



From the Office of President Richard Rafes

East Central University

Campus Update November 28, 2007



OSRHE Chancellor to Deliver Graduation Address

Addressing candidates for undergraduate and graduate degrees during ECU's first December Commencement ceremony will be Dr. Glen D. Johnson Jr., Oklahoma chancellor of higher education.

Previously, students who completed degree requirements during the fall semester were included in the spring Commencement ceremony in May. This December there are 217 candidates for bachelor's degrees and 72 candidates for master's degrees.

Johnson, the chief executive officer for the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, leads a system of 25 state colleges and universities, 10 constituent agencies, one higher education center and independent colleges and universities coordinated with the state system.



First Night Ada is Underway

Contributions from numerous Ada groups, such as the East Central University

Foundation Inc., are supporting the community's inaugural First Night Ada celebration on Dec. 31. ECU President Richard Rafes (right) presents a check on behalf of the foundation to First Night, representatives are Tommye Rafes and Mary Ruth Barnes.

Elvis – Coming to East Central University

A show that's been called as close as today's audiences can get to an actual Elvis Presley concert will be the grand finale of an evening of performances Dec. 31 during First Night Ada, a community celebration of the New Year. Ada has the only First Night event in Oklahoma.



The activities, all on the ECU campus, will begin at 6 p.m. with 40 different performing groups ranging from country music to the big band sound and rock and roll. Many will perform simultaneously at one of seven venues.

Elvis look-alike, sound-alike and "Jeopardy" contests also are planned for children ages 6-12, teens 13-19 and adults 20 and older. First Night is an alcohol-free public festival that marks the passage from the old year to the new through the arts. All First Night celebrations are licensed by <http://www.firstnight.com>/First Night International and adhere to a set of standards.

Admission buttons that will allow entry to all First Night performances are now on available at a number of Ada businesses for \$10. The price will increase to \$15 on Dec. 31. Groups of five or more can purchase buttons for \$8 each, and children age 5 and younger will be admitted free.

The buttons, which were designed by ECU senior Corey Fetters, will not cover the cost of food or beverages that will be offered by six vendors around the campus.

For more information visit www.firstnightada.com.

580/332-8000

www.ecok.edu

ECU Flute Ensemble Performing Winter Concert



Members of East Central University's Flute Ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Ada Arts and Heritage Center in Ada. The concert will commemorate the spirit of the holiday season.

The First Building of the New Oklahoma Century!

The new Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center will be the first East Central University building of the second century of Oklahoma. ECU seeks naming gifts for the performance center. More than 30 individuals/groups/businesses have taken advantage of this opportunity to permanently place their names in the state-of-the-art facility. Several additional naming gift opportunities are still available:

Art Department, Art Studios (4), Art Offices (4), Music Department, Choir Room, Teaching Studios (1), Practice Halls (5), Music Offices (6), Mass Communications/Theatre, Studio Theatre (Black Box), Drama Classrooms (2), Laboratories/Classrooms (2), Offices (8), Photography Complex, Radio Studio, Green Room, Work Room, Director's Office, Manager's Office

Thank you to all who have contributed so far.



SOLD OUT!

People are saying they're in love with ECU's production of "Oklahoma!" ECU marked the state's centennial with four sold-out performances of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma!

Four Sheets to the Wind

Sterlin Harjo will screen his award-winning feature film *Four Sheets to the Wind* at ECU on Thursday, Nov. 29, 2007, 6 – 8 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public, courtesy of the Hayes Native American Studies Center.



Four Sheets to the Wind follows a young Seminole-Creek as he tries to make sense of life. After discovering his father's body and choosing to fulfill his unorthodox wishes for burial, Cufe Smallhill goes to Tulsa and gets to know his sister Miri, her friends, her problems and her troubled relationship with her mother. This tale of healing highlights humanity and captures the beauty of the Oklahoma rhythms.

2007 Century Builders Campaign

The Century Builders Campaign had impressive participation from East Central University's employees. This initiative, as part of the Centennial Project for the university, was a comprehensive funds development campaign for our employees. The Centennial Campaign's vision, "*Encompass the Past, Enrich the Future*," was fully demonstrated by 43 percent of employees contributing.

President Holds Open Forum and Student Dialog

This semester President Rafes invited all faculty to an afternoon open forum and all staff to join him for a brown bag lunch meeting. Employees had the opportunity to discuss issues of importance to them at the meetings



President Rafes has also initiated regular meetings with students to encourage dialogue and discussion to meet their needs in the same manner.

USDA Leadership Academy Meets at ECU

ECU was pleased to host the USDA quarterly leadership training of all USDA regional managers. USDA leaders throughout the state saw firsthand ECU's efforts to create Ada's East Main Cultural Arts District with the funding from the USDA Agriculture Rural Business Opportunity Grant and Rural Business Enterprise Grant.

The group was also informed about the recent purchase of the former Dairy Queen/Tongs in the 800 block of East Main. Demolition on this site will begin early next year and in its place will be the home of the incubator funded by the ARBEG grant.

The community planning meetings have been completed, and the input and feedback from the community of Ada has shown overwhelming support for the East Main Cultural Arts District. Entrepreneurs, current business owners and residents voiced their opinions. The complete survey results are posted on www.ecok.edu/emcad and include the community comments and concerns, many of which relate to business development and retention.



Local Flag Football Team Takes the Field

During the last home game of the season, the local 1st grade football team played during half-time and stole

the show.

MSC Plays Home Games at ECU

ECU is proud to open Kerr Activities Center to Murray State College this season. Because of the renovation of the MSC gym, both the MSC men's and women's home basketball games will be played in Ada. ECU students are allowed free admission with a student ID.



Alums Return to ECU to Play Ball

The Men's Basketball Team played a group of alums/former players on

Nov. 12. This inaugural event was a tremendous success. Hundreds of fans showed up to cheer on the *Now and Then Tigers*.

Athletic Department Gives to Ada Community

Thanks to "Feed the Family," an event sponsored by the FCA and ECU's athletic department, more than 100 families were provided food for their Thanksgiving meal this year.

Members of the two organizations not only carried the packages for them, but also signed autographs for the kids.



Serving the Community

The Human Resources Club held its Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 19. More than 3,000 community members were served at this event.



Students Volunteer to Clean Up Park

Service Saturday is a great way for ECU students to give back to the community. Members of Sigma Tau Gamma and Chi Omega took a Saturday and help make the park a cleaner place for all.



The Show Must Go On

Alpha Psi Omega hosted the first-ever 24 Hour Play Fest at ECU. The show was a tremendous success. Fifteen university students worked tirelessly in writing, preparing, acting and performing a production all within 24 hours.



International Food Fair

The annual International Food Fair was a great success. ECU currently has 68 international students from 28 countries. ECU faculty, staff, students and community members enjoyed sampling dishes from the students' native countries. The International student organization raised funds which will be used to fund international student scholarships.



Horne And Company Establishes Professorship in Accounting



A \$125,000 gift to the East Central University Foundation Inc. from the Ada public accounting firm Horne and

Company has established the Horne and Company Regents Professorship in Accounting at ECU.

The gift was made by the firm's partners, Bill Horne Sr., Bill Horne Jr. and Curtis Wilson. It will be matched by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Chesapeake Scholarship Winners Named

Seven outstanding ECU students have been named the first recipients of the newly established Chesapeake Cartography Scholarships. Dr. Gregory Plumb, chair of the Department of Cartography and Geography, announced the awards, which range from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

The scholars for the 2007-08 academic year are Jacob Lempges, a freshman from McLoud; Adam Milligan, a senior from Ponca City; Daniel Eli Pope, a freshman from Ada; Chloe Price, a senior from Ardmore; Robert Rothell, a junior from Roff; Stefan Terrell, a freshman from Norman; and Carl Williams, a freshman from Oklahoma City.

Funded by Oklahoma City-based Chesapeake Energy Corporation, the nation's most-active driller of natural gas wells, the scholarship program rewards some of the brightest students majoring in cartography at ECU, Plumb said.

ECU is the only university in Oklahoma, and one of only seven in the United States, that offers an undergraduate degree in cartography. Over the next four years, Chesapeake has committed an additional \$40,000 in scholarships for incoming and current cartography majors at ECU.

ECU VP Named to CLEET Board

Dr. Steve Turner, ECU interim vice president for administration and finance, has been appointed by Chancellor Glen D. Johnson to the board of directors for the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training



Dr. Daniel Named to Who's Who

Dr. Arlie Daniel, professor of communications, will be profiled in the 2008 "Who's Who in America." He was selected based on his academic and leadership achievements and community service work.



Morrison Receives Recognition

Becky Morrison, adjunct instructor of communication, was selected through a national search to be a scholar at *Tanglewood Two: Charting the Future* at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass.



Welcome to ECU!

Beatrice Waller

Director of Student Counseling Services

Wanda Pierce

Academic Advisor for Educational Opportunity Center at Seminole State College

Deborah (Kay) Pinley

Assistant to Foundation Director

Rochelle L. Kamont

Counselor, Veterans Upward Bound (Lawton)

Brenda Harrison,

Education Secretary

Meredith Jones,

Secretary/Receptionist for President and Academic Affairs Offices

Janet Flowers

Human Resources Counseling/Project Director for Addictions Counseling

Traci A. Tatum

Building Maintenance Worker

Dates to Remember!

Every Friday Orange and Black Day

Nov 28

Four Sheets to the Wind- 6 p.m.

Nov. 29 – Dec 1

Type O Negative – Black Box Theatre- 8 p.m.

Dec. 1

Women's Basketball vs. Texas- 7 p.m.

Dec. 3

President's Circle Book Signing
ECU Chorus and Chorale – St. Joseph Church
7:30 p.m.

Dec. 4

Campus Holiday Party – 3:30-6 pm UC
Tree Lighting – 4 p.m. UC

Dec. 6

Women's Basketball vs. Abilene Christian
6 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Abilene Christian-8 p.m.

Dec. 8

Service Saturdays – Ada Bike Trail
Women's Basketball vs. Angelo State 2 pm
Men's Basketball vs. Angelo State 4 pm

Dec. 10-14

Finals Week

Dec. 15

Commencement 10:00 a.m. Kerr Center
Women's Basketball vs. St. Edwards – 6 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. St. Edwards – 8 p.m.

Dec. 17-18

East Central Christmas Classic Basketball

Dec 17- ECU vs. Rhema Bible 8 p.m.

Dec. 18- ECU vs. Dallas Baptist 2 p.m.

Dec. 24-Jan 2

Offices Closed

Dec. 29

Men's Basketball vs. Tabor noon

Dec. 31

First Night Ada



Please join us for food,
fun and music at the

ECU HOLIDAY PARTY

Tuesday

Dec. 4, 2007

East Central University
University Center

Reception

3:30-6:00 p.m.

Tree Lighting

4:00 p.m.

We hope to see you there!
Richard & Tommye Rafes
ECU Student Senate