

CAMPUS UPDATE

August 2019

Pierson's Perceptions

It's an exciting time of the year. We have a fresh start of fall classes, new and familiar faces to welcome, and lots of activities to share with everyone. Homecoming 2019 is on the horizon and we look forward to reconnecting with our alums and hearing about their lives, successes and achievements.

Back for a second year is the Black Alumni Association Breakfast in Taff Cafeteria on Saturday morning. After breakfast, we will host one of my favorite Homecoming activities, the annual Golden Tiger Brunch as we welcome back those who graduated or attended ECU 50 years ago or longer. It's always thrilling to meet with these alums while hearing about their times spent here at the university.

Several alums love playing in our Alumni Association Golf Tournament on Friday. The parade always draws a big crowd to Main Street in Ada on Saturday.

Many activities are on tap for the week for alums, students and employees. We encourage everyone to participate and enjoy themselves. Let's make Homecoming 2019 one that will create outstanding memories.



Sincerely,

Dr. Katricia Pierson
President
East Central University

HOMEcoming WEEK JUST AROUND THE CORNER

3D Pixar is the theme for Homecoming 2019 at ECU. Pixar - a computer-animated studio that has created hit movies such as *Toy Story*, *Cars*, *Finding Nemo* and *Monsters, Inc.* to name a few - will spark the imagination for this year's homecoming activities. Most of the activities geared for alumni will be on Friday, Sept. 20, and Saturday, Sept. 21. However, students and employees can get into the spirit with a weeklong list of events which feature contests, trivia, bonfire and pep rally along with the annual September Poetry Series.



2019 Homecoming Events

Monday, Sept. 16

Chalk Contest on Centennial Plaza, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Banners Contest, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Homecoming Trivia in Stanley Wagner Ballroom, 6 p.m.
September Poetry Series in Estep Multimedia Center, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Homecoming Lip Sync Contest in Ataloo Theatre, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 19

Bonfire & Pep Rally at Koi Ishto Stadium, 8 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 20

ECU Alumni Association Golf Tournament at Oak Hills Golf & Country Club*,
Lunch at 11 a.m.; Tee off at 1 p.m.
Homecoming Tailgate at Koi Ishto Stadium, 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 21

Golden Tiger Brunch in ECU Foundation Hall*, 10 a.m.
Tiger Club - Athletic Alumni Meeting
Chickasaw Business & Conference Center (RM 215), 11 a.m.
Homecoming Parade on Main Street in Ada, Noon
Soccer vs. Texas A&M-Commerce at Tiger Soccer Complex, 1 p.m.
Honors Homecoming in Faust Hall (RM 159), 2 p.m.
Alumni Tailgating in front of Koi Ishto Stadium, 4 p.m.
Football vs. Southern Nazarene at Koi Ishto Stadium, 6 p.m.

*Registration Required

JUMP IN ENROLLMENT AT ECU



An 11.1% jump in freshmen enrollment from the fall of 2018 was the highlight as ECU launched the 2019 fall semester on Aug. 19. Another major increase included 55.8% in new graduate transfers. Additionally, there was an increase in students living on campus from last fall with slight jumps in new transfers and new concurrent students.

HUNDREDS FLOCK TO CAMPUS FOR ADAFEST



Live music, local art, food and fun were part of AdaFest on Aug. 24. The all-day event drew hundreds to Ada,

particularly to the Arts District of Ada which includes part of the ECU campus.

STATE OF EDUCATION LUNCHEON FEATURES PRESIDENT PEARSON



The Ada Area Chamber of Commerce conducted a State of Education Luncheon on Aug. 8 at the Chickasaw Business and Conference Center. ECU President Katricia G. Pierson was among the speakers as she encouraged the gathering to attend college and shared her personal experiences in obtaining higher education degrees despite many obstacles along the way. She also shared about ECU's challenges and the hike in freshmen enrollment.

DR. ANDERSON SET FOR INDUCTION INTO HIGHER EDUCATION HALL OF FAME

ECU provost emeritus Dr. Duane Anderson will be inducted into the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame on Nov. 4. Anderson served ECU for 25 years, retiring as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. He also served as interim president of ECU during its centennial year of 2009. He presided and oversaw the creation of brick gates, located at the main entrances to the campus, along with establishing Centennial Endowments and Scholarships, which far exceeded goals.



ALUM PERRY EARNS PRESTIGIOUS TV GOLD CIRCLE AWARD

ECU alum Bill Perry, vice president of Content Production at the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority (OETA), was recently inducted into the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Heartland Emmy chapter's Gold Circle Society of Honor. The Gold Circle is an elite group of professionals recognized by the Emmy Heartland Chapter for making a significant contribution to television, spanning a period of at least 50 years. Only two other Oklahomans are among the previous recipient of this honor, one of those was an ECU alum as well - the late Bill Thrash.



ECU ALUM THIRD IN PAN AM GAMES MARATHON



ECU cross country and track and field alumnus Juan-Joel Pacheco Orozco claimed the bronze medal (third place) in the 2019 Pan American Games Marathon in late July while representing his home country of Mexico. He finished with a time of 2:12:10, just behind his Mexican teammate Jose Luis Santana (2:10:54), who captured the silver. Earlier this year, Orozco set an Olympic A standard time in the marathon at the 2019 Chevron Houston Marathon and Aramco Houston Half Marathon. He is eligible to compete for Mexico in the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo, Japan.

ECU WELCOMES 13 NEW FACULTY MEMBERS



There are 13 new faculty members on campus this year. The group posed for a photo while going through orientation meetings on Aug. 14.

STUDENTS MARCH TO HONORS CONVOCATION



ECU students march across campus to the Annual Honors Convocation. The event recognizes and encourages ECU students who are involved in the ECU Honors Program, which is designed to enhance the educational experience to academically talented and highly-motivated students.

FOUR STUDENTS HEADED TO FRANCE

ECU students – (beginning second from left) Lauryn Hawkins, McKenzie Bratton, Alayna Dobbins and Kyler Wade - will be studying abroad in France this fall at the University of Limoges. ECU's Harland C. Stonecipher School of Business has an exchange program with the French university. Also pictured are Wendell Godwin (left), Dr. Brenda Sherbourne and Dr. Mara Sukholuts kaya.



STUDENTS GOING OUT TO TEACH

ECU education students will be doing their student teaching at various area schools this fall. The group participated in a photo session on the first day of the semester on Aug. 19. There is a 95% pass rate for ECU students on the National Teacher Exam. The national average is 75%.



Welcome Week Excitement!



CAMPUS CALENDAR

- Monday, Sept. 2**
Labor Day Holiday (Campus Closed)
- Tuesday, Sept. 3**
6:30 p.m. – ECU SCREENS: “All About Eve” in Estep Multimedia Center inside Bill S. Cole University Center
- Wednesday, Sept. 4**
3 p.m. – Biology and Environmental Sciences Carnival in Physical and Environmental Science Building
- Thursday, Sept. 5**
2 p.m. – Soccer vs. Eastern New Mexico at home
4 p.m. – Volleyball Opener at Pittsburg State
6 p.m. – Football vs. Northwestern Oklahoma State at home
- Monday, Sept. 9**
6 p.m. – Honors Sorting Hat Ceremony in Regents Room of Memorial Student Union Building
- Tuesday, Sept. 10**
10 a.m. – Campus Connections Face-to-Face Meeting in Estep Multimedia Center inside Bill S. Cole University Center
5 p.m. – Homecoming Parade and Forms Entry Deadline
- Thursday, Sept. 12**
Last Day to Drop First 5-Week Classes with Guaranteed ‘W’
- Saturday, Sept. 14**
6 p.m. – Football at Southwestern Oklahoma State in Weatherford
- Monday, Sept. 16-Saturday, Sept. 21**
Homecoming Week
See front page for list of week’s homecoming week activities
- Wednesday, Sept. 25**
First 5-Week Classes End
- Thursday, Sept. 26**
Last Day to Drop First 8-Week Classes with Guaranteed ‘W’
6:30 p.m. – Volleyball at home with Oklahoma Baptist in Kerr Activities Center
- Saturday, Sept. 28**
1 p.m. – Football at Oklahoma Baptist in Shawnee
- Monday, Sept. 30**
Honors Crowdfunding Campaign Launch
- Tuesday, Oct. 1**
9 a.m. - Go Global Fair in University Center Atrium