

# CAMPUS ECU UPDATE

April 2019

## Pierson's Perceptions

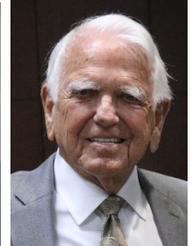
*The people of East Central University are amazing! Our students are making headlines and being recognized for their incredible work in the classroom, at the Capitol, on stage, and on the field. Our alumni are doing their part in mentoring students so that they have a successful start on their professional careers. Those students go on to become alumni who will give back to the campus. Our faculty and staff are the champions of that cycle of success. We recently honored the men and women who have dedicated their lives to ensuring the students have a quality education. We have a significant number of people who have been with us 15, 20, 30, even 40 years. This past year, our employees brought in nearly \$6 million in external funding. Over 60 faculty completed professional development workshops or training to enhance the learning experience. Five faculty were recognized for their teaching excellence, and 15 staff members were nominated for the Charlee Lanis Award, with Carol Pesheonoff receiving the award. ECU Tigers demonstrate every day that excellence is our standard. Be prepared to be amazed.*



**Dr. Katricia Pierson**  
President  
East Central University

## COMMENCEMENT SET FOR MAY 11

James R. Hamby, president of Vision Bank of Ada since 1990, and former Oklahoma Gov. George Nigh will deliver 2019 spring commencement addresses at ECU's two ceremonies on Saturday, May 11. Hamby will speak at the 10 a.m. ceremony while Nigh will speak at 2 p.m. Three-hundred, ninety-seven students are candidates for bachelor's degrees while 161 are candidates for master's degrees.



## ECU STUDENTS EXCEL AT LOVE'S CUP

ECU business students excelled at the 2019 Love's Entrepreneur's Cup held recently in Oklahoma City. Exbac, made up of ECU team members Larisa Bolin, Norbu Gurung and Kacee Schier took first place in the Small Business Division while fellow ECU students Mackinsey Archer and Yashna Khadgi, with The Hairy Hotel, took third place in that same category. ECU's Sau-rav Gurung, for LikeaPro, was the Small Business IT/App Interview winner as well. The competition is a statewide event that stimulates the real-world process of researching a market, writing a business plan and pitching to potential investors.



## Evening of Honors & Recognition

**Friday, May 10, 2019**

Reception - 6 p.m.  
Program - 6:30 p.m.

East Central University  
Chickasaw Business & Conference Center  
ECU Foundation Hall

**Distinguished Alumni**  
Jim Hamby, 1973  
Tony A. Scott, 1982

**Distinguished Former Faculty**  
Lou Watkins, 1980-1991

**Distinguished Service**  
Beth Vezina, 1979

**Distinguished Family**  
The Horne Family

Tickets & tables available at: [alumni.ecok.edu/event/2019EOH](http://alumni.ecok.edu/event/2019EOH)  
[alumni@ecok.edu](mailto:alumni@ecok.edu) or 580-559-5651

RSVP Deadline  
April 30

**580-332-8000**

**[www.ecok.edu](http://www.ecok.edu)**

**GOODEN SPEAKS AT LOUISE YOUNG DIVERSITY LECTURE**



Beverly Gooden, viral hashtag creator and victims' right advocate, spoke at ECU's Louise Young Diversity Lecture in March. Gooden shared her personal experience and how communities can strive to end domestic violence.

**BENCH DEDICATIONS ON ECU CAMPUS**



A bench dedication for Dr. Bill Osborne was held in March and another bench dedication will be conducted for Dr. Carlotta Lockmiller on Thursday, May 9, at 1:30 p.m. in the Frank R. Crabtree. Sr. Honor Plaza.

**WHITNEY WINS GEORGE NIGH AWARD**



Tyler Whitney was named the 2019 winner of the prestigious George Nigh Award as ECU's top graduating senior for 2018-19 at a luncheon held on April



10. The award is named in honor of former Oklahoma Governor and ECU

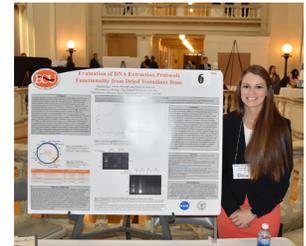


alumnus George Nigh. Whitney, a biology major, plans to be a developmental pediatrician. The other four finalists were Mariah Ewy, Chloe Hull,

Pradip Poudel and Megan Pruitt. During the luncheon, Nigh answered questions from the five finalists and posed and shared a laugh with Regent Connie Reilly.

**EWY PRESENTS POSTER AT OKLA. STATE CAPITOL**

ECU student Mariah Ewy represented ECU with a presentation on DNA of dried bone during the recent Research Day at the State Capitol. Undergraduate students representing 16 Oklahoma colleges and universities presented competitive scientific research posters to the State Legislature and the public during this annual event sponsored by Oklahoma NSF EPSCoR, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the National Science Foundation.



**STUDENTS ATTEND CAREER EXPO**

ECU students met with prospective employers and graduate schools during Career Expo in ECU Foundation Hall of the Chickasaw Business and Conference Center.



**SPRING STAYS BUSY WITH AWARDS CEREMONIES**

The ECU campus is filled with scholarship and awards banquets throughout the spring, including the Stonecipher School of Business and the College of Health and Sciences.



**HONORS STUDENTS HOLD SHOWCASE**

A record number of ECU honors students made research presentations at the recent Honors Showcase. The event highlights special projects conducted by the students.



**ECU ALUMS RECOGNIZED FOR MENTORING NEW CPAs**



As a result of mentoring new certified public accountants, three ECU alums – Janice L. Gray, Dr. Carlos E. Johnson and Vicky C. Petete – were named three of only five Path Finders by the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants. CPAFOCUS, the society’s magazine, released the names



of its 2019 Trailblazers and Path Finders in conjunction with its March/April special issue.

**ECU ALUM PART OF AWARD-WINNING RADIO STATION**



WFMI-FM/Rejoice 100.9 which is also known as Musical Soul Food affiliate in the Norfolk/Virginia Beach market, won its sixth Stellar Award for “Radio Station of the Year” (large market) at the 34th Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards. ECU alumnus Cedric

Bailey is among the on-air talent from 2 p.m.-7 p.m. as he hosts “Cedric Bailey’s Traffic Jam.”

**U.S. POET LAUREATE SMITH SPEAKS AT SCISSORTAIL**



Tracy K. Smith, United States Poet Laureate, was one of the featured speakers at ECU’s 2019 Scissortail

Creative Writing Festival held April 4-6. Smith is a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and was a National Book Award Finalist for Memoir. In 2017, she was appointed the 22nd U.S. Poet Laureate. The event included 64 authors, including 19 first-time visitors to ECU, and Darryl Fisher Awards were presented to high school and college students during the event.

**ECU STUDENT NABS FISHER AWARD**

ECU students Taylor Johnson shared a first-place award during the Darryl Fisher College Awards presentation at the recent Scissortail Creative Writing Festival held at ECU. The award was decided by an off-campus judge via blind submissions. Johnson presented excerpts of her work in this photo.



**“WEEK OF THE CHILD” PROCLAIMED**

April 7-13 was proclaimed “Week of the Young Child” in Ada. The ECU South Central Child



Care Resource and Referral Agency (ECU SC-CCRRA) took part in the proclamation ceremony in front of Fentem Hall. The week is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children to spotlight early learning, young children, their teachers, families and communities.

**GREEK WEEK FEATURES COMPETITIONS**

ECU students competed in Greek Week competitions, April 1-4. Greek Week featured such events as chariot races, lip sync contests, banner contests and trivia. The week was capped off by a Greek Banquet on April 5. The week is in recognition of the fraternities and sororities on campus.



**THREE TIGER SOFTBALLERS HONORED**



Senior Sable Hankins was named Great American Conference Player of the Week twice during the month of April. Most recently, she got the award on April 29 after batting .583 with seven hits, including three home runs and five RBIs, as ECU swept a four-game series from



Southwestern Oklahoma. Hankins

was also named GAC Player of the Week on April 2 after batting .500 with a 1.450 slugging percentage and six homers. Freshman Paige Leschber was selected as GAC Pitcher of the Week on April 2. Leschber posted a 3-0 pitching record, including a shutout of Henderson State, with a 1.17 earned run average that week. Hilton batted .556 with two homers (one grand slam), three doubles and 14 RBIs with a 1.222 slugging percentage the week prior to April 16 as ECU had a 3-1 record during the week.

**FILER WINS TWO EVENTS AT GAC**



ECU senior Larry Filer won the 3,000-meter steeplechase and the 5,000 meters while taking second in the 1,500 meters at the recent

Great American Conference Championships at Oklahoma Baptist. Filer's winning times were 9:17.95 in the steeplechase and 15:28.56 in the 5,000. His 1,500 time was 3:59.87. Filer won the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 9:21.00 at the East Texas Invitational in Commerce, Texas on April 13.

**GARDNER TAKES FIRST, SECOND AT GAC**

Dillard Gardner, an ECU junior, took first place in the discus and second in the shot put at the recent Great American Conference Track and Field Championships at Oklahoma Baptist. Gardner's discus toss traveled 48.47 meters while the shot went 14.95. He was named All-GAC Field Athlete of the Week on April 3 after winning the shot put and discus at the Oklahoma Baptist Invitational.



**KOECH WINS 10,000 METERS FOR ECU**

ECU junior Eliud Koech won the 10,000 meters with a time of 32:39.36 at the Great American Conference Championships at Oklahoma Baptist in Shawnee. Tiger teammate and freshman Jakaveon Shaw finished right behind Koech in second place at 32:43.44. Koech's effort helped fuel ECU to a third-place finish in the team standings.



**MORA SECOND IN 5,000, 10,000 METERS**

Anna Mora, an ECU junior, claimed second place in both the 5,000 meters and 10,000 meters at the GAC Championships with times of 18:21.74 and 38:48.99 respectively. Mora was chosen Great American Conference Track and Field Runner of the Week for April 9 after setting an NCAA provisional mark in the 10,000 meters with a winning time of 36:28.39 at the Paul Parent Classic at Southern Nazarene.



**Enrollment ongoing**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, May 6**

Final Exams Begin - All Week  
6 p.m. - First United Recognition of Excellence Honors Ceremony in ECU Foundation Hall

**Thursday, May 9**

1:30 p.m. - Bench Dedication for Carlotta Lockmiller

**Friday, May 10**

6 p.m. - Evening of Honors and Recognition in ECU Foundation Hall

**Saturday, May 11**

8 a.m. - Honors Graduation Ceremony in Ataloe Theatre of Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center  
10 a.m. - Commencement in Kerr Activities Center  
2 p.m. - Commencement in Kerr Activities Center  
4:30 p.m. - Spring 2019 Nursing Pinning Ceremony in Ataloe Theatre of Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center

**Monday, May 13**

10-Week Courses Begin  
Intersession Begins

**Thursday, May 16**

9 a.m. - Veteran's Appreciation Day in ECU Foundation Hall

**Monday, May 27**

Campus Closed for Memorial Day

**Friday, May 31**

Intersession Ends

**Monday, June 3**

Summer Classes Begin

**Friday, June 14**

Time and Site TBA - Oklahoma City Area ECU Alumni Reunion

**Friday, June 21**

5 p.m. - Tulsa Area ECU Alumni Reunion, Site TBA

**Wednesday, July 3**

6:30 p.m. - ECU SCREENS presents "The Madness of George III" in Estep Multimedia Center of Bill S. Cole Center

**Thursday, July 4**

Campus Closed for Independence Day

**July 29-20**

Final Exams for Summer Semester

## Thank You For Your Service!!!

### 30 or more years of service to ECU



### 25 years of service to ECU



### 20 years of service to ECU



### 15 years of service to ECU



More years of service photos to appear in May edition of Campus Update.