donor spotlight: Richard Bean

The Richard Bean Scholarship supports students such as Rebecca who are majoring in art or art education with concentration in graphic design, illustration or photography. Bean, of Greensboro, had a deep appreciation for education as evidenced by his scholarships at N.C. State and ECU.

ecu.edu/give



**BB&T LEADERSHIP CENTER
RECEIVES \$5 MILLION GIFT**

The Bate Building on ECU's campus, which houses the BB&T Center for Leadership Development.

A \$5 million gift to East Carolina University from an organization that wishes to remain anonymous will support the BB&T Center for Leadership Development, which has provided opportunities for leadership growth at ECU since 1983.

"Faculty and student leaders are made here with invaluable help from the BB&T Center for Leadership Development," said Chancellor Cecil Staton. "This tremendous donation will help ensure leadership is truly a part of the university's DNA, thereby enabling Pirates to lead in the community, the state and beyond in whatever capacities they wish to pursue."

ECU, with the continued support of the BB&T Center, strives to ensure every student has the opportunity to develop leadership skills. The goal of the BB&T Center is to embed leadership development across all curriculums with a focus on developing student leaders as a part of regular classroom instruction. The center has provided grants to colleges and schools across the university.

Successful initiatives include a four-course leadership component in the College of Business curriculum, the implementation in

the Brody School of Medicine of the LINC Program (Leaders in Innovative Care) and the Enhancing Leadership course of study each year for all students in the College of Nursing.

The center also provides opportunities for leadership development through several programs for faculty, including the BB&T Faculty Leadership Fellows Program, the BB&T Active Learning and Leadership program and the Chancellor's Leadership Academy.

By teaching faculty how to cultivate classroom leaders, students in turn learn the art of motivating, influencing and directing others. The 146 faculty members who have completed the programs have incorporated leadership development in 2,400 sections of close to 900 courses for over 40,500 students.

"The center is truly a unique aspect of the university and of the University of North Carolina higher education system," said Steve Ballard, former chancellor and director of the BB&T Center for Leadership Development. "It fully supports our vision that ECU students will receive a great classroom education, practical problem-solving experience and a better understanding of who they are as leaders."

— Erin Shaw

JENKINS SOCIETY

INDUCTS

NEW MEMBERS

Every year, donors make planned gifts to East Carolina University that support scholarships, professorships and endowment funds. This year was no different, with donors championing areas from business to nursing to math education.

Their philanthropy earns them membership in the Leo W. Jenkins Society, a group of benefactors who support the university through will bequests, retirement plan beneficiary designations and life insurance policy designations. The nature of these gifts means many donors will not be alive to see their gifts implemented. But they give anyway.

This year, ECU inducted 26 new members into the Leo W. Jenkins Society at a luncheon honoring the inductees. Chancellor Cecil Staton expressed his gratitude and spoke of the trust in ECU a planned gift demonstrates.

"ECU is a wonderful university where wonderful things are taking

place," he said. "I'm so grateful to the Pirates and friends like you who believe in ECU enough to step up and support our students, our faculty and our mission."

One donor, Sallie Chauncey Mercer, said her bequest will establish a scholarship in the risk management and insurance program in the College of Business. Mercer spent 30 years working in insurance and spoke highly of her experiences working with ECU students and graduates. Her scholarship is in memory of her son, Jack, who died last June.

"This scholarship keeps his name alive and supports a career that I loved. It was absolutely the right choice for this," she said.

— Erin Shaw



The Leo W. Jenkins Society

is named after the university's sixth president. The fine arts center also bears his name, but lesser known is the fact Jenkins was an artist in his own right. When he wasn't leading the university, Jenkins was an amateur painter who often gave his paintings as gifts to donors.



SEE
THE
VIDEO

Learn more about
the Jenkins family at
bit.ly/2VZdbCV

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

1930s

Doris E. Roebuck '37 '39 of Robersonville, N.C., on Jan. 24, 2019.

1940s

Lillian B. "Mickey" Arrington '44 of Winston-Salem, N.C., on Jan. 28, 2019.

Maydell B. Baker '43 of Raleigh, N.C., on Jan. 26, 2019.

Mary Virginia English Gay '43 of Winterville, N.C., on Jan. 14, 2019.

Minnie Quinn Saieed '42 of Oak Island, N.C., on Nov. 21, 2018.

1950s

Betty Claire Allard '53 of Wilmington, N.C., on Nov. 26, 2018.

Barbara T. Asbell '57 of Warner Robins, Ga., on Jan. 15, 2019.

Mary G. Barrow '54 of Goldsboro, N.C., on Jan. 2, 2019.

Jane Godwin Boyd '54 of Silver Spring, Md., on Nov. 29, 2018.

Virginia R. Brown '53 of Morehead City, N.C., on Nov. 27, 2019.

Charlie Thomas Buck '58 of Hampton, Va., on Oct. 29, 2018.

James L. Cannon '56 of Mt. Pleasant, S.C., on Dec. 16, 2018.

Violet Moore Carlton '50 of Pinetops, N.C., on Nov. 29, 2018.

Joan C. Chason '57 of Wilmington, N.C., on Jan. 26, 2019.

Robert L. Chick '51 of Seguin, Texas, on Dec. 8, 2018.

Samuel Avery Davis '59 of Hope Mills, N.C., on Nov. 18, 2018.

Dorothy B. Driver '51 of Middlesex, N.C., on Dec. 23, 2018.

Anita F. Earp '59 of Beaufort, N.C., on Nov. 27, 2018.

James Lee Gearhart '57 '60 of Gastonia, N.C., on Aug. 23, 2018.

Shelby B. Harrell '59 of Snow Hill, N.C., on Oct. 27, 2018.

Glenda C. Harris '59 of Roanoke Rapids, N.C., on Oct. 31, 2018.

Georgia M. Hunter '57 of Newport News, Va., on Jan. 12, 2019.

Jane Hutchinson '56 of Lafayette, Colo., on Nov. 16, 2018.

Bette Light '53 of Greensboro, N.C., on Jan. 10, 2019.

Council T. Jarman '58 '60 of Deep Run, N.C., on Nov. 25, 2018.

Sallie E. Mann '56 '60 of Greenville, N.C., on Jan. 1, 2019.

Evelyn Arlene Manning '56 '62 of Bethel, N.C., on Jan. 16, 2019.

Eleanor H. Mills '52 '56 of Greenville, N.C., on Dec. 25, 2018.

Hannah W. Neal '57 of Fayetteville, N.C., on Jan. 9, 2019.

Peter B. Prominski '51 of Riverside, N.J., on Dec. 7, 2018.

Thelma C. Roberson '54 of Kinston, N.C., on Oct. 28, 2018.

Sally M. Smith '57 of Whiteville, N.C., on Jan. 24, 2019.

Robert D. Stokes '56 of Greenville, N.C., on Dec. 7, 2018.

Zilphia Tart '56 of Greensboro, N.C., on Oct. 30, 2018.

Jack Lloyd Wallace '51 of Bath, N.C., on Nov. 6, 2018.

Raenord B. Walker '59 '61 of Colonial Heights, Va., on Jan. 5, 2019.

Walter A. Warren '58 of Surf City, N.C., on Jan. 15, 2019.

Bobby R. Young '57 of Winston-Salem, N.C., on Jan. 3, 2019.

1960s

Martha Rhodes Averett '68 of Ayden, N.C., on Dec. 15, 2018.

Lottie B. Bonner '61 '64 of Trenton, N.C., on Dec. 26, 2018.

Clyde Stephen "Grits" Britt '69 of Schuler, Va., on Dec. 25, 2018.

Katherine A. Burney '68 of Greenville, N.C., on Dec. 20, 2018.

James S. Chester '63 of Newton, N.C., on Dec. 24, 2018.

George Earnshaw '65 of Erwin, N.C., on Dec. 23, 2018.

Elizabeth James Foley '68 of Warrenton, Va., on Nov. 24, 2018.

Earl W. Garbett Jr. '67 of Deltaville, Va., on Oct. 16, 2018.

William "Nelson" Hamill '63 of Greenville, N.C., on Dec. 29, 2018.

Barbara J. Hartis '63 of Kinston, N.C., on Jan. 4, 2019.

Barbara Mills Heath '61 of Grimesland, N.C., on Oct. 30, 2018.

Lena B. Joyner '62 of Four Oaks, N.C., on Dec. 2, 2018.

Joseph W. "Sonny" Lanier '63 of Wilmington, N.C., on Dec. 31, 2018.

Alan K. Massey '68 of Suffolk, Va., on Dec. 3, 2018.

James V. McIntosh '65 of Troy, N.C., on Nov. 21, 2018.

Bruce C. McLamb '66 of New Bern, N.C., on Dec. 5, 2018.

Phyllis McLawhorn '67 of Morehead City, N.C., on Aug. 29, 2018.

Del Jay Miltenberger Jr. '67 of Washington, N.C., on Nov. 24, 2018.

Roger Nixon '66 of Maitland, Fla., on Nov. 18, 2018.

W. Thomas O'Berry '63 of Fayetteville, N.C., on Nov. 2, 2018.

Mary C. Powell '62 of Columbus, Ohio, on Jan. 20, 2019.

Ike F. Riddick '61 of Warsaw, N.C., on Nov. 11, 2018.

Betty W. Rogerson '64 of Raleigh, N.C., on Nov. 25, 2018.

George Helme Sutcliffe '61 of Charlotte, N.C., on Nov. 7, 2018.

James N. Vincent '63 of Greenville, N.C., on Jan. 22, 2019.

Thomas L. Wallace '69 of Wilmington, N.C., on Jan. 22, 2019.

David F. Whitley '68 of Williamston, N.C., on Oct. 31, 2018.

Judith H. York '68 of Lancaster, S.C., on Dec. 4, 2018.

1970s

Ann J. Anderson '77 '79 of Tarboro, N.C., on Dec. 9, 2018.

Joseph B. Applegate '77 '86 of Lindale, Ga., on Dec. 4, 2018.

Edmund C. Burnette Jr. '76 of Roanoke Rapids, N.C., on Dec. 2, 2018.

Marilyn M. Cogdell '75 of Kinston, N.C., on Dec. 11, 2018.

Joseph W. Everhardt Jr. '72 of Clemmons, N.C., on Oct. 23, 2018.

Paul K. Davis '79 of Raleigh, N.C., on Dec. 18, 2018.

Donald Walter "Buz" Hansen '70 of Mesa, Ariz., on Nov. 23, 2018.

Howard Hussey III '73 '76 of Greenville, N.C., on Dec. 1, 2018.

Charles P. Kidney '78 of Coconut Creek, Fla., on Oct. 31, 2018.

Linda Kiser '73 of Albemarle, N.C., on Nov. 3, 2018.

Linda Vann Lassiter '74 of Selma, N.C., on Dec. 12, 2018.

Donna L. Mullen '70 of Spring Hope, N.C., on Jan. 13, 2019.

Reginald O. Mullen Jr. '71 of Spring Hope, N.C., on Nov. 20, 2018.

Lela S. Peterson '71 of Fayetteville, N.C., on Jan. 7, 2019.

Phyllis Kinsaul Shoe '70 of Mount Pleasant, N.C., on Dec. 8, 2018.

Edward A. "Alex" Smith '71 of Dallas, Texas, on Oct. 23, 2018.

Robert R. Thonen '77 of Greenville, N.C., on Oct. 6, 2018.

Leslie E. Williams '77 of Winterville, N.C., on Nov. 9, 2018.

1980s

Wanda C. Bennett '81 '88 of Simpson, N.C., on Jan. 14, 2019.

Lynn Brewer '80 of Lucama, N.C., on Nov. 3, 2018.

James J. Cahill '84 of Voorheesville, N.Y., on Dec. 25, 2018.

Gordon Gammon '88 of Maidens, Va., on Jan. 11, 2019.

Leo J. Gerlach '83 of New Bern, N.C., on Jan. 2, 2019.

Lisa C. Gibbs '89 of Grimesland, N.C., on Jan. 15, 2019.

Ralph A. Godbold '83 of Hope Mills, N.C., on Jan. 3, 2019.

Suzan Iwerks '88 of Forest City, N.C., on Nov. 24, 2018.

Licia Midgett Kee '83 of Waves, N.C., on Oct. 30, 2018.

Linda Baker Lewis '80 of Wake Forest, N.C., on Dec. 26, 2018.

Helen McDonald Mohan '81 of Carthage, N.C., on Nov. 16, 2018.

Patrick M. Moore '83 of Elizabeth City, N.C., on Oct. 28, 2018.

Kevin Nelson '81 of Durham, N.C., on Jan. 29, 2019.

Nicky Pipkin '83 of Wrightsville Beach, N.C., on Dec. 19, 2018.

Paula P. Ryskiewich '87 of Mebane, N.C., on Jan. 8, 2019.

Stephanie Schultz '84 of Taylorsville, N.C., on Nov. 3, 2018.

Lance M. Searl '89 of Morehead City, N.C., on Dec. 25, 2018.

Debra Lynn Shirley '88 of Arvada, Colo., on Sept. 28, 2018.

Lisa Ward Thomas '87 of Plantation, Fla., on Nov. 17, 2018.

Patricia Register Worley '87 of Kinston, N.C., on Nov. 15, 2018.

1990s

Jack Dooly '96 of Chuluota, Fla., on Oct. 28, 2018.

Elisa T. Green '93 of Yorktown, Va., on Oct. 27, 2018.

Richard E. Justice '98 of Raleigh, N.C., on Jan. 9, 2019.

Renee L. Kime '99 of Raleigh, N.C., on Jan. 26, 2019.

Angela Leake '92 of Wilson, N.C., on Oct. 26, 2018.

Ryan N. Massimo '99 of Centreville, Va., on Nov. 11, 2018.

Sarah P. Russell '97 of Wilson, N.C., on Dec. 20, 2018.

George L. Whitley '91 of Ocean Isle Beach, N.C., on Jan. 4, 2019.

Dorothy Wilkinson '96 of Oxford, N.C., on Nov. 2, 2018.

2000s

Andrew J. Gray '07 of Newport News, Va., on Oct. 28, 2018.

Laura J. Hummell '08 of Charleroi, Pa., on Dec. 8, 2018.

Joseph A. Reilly of Bel Air, Md., on Dec. 17, 2018.

Zachary T. Stephenson '07 of Pinebluff, N.C., on Nov. 22, 2018.

Jennifer Lee Wall '05 of Kitty Hawk, N.C., on Nov. 20, 2018.

2010s

David Gans '10 of Baltimore, Md., on Jan. 16, 2019.

FACULTY/STAFF

Edgar L. Bass (medicine) of Greenville, N.C., on Feb. 14, 2019.

Alfred C. Brinson (business) of Aiken, S.C., on Jan. 20, 2019.

Donald Clemens (chemistry) of Floyd, Va., on Nov. 14, 2018.

Harold H. Edwards (physics) of Aurora, Colo., on Nov. 11, 2018.

Henry E. Hardee (facilities) of Greenville, N.C., on Dec. 20, 2018.

Dorothy Ann Hill (medicine) of Honolulu, Hawaii, on Nov. 2, 2018.

J. Frank James (medicine) of Greenville, N.C., on Nov. 26, 2018.

Jerry McGee (athletics) of Elizabeth City, N.C., on Jan. 6, 2019.

Randall E. Parker (economics) of Greenville, N.C., on Nov. 4, 2018.

Felicia Y. House (dining) of Greenville, N.C., on Oct. 31, 2018.

David Jones (marketing) of Fernandina Beach, Fla., on Oct. 14, 2018.

Billy Vandiford (police) of Grifton, N.C., on Nov. 11, 2018.

STUDENTS

Mariah Moore of Manns Harbor, N.C., on Dec. 11, 2018.



SPRING 2019 VOLUME 17, NUMBER 2

East is produced by East Carolina University

Managing Editor

Doug Boyd '99

Art Director

Mike Litwin '01

Photographers

Rhett Butler, Cliff Hollis

Contributing Writers

Crystal Baity, Doug Boyd, Lacey L. Gray, Rich Klindworth, Jules Norwood, Michael Rudd, Kelly Rusk, Erin Shaw, Rob Spahr, Spaine Stephens

Contributing Photographers

ECU Athletics Media Relations, Mike Litwin, Will Preslar, T.A. Loving/Barnhill, Joshua Vaughan

Copy Editor

Jimmy Rostar '94

Interim Chief Communications Officer

Jeannine Manning Hutson

Contact Us

- 252-737-1973
- easteditor@ecu.edu • www.ecu.edu/east

Customer Service

To start or stop a subscription or to let us know about a change of address, please contact Advancement Services at advancementservices@ecu.edu or 252-328-GIVE (4483).

Send letters to the editor to:

easteditor@ecu.edu or Howard House Mail Stop 107
 East Carolina University
 Greenville, N.C. 27858-4353

32,976 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$20,445.12, or \$.62 per copy.



EAST

Howard House
Mail Stop 107
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858-4353



DueEast

4.5.19

ECU medical student Garrett Berk loses his hair as part of the third annual Pirates vs. Cancer event at the Health Sciences campus Student Center on April 5. The event raised more than \$52,000. See more at youtu.be/I2iKLUe8OHw.