



From the Office of President Richard Rafes

East Central University

Campus Update August 23, 2007

ECU Students Off to a Fabulous Beginning



ECU began offering a two-day Freshman Orientation Program this year. The freshman class had the opportunity to learn from phenomenal guest speakers and attend

workshops led by students, faculty and staff.

The students could also participate in karaoke, sumo wrestling, twister, a scavenger hunt and meet with the members of their freshman seminar class.

Packed Crowd at Block Party



On Sunday before classes began, more than 400 ECU students participated in the 2007 Welcome Week Block Party sponsored by CREW, a group of student

volunteers who plan various campus events. The day was packed with food, fun and activities to welcome students, faculty and staff.

Live band "Zoom City" performed. Several student organizations set up information tables. The group enjoyed 3-D golf, laser tag and g-force twin spin. And it was the first appearance of the ECU Marching Band, cheerleaders, dance team and athletes.

ECU Math Professors Spend the Summer Conducting Workshops in SE Oklahoma

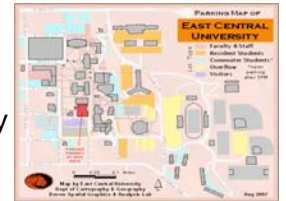
Dr. Linda Braddy and Dr. Janet Wansick spent a portion of their summer developing workshops for more than 140 teachers, grades 3-12.

For the past three years the McCurtain County Coop has received a grant from the Oklahoma State Department of Education that allows ECU to partner with the coop to increase participants' knowledge of mathematics (and science).

Campus Upgrades

ECU employees have been busy all summer to make the 2007-08 school year the best yet. A few noticeable changes:

- *New carpet* in Linscheid Library.
- *New Tiger Cinema* on the second floor of the University Center. The new 18-seat theatre can be reserved for groups and campus organizations.
- *Renovation of Food Court.*
- *New Student Senate and Honor Court Offices* on the second floor of the University Center.
- *New parking lots* and assigned parking areas.
- *Outtakes Convenience Store* in Pesagi Hall.



East Main Cultural Arts District Receives Funds

Top Right: Holding a \$219,880 ceremonial check representing a USDA Rural Business Opportunity Grant awarded to East Central University are state Sen. Susan



Paddack (from left), Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby, U.S. Congressman Tom Cole and ECU President Richard Rafes.

Bottom Right: Brent Kisling (from left), state director for USDA rural development, State Rep. Todd Thomsen and Amy Elliott, executive director of the Tri-County Indian Nations Enterprise Community, hold the second check for the USDA's \$404,444 Rural Business Enterprise Grant.



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ECU Students Move In



Last Thursday many parents were excited to help their ECU freshmen move into Pesagi Residence Hall.



After this weekend, ECU has only 105 residential housing spaces available. To date, ECU has 785 students living on campus. The office of housing and resident life is still

taking applications and has a waiting list for family and adult housing.

ECU Nationally Ranked

Diverse Issues in Higher Education has recognized East Central University for the high number of baccalaureate degrees in biological and biomedical sciences, computer and informational sciences and mathematics awarded to American Indians. Specifically, ECU ranked second nationally in the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded to American Indians in mathematics, fifth in biological sciences and seventh in computer and informational sciences.

ECU Professor's Play Selected for Workshop

Dr. Bret Jones, associate professor of communications, has written a play, *Native Skin*, which has been selected for a week-long workshop at Native Voices at the Autry in Los Angeles. He will work with professional actors, directors and dramaturges for a week on the script. The play will receive a staged reading at the end of the week.

Native Skin is a Native American play set near Muskogee, Okla., in 1918. The play is loosely based on his great-grandparents. Native Voices at the Autry focuses on Native American Drama and is one of the major voices for this in America.

ECU Receives International LERN Award



ECU's Continuing Education schedule was named "Best Brochure" from the Learning Resources Network (LERN).

ECU's 2007 Winter/Spring schedule was judged on content and design. – Congrats!

Margaret Barton donates \$10,000

Long-time Ada businesswoman and nationally known realtor Margaret Barton has donated \$10,000 to the ECU Foundation Inc. for the Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center.



An area reserved for a vocal teaching studio will be named for Barton.

Richard Ayers (from left), assistant vice president for advancement, Margaret Barton, President Richard Rafes and Mark Hollingsworth, department music chair.

ECU Student/Employee Receives Award

Cassandra Gore, an ECU computer science student and administrative assistant/website specialist in the department of communications and marketing, was awarded \$1,500 by ECU's Quick Advantage Program. Gore won the program's business plan competition with her plan to manage websites for small businesses which can't afford an onsite webmaster.

After completing the program, Gore started her own home-based business, WebWork Wonders, to manage websites for small businesses.



Ann Ritter (left), director of ECU's Oklahoma Small Business Development Center, Cassandra Gore and Dr. Karla Peterson, director of ECU's Center for Entrepreneurship.

Welcome to ECU

Twenty-five faculty members have been hired for the 2007-08 academic year at ECU.



Welcome to ECU - continued

New faculty members include:

- Dana Ayers**, instructor of communication and fine arts center programming coordinator.
- Staci Capps**, instructor of education in ECU's new Westward Expansion Grant (library media).
- Kevin Carey**, instructor of kinesiology and assistant football coach.
- Dr. Bradley Clampitt**, assistant professor of history.
- Dr. Patrick M. Doran**, associate professor of business administration. (starts Jan. 2008)
- Dr. Jerry N. Duncan**, assistant professor of psychology.
- Dr. Stephen Fields**, assistant professor of biology.
- Dr. David Hall**, assistant professor of human resources.
- Dr. Peggy Hart**, coordinator of the ECU @ Ardmore Nursing program and associate professor of nursing.
- Aaron Hauck**, assistant professor of art.
- Cindy Keefer**, director of ECU's new Westward Expansion Grant and instructor of education.
- Marc Allan Klippenstine**, assistant professor of psychology.
- Dr. Matthew Marlow**, assistant professor of chemistry.
- Matt McGaha**, compliance officer and instructor of kinesiology.
- Dr. Jennifer L. McMahon**, associate professor and chair of the English and Languages Department.
- Dr. Garold Mills** lecturer of history for the fall semester.
- Eric Monroe**, instructor of kinesiology and athletic trainer.
- Dr. Robin M. Murphy**, assistant professor of English and languages.
- Dr. Noel Sagullo**, assistant professor of mathematics.
- Steven J. Sawyer**, head men's and women's cross country coach, coordinator of intramural sports and instructor of kinesiology.
- Linda Schaefer**, instructor of communication.
- Nanette J. Schmitt**, assistant professor of education.
- David M. Thorn Jr.**, head women's volleyball coach and instructor of kinesiology.
- Betty L. Townsend**, instructor of family & consumer sciences.
- Dr. Janet Wansick**, assistant professor of mathematics.

Since July 2007 ECU has employed 10 new staff members – Welcome to ECU!

- Kristin Bohannon**, auxiliary enterprises accounts payable clerk.
- Melissa Clark**, government documents assistant.
- Ruth Copeland**, secretary to dean of students.
- Sandra Dove**, continuing education bookkeeper.
- Lisa Hensley**, distance education secretary - off-campus.
- Jimmie Skender**, enrollment recruiter.
- Jo Ann Johnson**, director of purchasing.
- Ashlee Thompson**, housing and residence life secretary.
- Jonathan Wiles**, continuing education secretary for developmental and disabled.
- Laura Williams**, continuing education child care outreach specialist.

Dates to Remember!

Every Friday

Orange and Black Day

Aug. 31

SOC CER

ECU vs. Emporia State Univ. @ 5 p.m.

Sept. 2

SOC CER

ECU vs. Missouri Western State @, 2 p.m.

Sept. 8

FOOTBALL

ECU Family Day

Tailgate party begins at 4:30 p.m.

ECU Tigers vs. Angelo State @ 6 p.m.

Sept. 21-22

ECU Homecoming Events

Sept. 28

ECU Presidential Inauguration