

CAMPUS ECU UPDATE

February 2019



Pierson's Perceptions

We are excited with what is happening at East Central University and want to share it with you more frequently. We now plan to publish many of our successes monthly in our Campus Update.

This edition focuses on our February achievements along with spotlighting upcoming events, including the ever-popular Founders Day which is for March 27. We hope you are able to observe 110 years of educating students with us. We have also celebrated the diversity we have had for over 50 years. The recently formed Black Alumni Association had a highly successful Black History Month event on February 23.

We recently learned of ECU's impact on the local economy. Indeed, for every dollar in state appropriations ECU receives, \$9.80 is returned to the area economy. That's a \$150,000,000 impact.

The spring semester is noted for being a busy time on campus. Take a look at what we have to offer.



Dr. Katricia Pierson
President
East Central University

ECU CONTINUES TO HAVE POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT

ECU is making a positive impact on its local economy. According to the State Chamber Research Foundation's report, "The Economic Role of Oklahoma's Public Colleges and Universities," ECU generated expenditures of \$96.5 million in Fiscal Year 2016 and supported \$150 million in total economic output. The impact on the local economy was the third-highest among the Regional University System of Oklahoma. Under the category of ratio of economic output to appropriations, ECU had a \$9.80 in economic output per dollar of state appropriations which was the second-highest among RUSO institutions.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATED

ECU Black Alumni Association hosted a Black History Month with an event on Feb. 23 in the Ataloo Theatre. Judge David B. Lewis, of the Court of Criminal Appeals of Oklahoma, was the keynote speaker and was joined by a panel which featured ECU alums Dr. Jimmy Scales, Dr. Donnie Nero, LaShawn Gallimore, Gavin Burl and Ryleigh Cooper.



ECU INVADES OKC THUNDER GAME

Alumni and friends of ECU gathered in Oklahoma City for "Thunder Up Night" at the Colcord Hotel on Feb. 7. The event featured special guest and Oklahoma State Auditor Cindy Byrd, a 1997 ECU alum, who spoke to the contingent about her job and some memories of her alma mater. The event led up to the Oklahoma City Thunder-Memphis Grizzlies NBA game in which the ECU Chorale performed the National Anthem prior to the game.



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FOUNDERS DAY SET - MARCH 27th



ECU will celebrate its 110th year of existence with Founder's Day on Wed., March 27, at noon on Centennial Plaza. The event is in celebration of the founding of ECU which actually took place on March 25, 1909. The event will feature food, presentations and fun.

GOODEN TO DELIVER LOUISE YOUNG DIVERSITY LECTURE



Beverly Gooden, viral hashtag creator and victim's right advocate, will deliver ECU's Louise Young Diversity Lecture on Tuesday, March 5, at 7 p.m. in the Aloha Theatre of the Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center. The title of her presentation is "Why I Stayed, The Complexity of Domestic Violence." The event is free and open to everyone. The lecture is sponsored by Young, who is a graduate of Ada Public Schools and ECU (B.A. in geography in 1969). Young was an instructor of geography at ECU.

ECU alum Dr. Jeff Griffiths, a professor at Southern Nazarene University, is the recipient of the Fullbright U.S. Scholar Award to Hungary for teaching and research in Environmental Health. Griffiths will conduct research and lecture at Szent Istvan University. Recipients of Fullbright Awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement as well as record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields. Griffiths graduated from ECU in 2003 with a degree in environmental health science and was part of ECU's McNair Scholars Program.

ECU ALUM RECEIVES FULLBRIGHT U.S. SCHOLAR AWARD



ECU alum Dr. Jeff Griffiths, a professor at Southern Nazarene University, is the recipient of the Fullbright U.S. Scholar Award to Hungary for teaching and research in Environmental Health. Griffiths will conduct research and lecture at Szent Istvan University. Recipients of Fullbright Awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement as well as record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields. Griffiths graduated from ECU in 2003 with a degree in environmental health science and was part of ECU's McNair Scholars Program.

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ANNUAL PARKER ETHICS LECTURE

Alfonzo Alexander, the chief ethics and diversity officer for the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy and the president of the NASBA's Center for Public Trust, was the keynote speaker at ECU's recent Parker Ethics Lecture. The lecture is named after Oscar L. Parker. At ECU, the Oscar L. Parker Center for the Advancement of Ethical Standards in Business and Society was established in late 1988 as a fitting and lasting memorial to Parker, a highly respected educator, businessman, college administrator, civic leader of Ada and an active supporter and long-time ECU employee.



Tigers
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
JUNIOR DAY

MARCH 14, 2019
9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

East Central University's Junior Day is a day designed with high school juniors in mind. Come and experience ECU and all it has to offer. Begin your journey to become a Tiger with a fun day in Tigerland.

JUNIOR DAY ACTIVITIES

8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.
REGISTRATION
get your FREE t-shirt

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT FAIR
find your place at ECU

FREE LUNCH
and so much more!

 **REGISTER TODAY!**
www.ecok.edu/JuniorDay

BWI CONDUCTS 'FABULOUS 50s' GALA



The Brandon Whitten Institute and Pontotoc County Drug Free Coalition conducted its Fourth Annual Gala with a Fabulous 50s theme on Feb. 22 in ECU Foundation Hall. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness of substance abuse in the community.

PALMER JAZZ EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



ECU instructor Kirk Palmer was named Oklahoma Collegiate Jazz Educator of the Year at the Oklahoma Music Educators Association Winter Conference in Tulsa. Palmer has been

the jazz band leader and trumpet instructor at ECU since 2015. During his tenure as leader, the jazz band has performed at several jazz festivals, including the Wichita Jazz Festival, Southwestern Oklahoma State University Jazz Festival and the University of Kansas Jazz Festival where the jazz band won recognition as the top performing ensemble at the festival.

STUDENTS ATTEND HIGHER ED DAY AT STATE CAPITOL



ECU students along with President Katricia Pierson and faculty recently visited the Oklahoma State

Capitol in Oklahoma City for Higher Education Day. Sen. Greg McCortney and Rep. Ronny Johns addressed the students in the State Judicial Center's Great Room. The group was able to tour the Justice Center, accompanied by several Supreme Court justices and then toured the State Capitol as a whole.

FOUR ECU STUDENTS AWARDED TEACH 2 REACH SCHOLARSHIPS

Four ECU students – Christy Higgins, Jessica Wilcox, Jaley Brown and Nikki Wright – were awarded education schol-



arships through the Teach 2 Reach Program and the Choctaw Nation. Teach 2 Reach is a grant-funded opportunity to encourage students from Native American heritage to excel in their undergraduate teacher education programs and to support them in their future careers.

THEATRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS 'MAN OF LA MANCHA'

The ECU Theatre Department presented "Man of La Mancha," Feb. 14-16, in At-



alooa Theatre of the Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center. The classic musical production was directed by Alan Marshall and starred Dr. Richard Groetzinger as Cervantes/Don Quixote. Rudy Lupinski was the musical director.

ECU STUDENT HERMAN FARES WELL IN SPEECH, DEBATE EVENTS

Ruth Herman, a member of ECU's Tigers Speech and Debate Team, placed runner-up in the individual competition in the International Public Debate Association competition and was recognized for her debating and public speaking skills by placing first speaker in the Oklahoma Interstate Forensics Association on Feb. 23 at Oklahoma City University. Herman also took fourth place in the University of Oklahoma's Public Debate Tournament on Feb. 9. Herman majors in deaf and rehabilitation counseling and is a sophomore from Waxahachie, Texas.



SR BASKETBALL PLAYERS RECOGNIZED

ECU senior basketball players - women: Lakin Preisner and Tia Williams; men: Jamey Woods and Da'Rion King - were honored for their career efforts in ECU's final home basketball games at the Kerr Activities Center on Feb. 23 against Southern Arkansas.



Both ECU teams have qualified

for the Great American Conference Championship Tournament which runs from March 6-10 in Bartlesville.

FILER, MORA CHAMPIONS

Senior Larry Filer and junior Anna Mora each won the 3,000 meters at the recent GAC Indoor Track and Field Championships in Norman. ECU junior Eliud Koech finished right behind Filer for second place in the that 3,000-meter race. Caleb Eagens was second in the long jump and Dilland Gardner finished third in the shot put. The ECU distance medley team of Barbara Johnson, Naomi Simulus, Danielle Davidson and Mora claimed second while Yvette Felix took third in the 5,000-meter race.

**ECU UPCOMING EVENTS****Monday, March 4**

3 p.m. - ECU Concerto Competition; Ataloo Theatre

Tuesday, March 5

2 p.m. - Baseball vs. Southeastern (home)

Tuesday, March 5

7 p.m. - Louise Young Diversity Lecture; Ataloo Theatre

Friday, March 8

2 p.m. - Baseball vs. Arkansas Tech (home)

Saturday, March 9

1 p.m. - Baseball v Arkansas Tech (home doubleheader)

Monday, March 11

7:30 p.m. - Frankenstein; Ataloo Theatre

Tuesday, March 12

2 p.m. - Baseball vs. Rogers State (home)

4 p.m. - ECU Student Mock Interviews; Linschied Library

Wednesday, March 13

8 a.m. - Pre-State Concert Band Festival

10 a.m. - Kinesiology Depart/Club Health Fair; McBride

Thursday, March 14

All Day - 2019 High School Junior Day

10 a.m. - ECU Retirees Brunch; Regents Room

6 p.m. - Alpha Chi Induction; Stanley Wagner Ballroom

7:30 p.m. - Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel Concert; Ada Arts & Heritage Center

Friday, March 15

2 p.m. - Softball vs. S. Arkansas (home doubleheader)

Saturday, March 16

Noon - Softball vs. S. Arkansas (home doubleheader)

**Monday, March 18-Friday, March 22
Spring Break (campus closed)****Friday, March 22**

2 p.m. - Baseball vs. Arkansas-Monticello (home)

Saturday, March 23

1 p.m. - Baseball vs. Arkansas-Monticello (home doubleheader)

Monday, March 25

ECU Dress for Success Professional Clothing Drive Ends

March 26, 27 & 28

8 a.m. - 2A-4A High School Concert Band Festival

Tuesday, March 26

11:30 a.m. - Education Awards Luncheon

2 p.m. - Baseball vs. Oklahoma Baptist (home)

2 p.m. - Softball v Southeastern (home doubleheader)

Wednesday, March 27

Noon - Founder's Day Celebration; Centennial Plaza

Thursday, March 28

5:30 p.m. - President's Club Meeting; Estep

Friday, March 29

2 p.m. - Softball vs Henderson State (home doubleheader)

6:30 p.m. - ECU Screens Presents "Julie"

Saturday, March 30

Noon - Softball vs Henderson State (home doubleheader)