



East Central University Campus Updates



Degrees to be conferred at Spring 2023 Commencement

More than 540 degrees will be granted at the Spring 2023 Commencement Ceremonies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at the Kerr Activities Center. Two of the 2023 ECU Distinguished Alumni Randy Nail and Steve Williamson will be the keynote speakers. Both alumni will be honored Friday, May 5, at the Evening of Honors and Recognition along with Distinguished Alumni Tom Darter and Paula Kedy. The Barrick Family will receive the Distinguished Family Award, Rahmona Thompson the Distinguished Former Faculty and Vicky Petete the Distinguished Service Award. For more information, visit ecok.edu/news.



Randy Nail



Steve Williamson



ECU hosts community and state leaders

Leaders in education and nursing came together with elected officials and higher education professors to discuss the future need in these industries and how ECU can help meet the career demand.



Choctaw Nation

ECU President Godwin met with Choctaw Nation Chief Gary Batton (center) and Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr. (left), who is also an ECU alumni (2004 & 2009).



George Nigh quote

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby (left) and former Oklahoma Governor George Nigh, both ECU alumni, hold a framed document proclaiming "You can get there from here" signed by Nigh. Above, the governors chat with President Godwin over lunch.

Around Campus

Enrollment begins at ECU

New Freshmen ECU students have already begun signing up for group enrollment events to plan their fall classes. The events – dubbed “Tiger Enrollment Days” – give new freshmen a chance to get to know ECU before arriving on campus in August. The remaining dates are as follows:

- Friday, May 19
- Thursday, June 1
- Thursday, June 8
- Thursday, June 22
- Thursday, July 27

New freshmen can sign up for group enrollment at www.ecok.edu/asc or contact the Academic Success Center at 580-559-5696 with any questions.



RUSO meeting

ECU hosted the Regional University System of Oklahoma monthly meeting April 20-21. At the dinner, the ECU Percussion Ensemble provided entertainment.



New VP of Administration and Finance

ECU recently named Darrell Morrison the new vice president of administration and finance. Morrison joined the ECU family on April 3, bringing more than 20 years of experience in higher education with him.



George Nigh Finalists

Five graduating seniors at ECU have been selected as finalists for the George Nigh Award to be awarded at the 10 a.m. commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 6, at the Kerr activities Center. The finalists are Bethany Bengs, Brandon Denney, Kyle Foster, Kailey LeMay and Reese Siegle.



Prestigious Placement

Chickasaw Citizen Delanie Seals, a senior Legal Studies major, was accepted into the prestigious Udall Native American Congressional Internship program. The program provides Native American and Alaska Native students with the opportunity to gain practical experience with the federal legislative process and the government relationship between tribes and the federal government.



MAA Conference

ECU Department of Math and Computer Science hosted the annual Mathematical Association of America meeting for the Oklahoma Arkansas Section (MAA).



NSLS Induction

More than 30 students were inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success at ECU on April 19. Vision Bank of Ada sponsored the event with LaVonda Jones addressing the group. The NSLS is an organization that provides a leadership program that helps students achieve personal growth, career success, and empowers them to have a positive impact in their communities.

Around Campus

Upcoming Events

May 5



ECU 2023
EVENING OF
Honors & Recognition
FRIDAY, MAY 5
REGISTRATION - 5:30 PM | PROGRAM - 6:00 PM
CHICKASAW BUSINESS & CONFERENCE CENTER
ECU FOUNDATION HALL
830 E. MAIN STREET, ADA, OKLAHOMA

2023 HONOREES
DISTINGUISHED ALUMS
TOMMY DARTER (1973)
PAULA KELLY (1976)
RANDY NAIL (1984)
STEVE WILLIAMSON (1982)
DISTINGUISHED FAMILY
BUSTER & LEONA BARRICK FAMILY
DISTINGUISHED FORMER FACULTY
DR. RAIMONDA THOMPSON
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS
VICKY PETEFÉ (2011)



President's Circle Kickin' Up Country
ECU President's Circle members were treated to a dinner and a show on Friday, April 21. After a dinner, the members enjoyed ECU Showtime's presentation of "Kickin' Up Country," a tribute show to Hee Haw.

May 4



ECU School of Fine Arts presents
MUSIC ON THE PLAZA
Featuring:
Anmol & Khursani
ECU Jazz Ensemble
May 4th, 5:30-8:30pm
East Central University
Centennial Plaza



Chorale Concert
Dr. John Walker conducted the ECU Choirs Concert on April 24 before his retirement from ECU. Well over 100 alumni came to the concert to perform with their beloved director.

May 18



VETERANS & MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY
Thank You For Your Service
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023
Chickasaw Business & Conference Center
830 East Main Street, Ada, OK 74820
Hosted By The ECU
Veterans Upward Bound Program
Guest Speaker: Air Force Veteran & OSRIE Vice Chancellor, Dr. Robert Placido
* Recipient of the Bret D. Isernhower scholarship will be announced *
Free & Open to the Public Military Attire Welcome
This Event is Made Possible by Generous Donations
Vendor Tables Available at 9:00am
PROGRAM BEGINS at 10:00am
* Lunch Provided Following Program *
Door Prizes During Lunch Lunch is first come first serve
For More Information Contact: ECU Veterans Upward Bound (505) 759-3479



Veteran Stole Presentation
Veterans graduating this semester from ECU received a Veteran Stole on April 18. ECU VP of Student Development Dr. Brandon Hill presented a stole to four veterans in attendance.



Hedgehog & Fox Lecture
Dr. Jerry H. Clark presented the annual Duane C. Anderson Hedgehog & Fox Lecture on April 13. His presentation was titled "Quantum Information with a Bose-Einstein Condensate." The lecture series provides a forum on exemplary faculty research and other academic experiences. Former ECU Provost Dr. Anderson established the lecture series during his time at ECU.



Awards Banquet
Banquet season was in full swing in April. Be sure to catch the next Campus Updates to see ECU's student, employee, and alumni accomplishments.

Around Campus



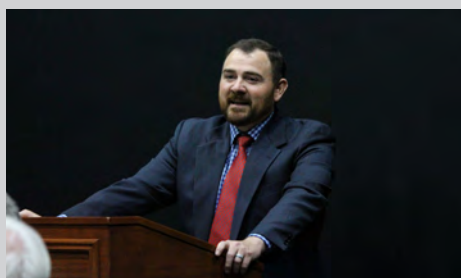
Scissortail Creative Writing Festival

Hundreds of participants descended on the ECU campus for the annual Scissortail Creative Writing Festival. The event spanned two days with celebrated authors from across the country.



CARTA Conference

ECU faculty and students attended the Jubilee 25th annual Conference of Central Association of Russian Teachers of America (CARTA) at the Sheraton Hotel in Oklahoma City, March 31-April 2.



Law Day

ECU Legal Studies Program and the Pontotoc County Bar Association hosted Law Day April 4. The event featured panel discussions and keynote speaker ECU alumni and Coal County Associate District Judge Joe Trail.

Tiger Athletics



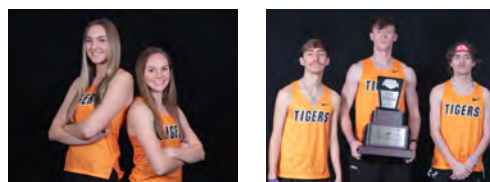
Playoff spot secured

After sweeping the series over Arkansas-Monticello, ECU softball team officially earned their spot in the Great American Conference Championship Tournament in Bentonville, Arkansas, May 4-6.



Presenting the Roary's

ECU Student-Athlete Committee and the Athletics Department honored its 2022-23 student-athletes at the annual Roary's banquet April 24. The 2022-23 Male and Female ECU Scholar-Athletes of the Year awards were presented to Justin Chitty from baseball and Gabby Cummins from women's basketball. For a full list of the Athletic Awards, visit ecutigers.com.



Track and Field

In the last meet of the 2023 regular season, ECU men's and women's track & field teams had 18 top-20 finishes, five top-10 finishes, and one first-place finish at the John Jacob's Invitational in Norman, Oklahoma this weekend. For full results, visit ecutigers.com.



Baseball Seniors

ECU baseball played their final game of the 2023 regular season at Ken Turner Field against rivals Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Baseball seniors honored: Brian Pasha, Justin Chitty, Michael Rosario, Kyle Busker, and Roman 'Bo' Duren, who would have been a part of this senior class but passed away his freshman year.