

# CAMPUS UPDATE

May 2022

## A note from the president...

Congratulations to all of our employees and students on all of the awards and scholarships that have been bestowed over this last month. Hard work definitely pays off, and we are so pleased for the opportunity to celebrate our successes.

Across the campus, hundreds of students were awarded scholarships and recognized from their various colleges and departments. At the Employee Recognition Event, well over 100 employees were recognized for their service to ECU and their embodiment of ECU's core values. Three retiring professors were granted Professor Emeritus as they look forward to their next chapter in life.

ECU is also recognizing and celebrating Distinguished Awards from 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Six of ECU's top students became finalists for the George Nigh Award. Recently, they met with Gov. Nigh at a reception in their honor. The George Nigh Award winner will be announced at the Spring 2022 Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 7, in the Kerr Activities Center.

We hope you join us in celebrating our 2022 ECU graduates' achievements and the bright future that awaits them.



*Dr. Jeffrey Gibson  
Interim President  
East Central University*

## Distinguished Alumni Honorees

After a two-year sabbatical, the 2022 East Central University Evening of Honors and Recognition returns to recognize distinguished persons. The event is scheduled for May 6 in the Chickasaw Business and Conference Center. Registration begins at 6 p.m. with the event starting at 6:30 p.m. ECU will honor the 2022 Distinguished Alumni, Distinguished Former Faculty, Distinguished Service, and Distinguished Family. The distinguished award recipients from 2020 and 2021 will also be honored at the event.



Alumni  
Anita Holloway  
2022



Alumni  
Dewey McClain  
2022



Alumni  
Jeremy Humphers  
2021



Alumni  
Dr. Ed Huckleby  
2020



Alumni  
Ruben Elizalde  
2020



Former Faculty  
Dr. Larry Choate  
2022



Former Faculty  
Dr. Carl Rutledge  
2021



Distinguished Family  
Lancaster Family  
2022



Distinguished Service  
Jim & Ann Dicus  
2022



Distinguished Service  
Yancy Spivey  
2022



Call ECU at 580-332-8000!

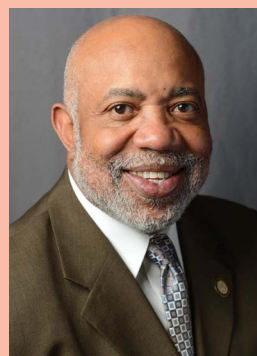


## Spring Commencement 2022



ECU's 2022 Spring Commencement will be held Saturday, May 7 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Kerr Activities Center. We will honor 116 candidates for Master's degrees, and 371 candidates for Bachelor's degrees.

Chancellor Allison D. Garrett is slated as keynote speaker at ECU's commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. Garrett was named chancellor of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education in 2021, becoming the first woman to hold the position.



Distinguished ECU Alumni Dewey McClain is set to speak at the 2 p.m. ceremony. McClain earned a B.A. in History in 1976 from ECU, where he played football before his professional gridiron career. He played in the NFL with the Atlanta Falcons for five years and then with the United

States Football League with the Oakland Invaders and Oklahoma Outlaws. McClain is currently a State Representative in Georgia, a voice for his constituents in Gwinnett County.

## Group Tours



High school students are eager to tour ECU campus. Since January, the Office of Recruitment has hosted 164 individual tours and 13 group tours for 380 students from 16 different high schools!

## Tiger Enrollment Day



During the first two Tiger Enrollment Days (freshman group enrollment) ECU enrolled more than 100 students for fall 2022 classes. These students also had the opportunity to signed up for housing.

## The RUSO Board Visits ECU Campus



Members of ECU's Presidential Leadership Class and Brass Band Quintet proudly assisted ECU administration in hosting the Regional University System of Oklahoma's April Board Meeting.

## George Nigh Finalists



Gov. George Nigh Award Finalists – The six finalists for the George Nigh Award have been named. Pictured from left are finalists Amanda Daniel, Blake Thomas, Carson Sandvik; Gov. George Nigh, Dr. Jeffrey Gibson, Dr. Sarah Peters, finalists Kiley Moore, Abigail Fowler and Katie Cowger. The winner will be announced at commencement.

## Visit from US Congress Official



Congressman Markwayne Mullins came to campus to speak and show support for ECU's Veterans Upward Bound Program.





## Awards Season

ECU is happy to see all of the awards this season, honoring students, employees, athletes, and distinguished guests.



# SUMMER 2022 ENROLLMENT

CLASSES BEGIN  
MAY 31ST

*open now!*

CLICK HERE TO SEE AVAILABLE  
CLASSES SO YOU CAN GET  
AHEAD TODAY!



We're hiring! [www.ecok.edu/careers](http://www.ecok.edu/careers)



## Love's Cup



ECU students brought home \$30,000 in prize money from the 2022 Love's Cup contest, bringing the University's 10-year

winnings total to \$184,000. Entrepreneurial students Faith Andrews, Nathan Fountain, Madalyn Hess, Logan Cosby, Jill Ballard and Linda Woodward all represented ECU at the competition.

## Student Wins Gold Award



ECU Student Dakota Cao won Gold Award at the regional Yevgeniy Yevtushenko Russian poetry recital contest. Students from 9 universities participated. Dakota recited a poem "Two Cities" by

Yevtushenko. He was also awarded a special prize for the best interpretation of a poem by Yevtushenko. The Prize was established by the poet's family.

## McNair's Poster Display



## Honors Showcase



## Enactus



The ECU Enactus team traveled to the Enactus National Exposition in New York to present their project in a highly competitive environment. The team traveled to the University of Long Island to compete against 22 other U.S. universities. ECU placed third overall with The Eco-Snap Tiles project in Early-Stage Competition Final Four. In the Race to Feed the Planet, the team placed in the top 48 globally. Competing in 1 Race 4 Oceans, the team created a 77-second film to present the Eco-Snap Tiles project, placing 2nd in the United States, and in the top 44 globally. The team was also nominated for an Excellence Award for an ongoing project in Uganda.

## BIC Internship

ECU Enactus student Allison Edwards was selected for an executive level summer internship with the CEO of BIC corporation. Allison is just the 2nd student in history of Enactus to receive this opportunity at Enactus. She was selected after a highly competitive interview process.



## Distinguished Service Award



Financial Aid Director, Becky Isaacs won the 2022 Distinguished Service Award from the Oklahoma Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OASFAA). The award is intended to recognize a student financial aid professional who has contributed unique and long-lasting efforts to the Association, the profession, or the cause of financial aid in Oklahoma.





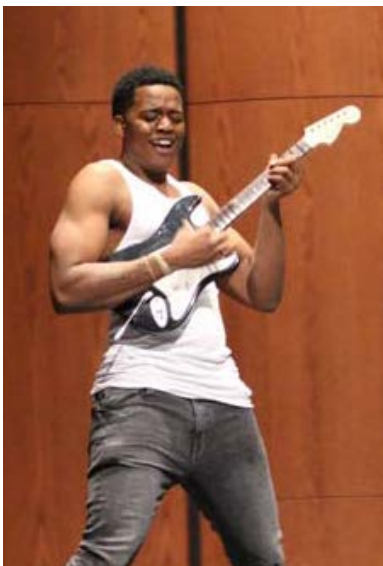
# END OF SEMESTER ACTIVITIES

This past month has been busy with events as the semester comes to a close.  
Orange Crush Week • Paws for Thought • Asian Night • Concerts • & more!



## GREEK WEEK

Greek student have fun participating in their events.  
Lip-sync Battle • Chariot Races • Awards • & more.



Follow all sports at [www.ecutigers.com](http://www.ecutigers.com)!

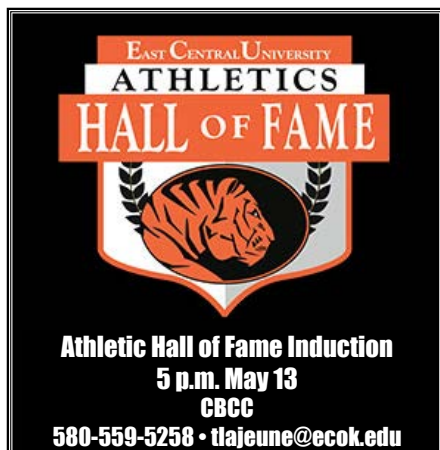




## Athletics Awards (Roary Awards)



## Round up of Spring Sports



## Wheeler named Men's Basketball Head Coach

The ECU athletic department has announced the appointment of Daniel Wheeler as the 13th ECU Men's Basketball Head Coach. Wheeler comes to the Tigers after spending the last seven years as an assistant coach at the University of Central Oklahoma. He started with the Bronchos in 2015 as a graduate assistant coach, moved to assistant coach in 2018 and spent the last two years as the lead assistant.



## Track and Field

For just the third time in ECU track & field history, a member of the teams has set an NCAA Division II Provisional Mark and a new school record, with freshman Jackson Parrish earning the mark in the 800 Meters.

Parrish finished first in the 800 meters, with a time of 1:51.10. He is the first freshman to set an NCAA Provisional mark and just the third in ECU history. Kaspars Briska set a provisional mark in the 3,000 Meter Steeplechase and Juan-Joel Pacheco Orcozo did so in the 5,000 meters.

The women's team also saw two first-place finishes and one second. Junior Abigail Kemboi finished first in the 1,500 meters (4:53.75) and added an eighth-place finish in the 800 meters (2:24.13). Redshirt senior Aaliyah Regg-Wajid also finished first in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (11:46.04). Redshirt Katie Cowger added a second-place finish in the 1,500 meters (4:57.14).

On the men's side, senior Carson Sandvik added a third-place mark in the 3000-meter steeplechase



## Softball

The 2022 ECU softball season came to an end at Harding in the final regular-season game of the year.

