

## East Central University Campus Update

### From the Office of the President

## April 16, 2009











### ECU CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



ECU planned a week of festivities surrounding the events of March 25, 1909. On that

date steam whistles were blown around Ada when word came that then-Gov. Haskell had signed the Ada Normal Bill establishing what is now East Central University.

On Monday the crowd was entertained by the University Chorale and PAST Performance.

Tuesday was the Music Department Showcase. Wednesday the crowd enjoyed Skye Garcia and the ECU dance ensemble – Collage'.

On March 25, 2009, several dignitaries attended the "Celebrating our Beginning" festivities on Wednesday afternoon as ECU marked its 100th birthday.

Bill Anoatubby Gov. of The Chickasaw Nation,

Regional University System of Oklahoma Chair Joe Anna Hibler and Ada Mayor Barbara Young brought greetings following the 4 p.m. Whistle Blowing event.

Thursday the campus community enjoyed the ECU Birthday Party and Opening of the Time Capsule. The day ended with a performance by the Instrumental Ensembles.

On Friday many faculty, staff and students worked hard to bring the centennial performance of "What We Did Way Back When" to the Memorial Student Union.

### JIM LEHRER SELECTED AS ECU COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Jim Lehrer, the nationally respected executive editor and anchor of The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer on PBS, will present the commencement addresses for ECU students complet-



ing bachelor's and master's degrees this spring and summer.

Lehrer took over the NewsHour in 1995-96 when Robert MacNeil left The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour after an award-winning 20-year partnership. Lehrer first became a Washington correspondent for MacNeil's New York television program in 1975. The half-hour program was renamed the MacNeil/Lehrer Report in 1976 and won more than 30 awards for journalistic excellence during the next seven years. The MacNeil/ Lehrer NewsHour was launched in 1983.

Lehrer also has been the moderator for 11 of the nationally televised debates among presidential candidates during the last six elections.

In addition, he is a prolific author, with 19 novels, two memoirs and three plays to his credit. His latest novel, "Oh, Johnny," has just been published. His 18th novel, "Mack to the Rescue," published a year ago, is the seventh in his successful series of novels featuring a fictional lieutenant governor of Oklahoma.

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### JACOBI NICHOLS RECEIVES GEORGE NIGH AWARD

ECU's top senior, Jacobi Nichols of Healdton, was awarded the prestigious George Nigh Award.

Nichols, along with finalists Julie

Elkins of Ardmore, Holly Dunagan of Maud and Twylia Sherrill of McAlester, were honored by ECU officials and community leaders for their outstanding academic achievements. Nichols received the \$500 award from former Gov. George Nigh during the luncheon.

The Nigh Award is based on academic achievement, character and potential contribution to public service. The late Julian Rothbaum, a Tulsa oil man, banker and one-time state regent for higher education, established an endowment to fund the Nigh Award in honor of the former governor.

### COMMUNICATION STUDENTS WIN AWARD



Jeff Burnett (from left), Chris Velasquez and Andrew Worcester, senior mass communications majors, are among the winners in the Oklahoma Broadcast Education Association's 2009 state competition. They placed second in

the Sports Play-By-Play category with their coverage of ECU's football game against Texas A&M Kingsville. Their entry was part of a Sports Production class taught by Christina Mitchell. Worcester is from Ada. Burnett is from Sachse, Texas, and Chris Velasquez is from Odessa, Texas.



#### INGRAM ATTENDS RESEARCH DAY AT STATE CAPITOL

Kyle Ingram of Wapanucka stands by his poster focusing on groundwater remediation at Research Day at the State Capitol. He represented ECU

as one of 18 undergraduate students selected from 12 Oklahoma colleges and universities to present competitive research posters to the State Legislature and the public. The annual event is sponsored by Oklahoma EPSCoR, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and The National Science Foundation. NIKKI STONECIPHER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED Briana Tully, Ariana Rice and Steven Carrell, all of Tupelo, have been given the opportunity to

complete their degrees at ECU



thanks in part to the Nikki Stonecipher Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship fund was created in 2005 to provide deserving students a full scholarship for at least one year, and possibly four, to ECU.

Nikki, the granddaughter of Harland and Shirley Stonecipher, founders of Pre-Paid Legal Services Inc., perished along with her parents in a plane crash in 2005. Preference for the scholarship recipients is given to graduates of Tupelo High School, from which Nikki's parents graduated.

### NEW SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED FOR MATH AND SCIENCE AT ECU

Laura Johnson, daughter of Tom and Melody Johnson, is the first recipient of the Don and Jane Kellogg Math-



ematics and Science Teaching Scholarship. Johnson is a freshman at ECU and is majoring in mathematics with a concentration in teacher certification.

The scholarship was established to assist students pursuing a degree at ECU in either mathematics or science teaching. Dr. Don Kellogg was a professor at ECU from 1965 to 1990. He originally taught physics and helped to build a science teaching program. When he retired in 1990 he was a member of the Education Department.

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#### NASA AMES RESEARCH CENTER

ECU students Ashley Robertson and Joseph Jacobi enjoy a rare opportunity to visit the grounds of the Unitary Plan

Wind Tunnel (front of the complex in the background), one of the largest in the world.

Accompanied by Dr. Mark Micozzi, ECU associate professor of cartography and geography, they participated in a special visit to the NASA Ames Research Center in San Jose, Calif. in March.



### ECU OBSERVING MATHEMATICS AWARENESS MONTH WITH ART, SPEAKER

The month began with a chalk contest and will end with a guest speaker who will talk about Latin Squares, Orthogonality and Sudoku puzzles on Friday.

Dr. Lisa Mantini of Oklahoma State University will speak at 11 a.m. in Faust Hall Auditorium.



#### **PI A PROFESSOR**

Several ECU students, faculty and staff volunteer to be "pied" to help raise money for the Compassion Outreach Center in Ada. The

group raised \$240 for the center at \$1 per pie.



### TRANSFER ENROLLMENT DAY

Students about to complete associate's degrees in May who plan to transfer to ECU visited the campus this month during Transfer Enrollment Day.

New students met with the Transfer Enrollment Center staff, became familiar with campus policies and enrollment procedures, met with their faculty advisers and enrolled for summer and fall classes.



### **TOP JUNIOR HIGH, HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE STUDENTS COMPETE** Hundreds of regional winners of junior

high and high school science projects and research papers competed for prizes at the Oklahoma State Science and En-

gineering Fair and the Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science held annually at ECU.

### HOLCIM'S WALT PRECOURT DISCUSSES SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AT ECU PARKER ETHICS LECTURE Walt Precourt, vice president for



environmental and government affairs for Holcim Inc., discussed "Social Responsibility in a Global World" at the Parker Ethics Lecture.

A panel discussion was held in conjunction with the lecture. The panel discussed various topics related to the environment, social responsibility, globalization and working in a multicultural environment. Both were ECU Centennial events.

The lecture and panel discussion were sponsored by ECU's Oscar L. Parker Center for the Advancement of Ethical Standards in Business and Society with assistance from the ECU Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team.

# ECU ALUM GIVES INAUGURAL LOUISE YOUNG DIVERSITY LECTURE

Dr. Louise Young, a 1969 graduate of ECU, delivered a lecture titled "Why Talk About It? Addressing GLBT Issues" last month.



The Louise Young Diversity Lecture was established in 2008 with a \$10,000 endowment from Young to the ECU Foundation Inc. The annual lecture will bring a speaker to campus each year to speak on various aspects of diversity.

### ECU, OSBI FORM PARTNERSHIP

ECU and the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation

have entered into a partnership that will improve crime scene investigative measures in the state and bring specialized demonstrative training into the classroom.



Using grant funds, ECU has purchased a Nikon NPL-332 Total Station that will be used by the OSBI for crime scene investigations. The equipment creates a three-dimensional forensic map pinpointing evidence and other critical objects at crime scenes.

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TEXOMA HEALTH FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANT TO ECU'S NURSING PROGRAM AT SOUTHEASTERN

The Texoma Health Foundation has awarded a three-year, \$150,000 grant to East Central University, to fund a full-time faculty position for ECU's nursing program in Durant.

The purpose of the THF grant is to increase the number of nursing students graduating each year from the ECU @ Southeastern Nursing Program, which was established on the Southeastern Oklahoma State University campus in 2001.



**4TH ANNUAL SCISSORTAIL CREATIVE WRITING FESTIVAL** The fourth annual Scissortail Creative Writing Festival brought in more than 1,000 visitors to cam-

pus. What began four years ago as a few local writers coming together to share their work has grown into a three-day festival that features over 50 regional authors. This year's three featured authors included Rilla Askew, Elmer Kelton and LeAnne Howe.

### VETERANS UPWARD BOUND HONORED



ECU's Veterans Upward Bound program was recognized by the American Legion's Post 72 in Ada for the countless

hours it helps prepare veterans for academic success.



#### ACHE AWARD

Accepting an award from the Association for Continuing Higher Education - Great Plains Region are Dr. Rick Wetherill (left), director of Continuing Education and Community Services at

ECU, and Bridget Forshay (right), ECU community development coordinator. The award recognized ECU and the Ada community's Arts District of Ada as an outstanding non-credit program, outstanding conference and outstanding credit program. Dr. Robin L. Plumb (center), director of academic programs for the Okla. State Regents, presented the award.

### U.S. REP. TOM COLE VISITS ECU CLASSROOM

Prior to a Town Hall meeting on campus, ECU students had an opportunity to visit with U.S. Rep. Tom Cole.



During both events Congressman Cole spoke about the direction of federal legislation.

MAYOR READS PROCLAMATION

Ada Mayor Barbara Young, reads a proclamation declaring April Child Abuse Prevention Month in Ada.



# ADA'S NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ONE OF THE BEST IN THE NATION

Ada's 2008 National Night Out (NNO) event was honored for the third consecutive year as one of the best in the United States.



This is the fourth time in five years the Chickasaw Nation, the city of Ada and East Central University have shared the award from the National Association of Town Watch. All three organizations work together to host the event on the first Tuesday of August each year.

# Moment in ECU History

### Kathryn P. Boswell Memorial Chapel

The chapel was a gift to ECU from Mr. S.C. Boswell in memory of his wife and was intended to be used by religious groups on campus, and for weddings and other special occasions. The Boswell Memorial Chapel is still used for small weddings, sorority/fraternity ceremonies and special occasions.



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# MANY STUDENT ACTIVITIES ALSO OCCURRED DURING MARCH AND APRIL



Graduate Career Fair



Native American Voices



Greek Week



ECUTube Contest Winners Announced Watch the winning video at www.ecok.edu/ecutube



Service Saturday ECU Child Development Center



Health Information Management observe Health Information Privacy and Security Week

**4/17/2009** Baseball, 2 p.m., Ada Baseball, 4:30 p.m., Ada

4/18/2009 Baseball, 1 p.m., Ada Men's Tennis, 10 a.m., Ada Women's Tennis, 10 a.m., Ada Men's Tennis, 2 p.m., Ada Women's Tennis, 2 p.m., Ada Baseball, 4 p.m., Ada Global Ada, 6-7:30 p.m., South Dining Hall

4/20/2009 ECU Chorus and Chorale Concert 7:30 p.m., St. Joseph's Catholic Church

> 4/21/2009 School of Business Banquet 6:30 p.m., Ballroom

4/22/2009 Trash Pick Up Day, 1 p.m., UC Women's Tennis, 1 p.m., Ada

4/23/2009 ECU Night at McAlester 4-7 p.m., EOSC - McAlester Campus Lobby Earth Day / Water Festival, all day

> 4/25/2009 Black and Orange Football Game 2 p.m., Norris Field

4/28/2009 Faculty/Staff Recognition and Retirement Program, 5:30 p.m.

4/29/2009 College of Health and Sciences Spring Lecture 1-2 p.m., HM 139

4/30/2009 Athletic Awards Banquet College of Health and Sciences Awards

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