CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM: OPERATION STAY WARM
Criminal Justice students making fleece no-sew hats and scarves to distribute
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Message from Dr. Ward</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice Program: Operation Stay Warm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of B.A.SM: Students Accepted into Graduate School</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Education: Inspirational Videos</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education + Summer School Learning Community: Improving First-Year Instructional Practices</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History Program: African-American Cemetery Preservation Project</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECSU Emergency Management Program: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check the Resumé: Live Studio Performance Series</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**FACULTY & STAFF REPRESENTATIVES**

Dr. Kimberly Fitchett-Bazemore
Mr. Kelly Ford
Mr. Clarence Goss, Jr.
Dr. Debjani Kanjilal
Ms. Brande McCleese
Dr. Dexter Purnell
Dr. Tarsha Rogers
Mr. Raynard Townsel

---

**OTHER CONTRIBUTORS:**

Dr. Tina Craddock
Dr. Chyna Crawford
Mr. Stephan Naylor
Dr. Charles Reed
Dr. Melissa Stuckey

---

**DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

The School of Humanities & Social Sciences

- Department of English and Digital Media
- Department of Military Science
- Department of Music and Visual Arts
- Department of Social Sciences

The School of Education & Business

- Department of Business, Accounting and Sport Management
- Department of Education

The School of Science, Aviation, Health & Technology

- Department of Aviation and Emergency Management
- Department of Health and Human Studies
- Department of Natural Sciences
- Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Engineering Technology

Department of University Studies
A Message from Dr. Ward

John Maxwell once stated, “We cannot become what we need by remaining what we are.” These words resonate with me especially now as we near the end of the SACSCOC Reaffirmation Process, and I think about how far ECSU has come from just a few years ago when we launched “The Road to Reaffirmation.” The process allowed us to reflect on our policies and processes and undoubtedly resulted in us becoming a better institution. While we will not have a final decision on our reaffirmation until their Board meets in December, I am encouraged by the on-site committee’s comments and am thankful for the hard work and dedication displayed by each of you during the process.

Looking back over the last year, I am in awe of what we have been able to accomplish during both the COVID-19 pandemic and the SACSCOC reaffirmation process. Together, we were able to meet our expectations and accomplish our goals to make an impactful difference on our campus and in the lives of our students. Despite the tremendous obstacles that operating during a pandemic presented and the challenges of the reaffirmation process, I take pride in our achievements.

As we begin to transition towards our Strategic Plan: Forging Our Future, I am reminded of an Orison Swett Marden quote that I believe will help guide us on our next phase, “All who have accomplished great things have had a great aim, have fixed their gaze on a goal which was high, one which sometimes seemed impossible.” Even though our 2020 – 2025 Strategic Plan is ambitious, I know it will forever change the lives of our faculty, staff, and students. During this journey, it will be important for us to balance our expectations with our goals, but I believe that if we continue to work together nothing can stop us!

The stories highlighted in this edition of my newsletter are excellent examples of resilience, determination and community. I am always impressed with how the faculty and students know how to balance the expectations of academia with how to improve the quality of life for others. As Vikings...as ECSU...we are showing the world the true essence of Viking Pride!

Viking Pride…Vikings Forward

Farrah Ward
The Criminal Justice program at ECSU is the second largest program on campus with 170 students who will complete their degree and go out into the workforce to provide a service to their community. We felt that we had an obligation to begin working with students on the importance of being invested and committed in the communities they would be living and working.

At the end of 2019, Professor Tina Craddock began to sow the seeds for community service projects. Having assisted the staff at Albemarle Hopeline with various things their clients needed, she understood the value of small gestures to those who were victims and survivors of domestic violence. She had students in classes spend some time painting and decorating Christmas ornaments and writing an inspirational message on the back of each one. These ornaments were donated to Albemarle Hopeline to be given to those who needed a word of encouragement and showed that others cared about them.

In late 2020, the Criminal Justice Program’s “Operation Stay Warm” was developed. We wanted to do something that didn’t require resources from the student, other than time. We decided that the students could make fleece no-sew hats and scarves that could then be packaged and distributed to the local law enforcement agencies, shelters, and other charitable organizations in our community. With the approval of the Department Chair, Dr. Chyna Crawford and Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Sharon Raynor, we contacted the general manager, Rick McDonald, at the local Elizabeth City Walmart and the concept was pitched. He immediately expressed his willingness to participate. He provided an initial donation of fleece and indicated that he could do substantially more under the Walmart Foundation Grant. In March 2021, Prof. Craddock had students in her Criminal Justice statistics classes create the first 23 packages of no-sew hats and scarves. Students were provided with fleece that had been cut initially to size, and they then made subsequent cuts and put the items together. They had fun and were able to complete the process as a group project, while remaining socially distanced within the classroom. We had them take ownership of their work by including a tag in the pack that said, “this was made by ___ (with only their first name)”. Some students included something additional including “I hope you enjoy this.” They were proud of the completed product.

One of the goals of this project is to teach students how good it feels to help someone they don’t even know. We have created what we hope to be a long-term community service project. As the weather begins to turn cooler, these no-sew fleece scarves and hats will be packaged for local law enforcement and other local charitable organizations for distribution to those in need. This project will be an excellent way for our Criminal Justice students, some of whom will be serving these marginalized groups, to see the difference their small acts of kindness can make. Several students stated, “I’m proud of what I’ve made!” and “doing this feels amazing!” The Criminal Justice program is always attempting to instill in our students the importance of community service. The smallest act of kindness can be the most meaningful to those in need. This small offering is meant to serve as a warm hug to someone in need. We are extremely appreciative of our Elizabeth City Walmart for partnering with us to make this happen.
The Department of Business is pleased to announce the following students/graduates who have been accepted into funded graduate programs:

**Beatriz Neto** (Fall 2020 graduate): Accepted for MS in Enterprise Risk Management at Columbia University for Fall 2021 with a fellowship that covers full tuition and fees, residential housing, health insurance and a stipend.

**Katelyn Williams** (expected Spring 2021 graduate): Accepted for MS in Accounting at Western Carolina University for Fall 2021 with a Graduate Assistantship and tuition waiver, and Summer 2021 Study Grants.
A short inspirational video to our students from the education faculty was sent to students and posted on social media. The purpose of the video was to inspire/encourage students through all that is happening with COVID and keep them working hard with their studies for the remainder of the semester, especially through Midterms and Finals. The Education Department thought it would be a good way for the students to “see” their faculty. To keep the video manageable and short, two videos were developed: one for undergraduate students/faculty and one for graduate students/faculty. The Education Department takes great pride in supporting and encouraging our students during these unprecedented times.

Graduate Video - https://youtu.be/ERHmfpegrf8

Undergraduate Video - https://youtu.be/FXqx0tkc27s
GENERAL EDUCATION + SUMMER SCHOOL LEARNING COMMUNITY: IMPROVING FIRST-YEAR INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES

Contributors: Tarsha Rogers and Chyna Crawford

In an effort to provide superior learning experiences for first year students and increase the number of General Education (GE) courses offered during summer school, University Studies and General Education Chair, Dr. Tarsha Rogers and Department of Social Sciences Chair and Director of Summer School (SS), Dr. Chyna Crawford formed a collaboration through the General Education + Summer School Learning Community. The pair are excited to embark on the new learning community and welcomed the first cohort of dedicated faculty in March 2021.

Academic Affairs, along with Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Sharon Raynor, began a discussion with Drs. Rogers and Crawford about providing faculty and ultimately students with tools that will lead to a more successful summer school experience. This GE+SS Learning Community is based on a newly-designed Summer School teaching block in which courses have been determined and selected by General Education, the Department Chairs, Director of Summer School, and the Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. This really is a shared vision for summer learning. It is our goal that creating this community system within summer school will open the door to collaboration, reduced repeat courses, and efficient time management from both faculty and student. This learning community will allow faculty to develop shared standards of quality and will give students a greater return on the investments and time they dedicate to summer courses by restructuring the university curriculum to address structural barriers to educational excellence.

To kick off the first cohort in the learning community, we enlisted the expertise of Dr. Kathleen Mapson of Georgia State University to provide faculty with tools for course delivery in Blackboard. The summer cohort will specifically learn methodology for creating, designing, and implementing courses in a five (5) – week, Summer School format. The ultimate goal of these workshops was to train faculty to create a true, five-week summer school course and to avoid the trap of packing a 16-week course into a 5-week timeframe. Dr. Mapson shared, “Providing a safe space for faculty to share ideas, celebrate wins, and talk through challenges establishes an intentional and action-oriented learning community and the General Education department has successfully done just that! Those of us participating in this community recognize that we want to create a meaningful learning experience for our students and a more meaningful teaching experience also. Each week, we show up prepared to have purposeful and reflective conversations about pedagogy, student success, assessments, technology tools - any topics related to teaching and learning. I truly believe that we are evolving for the better, not only for our students but for ourselves as well. Being a part of this collective has been an amazing experience.” Dr. Sharon Raynor also added, “I am excited about the GE+ Summer School Learning Community because it demonstrates the university’s commitment to not only improving General Education across the campus, but to also elevating our teaching strategies and pedagogies to enhance student success. I am looking forward to the next collaboration between Dr. Rogers and Dr. Crawford.” General Education at ECSU strives to provide students with exceptional educational experiences that will prepare them for lifelong learning, and it is through superior instruction in the classroom that this occurs.”
HISTORY PROGRAM:
AFRICAN-AMERICAN CEMETERY PRESERVATION PROJECT

Contributors: Charles Reed and Melissa Stuckey

Across from Roebuck Stadium lies a sacred African-American burial ground, Old Oak Grove Cemetery, founded in the second half of the nineteenth century. The cemetery is the resting place for generations of local African-American families, including dozens of Black veterans of the Civil War, World Wars I and II, and the Korean War, as well as the founding families of the Elizabeth City State Normal School, including Hugh Cale, Peter and Symera Moore, and the John Henry Bias family.

Since September 2019, ECSU’s History Program faculty and students have been working with the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to initiate a cemetery preservation project in Elizabeth City. The project is part of a statewide initiative between the North Carolina African American Heritage Commission and the Office of State Archaeology, in response to a national movement that is bringing attention to the preservation needs of African-American cemeteries. These cemeteries are sites of remembrance and history for their communities and important resources for historians and other researchers who want to tell the stories of African-American communities.

In February, the History program hosted an African-American cemetery preservation mini-conference. Over one hundred participants from across North America attended the meeting, which had been postponed for almost a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Angela Thorpe, director of the African American Heritage Commission, provided an overview of the commission’s cemetery work and plans. ECSU History professor Dr. Latif Tarik
spoke on the social and historical importance of African-American cemeteries. Melissa Timo, of the Department of State Archaeology, and Jessica Cosmas, of the Museum of the Albemarle, provided lessons on surveying, recording, cleaning, and preserving cemetery assets. Conference organizer Dr. Melissa Stuckey, served as moderator. The mini-conference was recorded and can be viewed here:  
https://youtu.be/JiGhfGzUNYs?t=77

After several weeks of wet weather, ECSU History students Déjà Fisher, Barry Ward, Westry Thorpe, and Aaron Wrighton, professors Dr. Stuckey, Dr. Tarik, Dr. Charles Reed, and Ms. Cosmas spent several hours on a Saturday afternoon surveying the cemetery grounds, taking photographs, recording conditions, and cleaning headstones. Cleaning and preservation work focused on a row of Civil War veterans on the north side of the property and was done with the support and encouragement of the Elizabeth City Parks and Recreation Department.

The students, supported and mentored by History faculty, will develop and present presentations on their research and preservation work for Undergraduate Research Week. The group plans to return to the cemetery to do further work. The work will involve other community members and groups with students leading the training efforts.

The History program is dedicated to developing student-centered public history projects that impart professional skills and knowledge onto our students and serve our larger community. As part of the region’s public university, and an HBCU, ECSU’s History program embraces the responsibility of leading efforts to preserve, interpret, and tell the stories of local history.
On March 31, 2007, the Noble Training Facility (NTF) in Ft. McClellan, Alabama was integrated into the Center for Domestic Preparedness. NTF used to be a hospital. It was converted into a training site for health and medical education in disasters. Dr. Kevin Kupietz, came to ECSU in 2017 as an Assistant Professor of Emergency Management and is one of the trainers at the facility. Dr. Kupietz shared, “I was an Army brat. My father was in the Army. I ended up joining the Navy. I was born in Ft. McClellan Alabama in Noble Army Hospital. Now the FEMA headquarters training site is there. How ironic. I now train in the hospital I was born in.”

In 2018, he started the CERT Program, (Community Emergency Response Team). Dr. Kupietz said, “CERT is important for many reasons, especially for HBCU’s. There is actually an HBCU Emergency Management Workforce Consortium (EMWC).” The EMWC institution are ECSU, Howard University, Shaw University, the Department of Education, and The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Actually, CERT training is limited in many areas. Natural disasters, primarily weather related, have highlighted the limited emergency response to such events.
It also has become very evident that HBCU graduates do not have a significant presence in emergency management careers. Dr. Kupietz addressed this by saying, “CERT wants to recruit more. The HBCU EMWC wants to educate and train a minimum of 10% of each participating HBCU. The ideal goal is 25% of campus participation that includes students, faculty, and staff, in emergency management. Presently, we have 40 students on the list for CERT at ECSU. Our goal is to get more campus participation as soon as possible.”

CERT students at ECSU are preparing for emergencies, and they have been trained to operate POD and Fork trucks and to perform rope rescue, CPR, and first aid. FEMA recognized that CERT is necessary for communities. Dr. Kupietz stated, “The illusion is that fire and police departments will always be available and respond traditionally during disasters. That’s just not true. CERT helps with manpower shortages during emergencies or disasters. We can teach people to go into the community and foster behavior that builds resilient communities. We can enable and encourage a better quality of life and change outcomes during disasters.”

CERT students have been hard at work during the COVID-19 pandemic. They recognized that improving the quality of life during a pandemic can take place in various ways. Since the pandemic began, CERT has created a YouTube channel offering training modules in basic technology and are sponsoring a virtual child safety fair.

Dr. Kupietz said, “Our students have even reached out to the Red Cross during the pandemic and inquired about how to work better with them virtually. They’ve assisted with local blood drives because they are still necessary. Also, they have approached other campuses to discuss how CERT programs can be started. They are doing a fantastic job.” CERT isn’t only for EMS students. All ECSU students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to participate because CERT helps communities during times of need.

Follow Us At:

Facebook: ECSUEmergencyManagement
YouTube: ECU Emergency Management
"Check the Resume" was originally initiated years ago in 1994-1995. The Music Engineering and Technology/Music Industry Studies program with the support and assistance from the Student Government Association, was able to present a CD project that covered a wide range of styles and tastes in hip-hop and R&B. In 1995, “Check the Resume” Volume One was released with the purpose of raising scholarship money for students interested in pursuing a degree in music engineering or music business administration at ECSU. Those who contributed to the scholarship fund were given a copy of the CD.

In 2020, Professor Stephan Naylor, who is a music professor, assistant band director, and electric bass player of the Viking Soul Band, proposed the live musical performance idea to Clarence Goss, Academic Communications Associate, to create an event that would allow students to showcase their musical talents. The initial idea was based on the National Public Radio (NPR) Tiny Desk live performance series on YouTube. They considered different names which mostly were variations of the “Tiny Desk” name when Goss remembered having a copy of the original “Check the Resume” CD. He proposed to Naylor that they use the name “Check the Resume” to pay homage to the history of the program and continue the legacy that had been lost for decades but with a modern update for delivery. From that moment, “Check the Resume: Live Studio Performance Series” was born.

Professor Naylor enlisted student musicians from various academic programs as well as members of the Marching “Sound of Class” Band. Professor Kelly Ford, sound engineer and digital media instructor, assembled a group of sound engineering students to work the soundboard and audio technicians to handle all of the audio requirements for the event. Juliet Boykins, Director of Bands, served as host. Clarence Goss requested the assistance of Graphic Design, Communications, and Digital Media students to assist with photography, videography, streaming to social media, and a student illustrator to draw the live performers.

On January 30, 2020, “Check the Resume” kicked off its first live studio performance with senior Criminal Justice major, Angenea White, aka “Melenae” with background singers, Jaylen White and Frank Bryan accompanied by the Viking Soul band. On March 4, 2020, there was a second performance by junior, Social Work major and the 85th Miss Elizabeth City State University, Nyasia Luke. At the time, no one knew that would be the last in-person performance of the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The music was silenced but not the passion. On February
26, 2021, “Check the Resumé” returned with new social distancing protocols and safety precautions in place featuring Samayah Ellerbe (Mayah Iman), Frank Bryan (Frank Antney), and Diamond Rawlinson.

“Check the Resumé” has provided an excellent opportunity not only for musicians, vocal artists, and sound engineering students, but also for visual artists, graphic design and digital media students to get a real-world practical learning experience. These students have an opportunity to work behind the scenes with the production of graphics for marketing and promotion, production and broadcast visuals, event photography, videography, lighting, post production editing, social media content creation, and event broadcasting via the Internet. Student illustrators are given an opportunity to showcase their talents as they provide live figure drawings of the performances.

Follow Us At:

ECSU: Check the Resume
checktheresume.ecsu
ecsu.checktheresume
STRATEGIC PLAN
Elizabeth City State University's plan for 2020-2025, Forging Our Future, focuses on how to best utilize our strengths to serve our students in providing access to high-quality, affordable education at North Carolina's premier institution.

ECSU is where leaders are created. Leaders who are courageous, resilient, and empowered. Our strategic plan is built with integrity and compassion, supporting our students, faculty and staff as we develop the innovators, entrepreneurs, pioneers, and creators of tomorrow.

Our 2020-2025 plan was intentionally developed with a vision for our collective future. Our high-quality academic programs align with community demands, meet employer needs, enhance our region and state, and drive economic development to guarantee the future success and sustainability of ECSU.

We live to serve our students. Viking Pride is not just about the institution - it is about the people. People who serve humanity with a passion for life-long learning and strive for excellence as the standard. This plan supports your purpose in life.

We are a proud family, and together, we will continue our legacy of success!

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This newsletter is the beginning of many communications as the Viking ship continues to sail into the future. Faculty members who shared their teaching, research and service endeavors made this edition possible. This volume by no means encompasses all of the student and faculty members’ accomplishments. There is much to report. Thus, we encourage your ongoing participation in future publications.

ACCREDITATIONS
Elizabeth City State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award degrees at the baccalaureate and master's levels.

Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4501 for questions about the accreditation of ECSU.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:
Dr. Sharon Raynor, News Editor
Ms. Brande McCleese, News Editor
Ms. Ella Holley, News Manager
Mr. Clarence Goss, Jr., Media Director
Ms. Courtney Hancock, Digital Media Intern
Ms. Shanese Jones, Graphic Design Intern

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTRIBUTORS:
Pierce Ingram
Jared Picket
Raven Rogers
Dr. Charles Reed

1704 MEDIA PRODUCTIONS
1704 Weeksville Road
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
252.335.2342 | www.ecsu.edu

ECSU is a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina System.