



# Campus Update

June 2017

## J. MICHAEL PRINCE HONORED AS ECU DISTINGUISHED ALUM



J. Michael Prince, ECU Class of 1993, was honored as a distinguished alumnus with a reception on May 5. Prince is a global retail executive who has worked in senior

leadership positions with some of the most iconic sports and fashion brands in the world including Nike, Cole Hann, Converse, Hurley, Guess? and Umbro. Prince was recently named chief operating officer for USPA Global Licensing Inc., the exclusive licensing arm and national broadcaster of the United States Polo Association. Prince also spoke at the 10 a.m. commencement ceremony on May 6.

## GOV. NIGH GOING FOR GUINNESS



### RECORD

Former Oklahoma Gov. and ECU alumnus George Nigh addressed graduates during ECU's commencement

exercises on May 6. Nigh, who spoke at the 2 p.m. commencement ceremony, was pursuing a Guinness Record for the number of commencement ceremonies in which he has delivered speeches. He is pictured here with Connie Reilly (center), regent for the Regional University System of Oklahoma and Dr. Katriacia Pierson, ECU President.

## ECU POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES TWO DEFIBRILLATORS

Through a gift from the Mercy Health Foundation-Ada and the Valley View Foundation, the ECU Police Department was



presented with two AEDs (automated external defibrillators), valued at \$2,200 apiece. One of the defibrillators is being kept on the wall in the police department while the other is located in a patrol car.

## ALUMNI REUNION SET FOR TULSA ON JULY 7

An ECU Alumni Reunion for the Tulsa area will be conducted on Friday, July 7, from 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

at McNellie's Sidebar at 409 East First Street in Tulsa. The cost is \$10 per person and light hors d'oeuvres will be provided.



## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HONORED WITH AWARDS

Hundreds of area high school students were honored on the ECU campus during the First United Recognition of Excellence Honors Ceremony on May 1 in ECU Foundation Hall.



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**FIVE ECU FACULTY WORKING WITH OKA' INSTITUTE**



Five ECU faculty members are the inaugural Summer Research Opportunity Award winners for the Oka' Institute, it was recently announced. Dr. Randall D. Maples, assistant professor in ECU's Department of Chemistry;

Dr. J. Bruce Moring, assistant professor in the Department of Biology; Dr. Terrie Becerra and Dr. Erick Ananga, assistant professors in the Department of Political Science and Legal Studies and

Dr. Nicholas Jacob, assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science developed proposals that are consistent with the Oka' Institute's research projects of enhancing aquifer recharge and groundwater and surface water interaction.

**OKA' INSTITUTE HOSTS ADA WATER FEST**

ECU's Oka' Institute hosted the 14th Annual Ada Water Fest on April 20 on the Centennial Plaza. The Water Fest had 11 water-related agencies and organizations on campus, featuring 18 different educational stations with hands-on activities as well as visual demonstrations for the 538 fifth graders from schools in Pontotoc County to learn about the importance of water.



**VETERANS AND MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY HELD AT ECU**

ECU's Veterans Upward Bound Program hosted its annual Veterans and Military Appreciation Day on May 18. Veterans and military personnel from all branches of the military were honored. Major Ed Pulido, U.S. Army (retired) delivered the keynote address and the Bret D. Isenhower Scholarship was awarded among many activities.



**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPERIENCE BUSINESS WORLD AT OBW**

High school students were on campus June 4-8 for Oklahoma Business Week. During the annual camp, the students form a "company" to learn about business practices and compete in simulated business challenges.



**YOUTH INVOLVED IN BASKETBALL CAMP**

More than 70 youth attended the Tiger Basketball School's Shooting Camp, May 22-23, at the Kerr Activities Center. Participants learned the fundamentals of shooting the basketball. ECU men's assistant basketball coach Aaron Hill and members of the ECU men's and women's basketball coaching staffs, current players and former players led the camp.



**HENDERSON WINNER OF GEORGE NIGH AWARD**



ECU biology major Carlee Henderson was named the 2017 George Nigh Award winner for being the top graduating senior, it was an-

nounced on April 27. Henderson, an Ada resident and Latta High School graduate, was one of four finalists for the prestigious honor. The other three were Anna Lawler, a nursing major from Chandler; Kristina Mayfield, a human resources counseling major from Pauls Valley and Jessica Potter, an elementary education major from Cyril.

**DRAPER UNDERGOING MARINE BIOLOGY INTERNSHIP IN MARYLAND**



Kate Draper, an ECU sophomore biology major from Ada, is currently undergoing a marine and estuarine science internship at the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore until

Aug. 11, through the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program. Draper applied online for the internship through the National Science Foundation. The internship is one of only 15-20 spots available through the Maryland institution.

**ECU STUDENTS TOUR NEW YORK, LEARN ABOUT BUSINESS**



Students from ECU's Business Leaders Association took a trip to New York City in May to tour various companies and learn about business practices as well as go on sightseeing tours, including the Statue of Liberty.

**ALPHA CHI INITIATES 60 NEW MEMBERS**

Sixty new members were initiated into the Gamma Chapter of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society at ECU this past spring. Alpha Chi is comprised of the top 10 percent of juniors and seniors at ECU. Students must have at least a 3.5 grade-point average to be eligible to join.



**ECU OPERA THEATRE TOURS ITALY, PERFORMS**

The ECU Opera Theatre, under the direction of Melody Baggech, performed in Rome, Italy. The cast, crew and members from the Ambrint International School posed for a group photo. The ECU students attended many of the tourist attractions in Italy, including the Leaning Tower of Pisa which appears to be held up by ECU student Kaci Kennedy.



**STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN GREEK WEEK**

Games were a part of Greek Week in April as ECU students competed in various activities. The week of festivities not only included games and a banquet, but community service projects.



**ECU SOFTBALL PLAYERS HONORED**

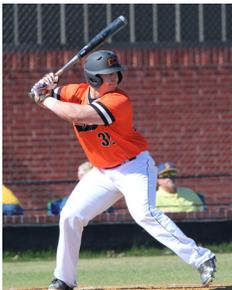


ECU sophomore softball player Mariah Ewy was honored by the College Sports Information Directors Association of America (CoSIDA) as an Academic All-District 7 First Team for 2017. Junior teammate Alissa Taylor was an All-Great American Conference First Team selection. Ewy and fellow sophomore Aundrea Hamric were named to the All-GAC Second Team while senior Kelbie Crelia, junior



Claresha Clemons and sophomore Breecia Crawford nabbed honorable mention accolades.

**BASEBALL PLAYER MEKEEL NAMED TO**



**ALL-GAC FIRST TEAM**  
ECU senior Jake MeKeel was named to the 2017 All-Great American Conference First Team for 2017. Teammates Kodiak O’Ravez, a senior, and Connor Stevenson, a junior, were honorable mention picks.

**FILER NAMED ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT**



ECU sophomore Larry Filer was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-District 7 Team for 2016-17. Filer, who registered a perfect 4.00 grade-point average in biology, helped ECU

claim its third straight GAC Cross Country Championship by placing 12th individually.

**SISTER-BROTHER COMBO NAMED SCHOLAR ATHLETES OF THE YEAR**

The sister-brother combination of Anna Mora and Richard Mora, both cross country and track and field team members, were selected as ECU Female and Male Athletes of the Year, it was announced at the Athletics Night of Honors event in the Ataloo Theatre on May 2. Performance in the classroom and on the athletic field were taken in consideration for the awards.



**ECU SHOWTIME MEMBERS PERFORM DISNEY MUSIC IN COSTUMES**

Members of ECU Showtime put on Disney character costumes and performed songs from hit movies during their final spring performance on April 28 in the Dorothy I. Summers Theatre. The event was called “When You Wish Upon a Star.”



**SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS HANDED OUT TO ECU STUDENTS**

Springtime is the season for departmental scholarship presentations and awards, including the Human Resources Department which handed out Briles Foundation Scholarships in this photo.



**BENCH DEDICATED TO LATE DR. JOHN ULRICH**



Family, friends and colleagues joined together for a bench dedication in honor of the late Dr. John J. Ulrich during a ceremony

on April 20 on the ECU campus. Ulrich served as chair for ECU's Political Science Department from 1991-96. He started at ECU in 1985 as assistant professor, moved up to associate professor in 1989 and was named professor in 1997.

**BUSINESS TEACHING EXCELLENCE**

**AWARD GOES TO DR. SCOTT**



Dr. Michael Scott, professor of business administration in ECU's Harland C. Stonecipher School of Business, was selected for the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) Region 6 Teaching Excellence

Award for 2017. For the third year in a row, an ECU faculty member from the Stonecipher School of Business has been honored. Dr. Stacey Bolin was chosen for the award in 2016 and Dr. Thomas A. Zeni in 2015. Scott was picked for the award for Region 6, which consists of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, New Mexico and Louisiana.

**SILENT AUCTION BENEFITS ECU WOMEN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP FUND**



The ECU Women's Club hosted its annual brunch and silent auction on May 2 in the Danley Hall Atrium. Proceeds from the benefit went to

the Women's Scholarship Fund. The auction raised \$2,250.

**OLDENBURG, DOUGHERTY WELL AWARE OF LEGACY OF HALLIE BROWN FORD**

ECU instructors Annie Oldenburg and John Dougherty are well aware of how Hallie Brown Ford influenced the success of two institutions



halfway across the country from each other. Oldenburg and Dougherty are both graduates of the Hallie Ford School of Graduate Studies at Pacific Northwest College of Art in Oregon and now have come full circle by working in the Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center at ECU.

**DR. BIXLER PARTICIPATES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION FORUM**

Dr. Laura Bixler, professor of special education at ECU, is trying to help fix problems such as teacher shortages and massive turnover, after recently participating in a forum at the State Capitol. The forum was designed to address ways and ideas in limiting that turnover while improving resources and training for teachers in the State of Oklahoma.



**ECU HOLDS PARKER ETHICS LECTURE**

Dr. Nathan Mellor, CEO of C3 Brands (Mosaic Personnel and Strata Leadership) and president of Strata Leadership, LLC in Oklahoma



City delivered the 27th Annual Parker Ethics Lecture on April 4. Mellor has developed leadership programs, including Peace Through Business Rwanda and Four Star Debate with General Tommy Franks, which were highlighted on CNN Inside Africa, FOX News and FOX Radio.

# Photos from 2017 Spring Commencement

