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For more information about research and the Office of Sponsored Programs, Contracts and Grants, go to www.ecsu.edu/osp
Since 1891, Elizabeth City State University has proudly served students from around the country, across the state, and most notably from northeastern North Carolina. ECSU’s commitment to providing access to an intellectually stimulating, high-quality, affordable education in an ideal campus setting will continue to serve as its hallmark.

Consistently, ECSU has earned top rankings in college guides and national publications. Our latest rankings – #1 in Washington Monthly’s Best Baccalaureate Colleges (2015) and #2 in U.S. News and World Report’s (2016) Top Public Schools (Regional Colleges in the South) – are noteworthy accomplishments. Moreover, our recent recognition on the list of the 2017 Military Friendly® Schools and Best Bet for Vets brings deserved attention to ECSU’s keen focus on distinctive approaches to providing college access to a broad community of learners.

With 28 undergraduate degree offerings and four graduate degree programs, flexible study options and research opportunities are limitless. Students’ participation in honor societies, creative endeavors, musical ensembles, CIAA sports, clubs, and student life activities all enhance their personal growth and leadership development. New technology-enhanced learning initiatives also give ECSU students a competitive advantage in the 21st century marketplace.

We invite you to visit our beautiful 222-acre campus. You’ll find that our dedicated faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community partners make ECSU a great university.
Elizabeth City State University has been and is an important academic and research institution and cultural center for northeast North Carolina and the region. A constituent institution of the University of North Carolina system, ECSU is committed to fulfilling our mission of serving as a valuable resource for building the state’s intellectual capital through teaching, research and community outreach.

We are proud of our strong academic programs. ECSU offers twenty-eight baccalaureate degrees and four master’s degrees in ten academic departments: Business & Economics; Dr. Helen M. Caldwell Department of Education, Psychology & Health; Language, Literature & Communication; Mathematics & Computer Science; Dr. Herman G. Cooke Department of Natural Sciences, Pharmacy & Health Professions; Social & Behavioral Sciences; Technology and Visual & Performing Arts. The University has programs that appeal to various interests and fields of study, including the honors program, military science, study abroad and Viking Fellows for education majors.

Our students are exposed to exciting research opportunities that extend their learning beyond textbooks and classrooms. Learning is enhanced by innovative instructional and informational technology. Students may also take advantage of specialized academic support programs. Several of our academic and research initiatives such as the Drug Information Center afford students opportunities for community service.

In this inaugural issue of our ECSU Research Magazine, you will discover our diverse research and student-based initiatives. From aviation to entrepreneurship labs, our faculty are engaged in a broad-array of research activities supported by agencies such as the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, and the National Institute of Justice.
MISSION STATEMENT: Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) offers baccalaureate, professional, and master’s degrees for a diverse student body. Our mission is to promote economic, social, and environmental progress for the people of northeastern North Carolina, the state, and the nation. We achieve our commitment to the highest quality education by maintaining a rigorous focus on academic excellence through liberal arts programs and using innovative and flexible technology-based instruction models to enhance our signature areas: integrating technology with education, improving human health and wellness, and advancing the natural and aviation sciences.

Our Core Goals:

**Accountability** - Being responsible for our actions is part of the ECSU ethos. Administration, faculty, staff and students endeavor to continue to expand on the quality already in existence at the university;

**Diversity** - Diversity of viewpoints, experiences, and backgrounds are critical tools of a quality education in our global marketplace;

**Excellence** - Excellence is the measure for teaching, learning, and service to the university community; and preparing students holistically - the full measure of personal, professional, and social development of our students, faculty, and staff is an integral part of the ECSU philosophy: “to live is to learn.”

Core Competencies:

**STEM Education & Training**

- Natural Sciences, Pharmacy and Health Professions
  - Marine and Coastal Research
  - Synthetic Biology
  - Health Disparities & Minorities Research
  - Cell & Molecular Biology (Animal & Plant)
  - Microbiology
  - Parasitology, Biochemistry, Histology, Enzyme purification
  - Antiviral Studies, Organic & Medicinal Chemistry
  - Micro and Nano-electronics for Harsh Environment Application

- Technology
  - Aviation Science – Human Factors, Air Traffic Management
  - UAS Integration in National Airspace System Testing
  - Computer-aided Design and Computer-aided Engineering
  - Instrumentation, Control, and Data Acquisition Systems
  - Embedded System Design & Sensor Fusion
  - Reverse Engineering and Finite Element Analysis
  - Design Optimization

**Math & Computer Sciences**

- Remote Sensing
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- Mathematical Modeling & Computational Methods

**Past Performance:**

- Fabrication and Characterization of Contacts on Wide Band Gap Semiconductors for High Temperature Applications (NSF)
- Young Faculty Exchange & Student Mentoring in Coastal Hazards & Maritime Environment Security (U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security)

**Accreditations:**

- AACSB - Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business
- ABET - Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology
- CSWE - Council on Social Work Education
- NASM - National Association of Schools of Music
- NCATE - North Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
- NCDPI - North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Southern Association of Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

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ECSU’s Kenya Project Takes Flight Over the African Continent

ECSU received a $956,204 grant from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to research aviation options to help the African nation of Kenya combat illegal poaching in its parks and reserves. The project extends the university’s aviation science reach internationally and helps Kenya in its counter-poaching mission. The project aligns with the Presidential Executive Order on Combating Wildlife Trafficking, issued by President Obama July 1, 2013, that called for upping efforts in the U.S. to increase assistance to foreign nations in building capacity to combat wildlife trafficking. The project is led by Dr. Kuldeep Rawat, director of the aviation science program at ECSU and the project’s principal investigator.

“Kenya has 59 parks and reserves spread over an area of 225,830 square miles – about size of Texas – adequate surveillance on the ground is next to impossible,” said Rawat. ECSU’s project team is working with NIJ and Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) to research a range of aviation options including low cost aircraft and surveillance technologies. The project will be completed in three phases: Needs Assessment, Technology Acquisition, and Operational Evaluation. The project team members Orestes Gooden and Ellis Lawrence traveled to Kenya and met with the KWS staff to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment. Team members carried some small equipment to help upgrade some of the KWS existing planes. “We spoke with wardens and rangers of these parks to get a feel for their mission,” said Gooden. “Exactly which aircraft will be purchased for the project will be determined after the needs assessment phase is complete”, according to Rawat. Acquisition of aircraft and technology will be followed by operational evaluation in Kenya, he said.
New Aviation Science Laboratory Opens

The Unmanned Aerial Systems sector of the laboratory currently houses DJI Phantom Vision 2+, DJI Inspire 1, DragonFlyer X-4, senseFly eXom, senseFly eBee Ag, Robo Flight 70, Aeromapper EV2, and QBall-X4, an aerial vehicle platform for advanced research.

In addition to conducting Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) applications research for private and public partners, the new laboratory supports five new UAS courses within the university’s Aviation Science program. Courses include: Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Systems; UAS and NAS: Laws and Regulations; UAS Sensors and Payload; UAS Lab 1: Design and Construction; and, UAS Lab 2: Applications. The UAS option gives graduates the expertise they need for employment as operators, observers, sensor operators, and operations managers of unmanned aircraft systems. Skills covered in these courses will include flight planning, mission execution, data management and analysis, sensor and payload integration, and an overview of national airspace system restrictions and rules. Students will also be given the chance to build and fly their own aerial vehicle.

“We are also developing UAS-themed outreach programs for middle and high school students in conjunction with the NASA Aerospace Academy program,” said Rawat. Over 600 K-12 northeast North Carolina students will be directly impacted through 40 hours of STEM learning activities available at the AEL sector of the laboratory and many more through year-round informal educational activities.

ECSU aviation major and retired USCG C-130 navigator/former U.S. Navy UAS Mission Pilot, Aron Bechiom, who assisted Rawat adds, “The state-of-the-art lab facility will provide students and professionals with the basic skills and knowledge needed to achieve FAA certification and operate small unmanned aircraft systems safely and effectively in performing civilian missions and commercial operations.”
Working as part of a collaborative effort, Hayden is one of five researchers on a team that received a five year, $15 million grant from the National Science Foundation in July of 2016. The grant established the Science Gateways Community Institute, or SGCI, a multi-institutional group that focuses on expanding the capabilities, number and sustainability of science gateways. The team is based at the San Diego Supercomputer Center at the University of California San Diego.

Science gateways are user-friendly web portals that allow scientists of all levels to access research tools like supercomputers. The portal is designed to make advanced research tools accessible to all users.

According to a press release from UC San Diego, the goal of the Science Gateways Community Institute is, “to increase the number, ease of use and effective application of gateways for the greater research and engineering community, resulting in broader gateway use and more widespread engagement in science by professionals, citizen scientists, students and more.” ECSU, represented by Hayden, joined Indiana University, University of Notre Dame, Purdue University, the Texas Advanced Computer Center at the University of Texas-Austin, and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in this effort. Hayden and ECSU are working on a Workforce Development project, designed to increase the number of gateway developers with a variety of training programs. Through its Center of Excellence in Remote Sensing Education and Research (CERSE), ECSU has also partnered in a trio of National Science Foundation projects related to remote sensing of ice sheets and cyber infrastructure.

The Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets (CReSIS) is a partnership with the University of Kansas as part of a Science and Technology Center (STC) that develops models and technology to achieve a better understanding of the mass balance of polar ice sheets and its impact on the rising sea level observed by glaciologists.

The NSF Polar Grid project is a partnership with Indiana University which acquires and deploys the computing infrastructure needed to investigate the urgent problems in glacial melting. The NSF CI-Team, where ECSU is the lead institution, aggressively engages computer science and engineering students from five minority universities in the Grid, remote sensing, and CReSIS training, seminars, workshops and classes.

The goal of CERSE is to develop and implement innovative and relevant research collaborations focused on ice sheet, coastal, ocean, and marine research. Through CERSE, ECSU was the first Minority Serving Institution (MSI) to house a ~600-node cluster capable of acceptance into the national TeraGrid Project.
Six ECSU students assisted Dr. Jinchun Yuan, a professor in ECSU’s Natural Sciences Department, with his presentation at a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) workshop held March 29-31, 2016 in Washington D.C.

The students included: Ryan Onley, Ashley Larson, Shevon Valenski, Joel Gonzalez-Santiago, Dwayne Ponton, and Shavon Smith. They traveled to the nation’s capital for a workshop that drew 15 minority serving institutions (MSI) which showcased research projects, accomplishments, and curricula that have been developed through the support of the DHS Science and Technology Office of University Programs.

In 2013, Dr. Yuan received a grant from the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of $749,984 to conduct a series of remote sensing projects.

The grant also supported scholarships that benefited several ECSU students majoring in the natural sciences. The grant allows students to complete a minor in GIS Remote Sensing. In exchange for their satisfactory participation in research projects, the students received tuition (in the form of a scholarship and a monthly stipend) to assist them with the cost of attending college.

Dr. Yuan and his students have been tracking particulate organic carbon via satellite in the Gulf of Mexico. Yuan, who has been observing the Gulf of Mexico over a decade, said the satellite indicated enormously high particulate organic carbon after the BP oil spill (2010). Studies like this one permit students to apply lessons learned in GIS Remote Sensing courses to various bodies of water like the Gulf of Mexico.

A second research project that Dr. Yuan oversaw included their study of the early blooming of flowers and trees in northeast North Carolina. Students were trying to determine if those changes are related to El Nino. A third student research project Yuan oversaw explored the distribution of a naturally occurring sea grass, sargassum, in the Atlantic Ocean.

Students also tried to determine if it is affected by El Nino. Participating students are required to have a minimum grade point average of 3.3. The Department of Homeland Security funds remote sensing research projects so students can learn how to use satellite-tracking technology. Yuan’s DHS grant has permitted 16 students to conduct one or more semesters of research since 2012. Some will continue participating in this type of research until 2018.

The Department of Homeland Security hopes to attract students into DHS-related careers in the future. These research projects are exceptional opportunities for undergraduate research in the Department of Natural Sciences.
Student Training Through Research and Mentorship

Originally from Ethiopia, Dr. Eyualem Abebe’s research interest is in the fundamental issues of interdependence of life, life processes and living things and addresses these using nematodes (round worms) as models. He aspires to contribute towards answering questions in relation to species delimitation, impacting factors of species composition such as human disturbance, and interdependence of species. These are relevant to how we can exploit nature to the benefit of humans. Furthermore, Dr. Abebe explores the implementation of effective academic interventions to help disadvantaged college students realize their fullest potential.

Why research on nematodes? Nematodes are largely microscopic and invisible to the naked eye. Dr. Abebe studies them because they are the most numerous organisms on earth — one in five multicellular animals is a nematode, and they are diverse with a conservative estimate of close to a million species — currently known is 30,000. Knowledge on biodiversity and community management and restoration ecology, and nematode communities can serve as indicators of environmental disturbance. Unfortunately, we know very little about free-living nematodes in the US; our understanding of soil and sediment processes at best is largely incomplete. Dr. Abebe is determined to contribute to the field.

Under the supervision and guidance of Dr. Abebe, for 6 years ECSU students have investigated the structure and biodiversity of nematode and microbial communities of various environments locally, such as Lake Phelps, NC, coastal sites in the Outer Banks, and the Elizabeth City Coast Guard Phytoremediation Site. Findings on these sites are essential to our better understanding, and the modeling and management of environmental health. As part of these investigations, in 2013 two ECSU students discovered two nematode species new to science in Lake Phelps, NC. Their discovery of new species and various other findings were disseminated to the scientific community in the form four papers in professional, scientific journals where ECSU students served as the main author or co-authors. One of those two new species was named by ECSU students in honor of the state of North Carolina (Chronogaster caroliniensis). Other findings of ECSU students are in the process of being prepared for dissemination. His current focus is on understanding nematode-bacterial associations.

Recent advances in DNA sequencing, especially the next generation sequencing tools, have allowed Dr. Abebe to overcome problems previously were insurmountable to this kind of research. These methods enable Dr. Abebe detect and identify
the kinds of bacteria that are associated with those individual microscopic nematodes. With this, he investigates if these microscopic animals are selective in their association, either as food or in permanent partnership with microbes and how these associations impact nutrient cycling in nature. As the two groups are most diverse and numerous in sediment, the implication of understanding how the interaction works cannot be overemphasized.

An example of such an association is that of insect-pathogenic nematodes. These nematodes carry deadly bacteria inside their body to kill insects. As a result, they are proven useful in the control of agricultural pest insects. Most intensive agriculture uses chemicals to control pest insects but chemicals tend to affect non-target organisms, including humans. As a result, US EPA continues to ban harmful chemicals. A biological mechanism of control, such as nematodes, would be an ideal alternative. Northeastern North Carolina is literally an unexplored region in terms of these useful nematodes. Dr. Abebe’s research is to find such worms for the eventual benefit of local agriculture.

Since 2012 Dr. Abebe has added a research area of focus — educational disparities and minority student success. His research (Application of Lessons from Model Institutions for Excellence - ALEMIE), supported by the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program at the National Science Foundation, is focused on reducing attrition in gateway STEM courses at ECSU and enhancing retention and ultimately graduation of African American students. Through this educational research project, he implemented at ECSU a set of tested interventions. The results of the implementation of those interventions for 3 years resulted in better in course grade in both gateway and sophomore level courses, a higher GPA, and overall a higher retention.

It was encouraging to see three of those 25 ALEMIE students walk across the podium to receive their degrees on May 13, 2017. Dr. Abebe’s findings point to the general fact that institutions such as ECSU need to provide support, such as that provided by ALEMIE, to students from the beginning preferably through a precollege bridge experience. Dr. Abebe is currently applying for funding to expand support to future ECSU students.

UNC President Margaret Spellings talks to students.

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National Science Foundation (NSF) – “Targeted Infusion Project Grant: Application of Lessons from Model Institutions for Excellence (ALEMIE): A Comprehensive Support for Minority Students at Elizabeth City State University.”
2016-2017 Proposal Submissions

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### 2016-2017 Awards Received

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#### Pie Chart Breakdown
- Department of Education: 73%
- National Science Foundation (NSF): 7%
- Other Federal Agencies: 11%
- Foundations/Private Organizations: 2%
- State and Local Government: 7%
Professor of Aviation Science Orestes Gooden sits in his Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) office surrounded by models and photos of aircraft, tools of his trade. They are a part of Gooden’s efforts for a NASA aviation summer program that brings students from across the state and nation to the northeast North Carolina campus.

ECSU is one of nine sites in the nation chosen by NASA for the Aerospace Academy program. As part of its Minority University Research and Education Program, or MUREP, NASA and ECSU aim to give students the opportunity to experience the many facets of aviation science, learn more about future careers in the sciences, and gain hands-on experience while living on campus or attending one of several day camps throughout the region. The residential camp is for high school students. The day camps are aimed at middle school students. The camps are free and are funded by a $347,000 NASA grant.

Gooden says “the program works in concert with the university’s Aviation Career Education (ACE) program, launched in 2008.” It is a weeklong event that, Gooden says, promotes the college experience in addition to the sciences.

“Students get interested in college life,” says Gooden. “When they see what it is like to live on campus, we’ve had several students enroll in the aviation program.” But more to the point of the camp, students experience aviation science through hands-on projects such as building rockets, says Aviation Science director and Science director and technology Endowed Chair, Dr. Kuldeep Rawat. Rawat points out that while students learn about a variety of science-related subjects while attending
Students also have the opportunity to build robots and compete with them. They go out into the field to conduct research and bring that information back to campus to aid them in their work. And they also have opportunities to work with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), commonly known as drones.

In addition to the residential camp, Rawat says there are several weeklong camps held at regional schools throughout the summer.

Each participating school hosts a camp concentrating on a theme. For example, in Warren County, students had a chance to learn about “A Mission to Mars.” During the camp, the focus of their projects related to aspects of the red planet Mars as well as how people might travel to our celestial neighbor.

“They came up with ways to establish life on Mars,” says Rawat.

The program covers five regional counties in northeastern North Carolina: Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan, Martin and Warren. There are two, weeklong residential camps at ECSU and four, weeklong day camps at four different locations.

*North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) – “2017 Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy Program at ECSU”*
Area Students Get First Look at New ECSU NASA Mobile STEM Lab

On January 31, 2017, students from the Northeast Academy of Aerospace and Advanced Technologies (NEAAAT) joined members of the Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) Aviation Science program as Chancellor Thomas Conway unveiled the ECSU NASA Mobile STEM Lab for the first time.

Measuring 40-feet long, the lab consists of at least 10 stations, each designed to offer students the opportunity to experience cutting edge technology firsthand. The stations cover aviation, technology, robotics, and more.

“This mobile lab is critically important to what we as a university intend to do,” said Chancellor Conway during the unveiling ceremony. “Education should be fun and interactive and that is what we are going to do.”

After Northeast Academy of Aerospace and Advanced Technologies (NEAAT) students had the opportunity to tour the mobile lab, it was driven first to nearby River Road Middle School, and then later to Elizabeth City Middle School. Students at both of these Elizabeth City-area middle schools were able to tour the lab and find out what is in store for them.

Since the mobile science lab was first announced through social media late last year, a number of regional school districts have called ECSU, hoping to schedule a visit from the lab, according to Chancellor Conway.

The mobile lab offers regional schools the opportunity to present science to students who might not otherwise have resources for advanced technology.

Schools are encouraged to contact the university’s Aviation Science Program to schedule a time for a mobile lab visit.

“We are on the road,” said Chancellor Conway. “ECSU is going to be there for you.”

Golden LEAF Foundation ($1.1 Million)
NASA ($347,384)

Golden LEAF Foundation, and NASA – “Strengthening Aviation Education and Workforce Development in Northeastern NC”
Saturday morning is prime time for assembling mobile robots and designing roller coasters. That’s the conclusion area middle and high school students reached when they began working on select math and science projects on February 12, 2016. Over the course of the next three years, they will learn to program robots to perform specified tasks and learn to build rocket prototypes, solar vehicles, and hand-held gliders. The middle school students came from schools in Bertie, Hertford, Pasquotank, Camden and Gates counties to participate in the state Mathematics Science Education Network Program (MSEN). Coordinators of that program partnered with faculty and staff from ECSU’s technology department who are conducting the Saturday math and sciences sessions. NASA’s Minority University Research and Education Program (MUREP), a federally funded, grant-awarding program designed to help faculty at minority institutions assist youths with STEM research activities, is one sponsor for the Saturday sessions. Additional funding comes from the Golden LEAF Foundation, a state foundation that supports projects that provide educational opportunities and increase economic vitality.

On March 12, 2016, ECSU hosted 96 of these local area students in the campus Pharmacy Complex for a morning of assembling and testing robots. Teams of students worked four hours to determine which robots could function properly. All but two teams successfully reached that goal. Dr. Ellis Lawrence, a professor in ECSU’s technology department, Kerry Krauss, a lab technician at ECSU, and Aron Bechiom, an aviation science major, assisted Dr. Kuldeep Rawat in conducting the session.

“The students have responded well to the challenges related to programming and assembling the robots. We are very grateful for the support from our sponsors that will help these students perform well here and in their school math and science courses,” said Rawat, principal investigator and site director for NASA’s Aerospace Academy. “For some students, math and science courses are very challenging. The exercises we complete here on Saturday, give them additional opportunities to excel and best of all to prepare for college courses.”
Summertime on the campus of Elizabeth City State University is deceptively quiet. While the buzz of college students roaming the grounds and halls of the university has quieted, learning and exploring new worlds is happening every day, giving the region’s middle and high school students an opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of Science Technology Engineering and Math, or STEM.

Inside Dixon Hall, in the computer lab, Dr. Ellis Lawrence is directing a group of 12 high school students. This is the annual National Summer Transportation Institute, taking place on campuses across the country.

At ECSU, the institute is giving the region’s rising high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to focus on career awareness in the transportation industry. The students will spend the next four weeks in hands-on activities, as well as guest lectures, and field trips. The program is an initiative of the Federal Highway Administration. It was created to address the needs of the future transportation workforce by advancing well-trained, qualified young men and women toward a STEM career. Students enrolling in this summer program, according to information provided by Dr. Lawrence, must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, have an interest in a technology-related career, provide at least two letters of recommendation, provide standardized test scores, and write an essay explaining why he or she would like to participate in the program.

The program participants are then reviewed by a selection team. And all of this adds up to students who are able to handle what will be a solid Monday-through-Friday curriculum.

The students will begin their day working on engineering problems. Before lunch, they will work on trigonometry challenges, followed by electronics, robotics, and computer programming after lunch. Fridays are set aside for field trips.

Students participating in this year’s program are coming from high schools across the region, including Pasquotank County, Gates County, Camden County, and the Northeast Academy of Advance Aerospace Technology.

North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) - “Fiscal Year 2017 National Summer Transportation Institute” (award amount $55,000)
Elizabeth City State University’s Aviation Program students have the right stuff and they proved that fact at the National Inter-collegiate Flying Association (NIFA) Region-X SAFECON competition, which was held November 2-5, 2016. The ECSU students, led by aviation professor and team coach Orestes Gooden, took third place in the flight competition and fourth place overall.

The competition happened in Franklin, Virginia and included a competitive group of schools including the United States Naval Academy. Trophies, certificates and presentations were awarded to the event’s top performers during a banquet.

Gooden was also recognized for his flying skills when he competed against other coaches. According to Gooden, the ECSU Aviation Team members are excited to have participated. He says they are looking forward to further training and next year’s competition.

“We will train and fly to win, and next year the top trophy will belong to ECSU,” said team member and aviation student Kemarie Jeffers. The NIFA was founded after World War I introduced powered flight to warfare. Young aviators returning from the war continued their college studies but were looking to expand their flight training and experience.

The first competition, according to the NIFA website, took place on May 7, 1920. Nine schools participated and Yale University took first place.

As the only four-year collegiate aviation education program in North Carolina, the mission of the ECSU Aviation Science Program is to provide quality aviation education to a diverse group of students, especially those who have been underrepresented in the aviation and aerospace industries.

The program offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Science with minors in the areas of Aviation Management, Electronics, Aviation Computer Science, Avionics, Public Administration, Flight Education, and Space Science. The aviation degree program is designed to prepare students for the rigorous employment demands of the highly competitive aviation and aerospace industries.
Students Thrive Under Guidance of New Entrepreneur Lab

As Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) Chancellor Thomas Conway, and Department of Business and Economics Chair Dr. Joy Smith were preparing to cut the ribbon celebrating the official opening of the Entrepreneur Lab in Williams Hall, senior business major Natifa Powell was already hard at work, using the tools in the lab to further develop her business plan.

The reception and ribbon cutting for the lab happened on Feb. 4, 2017. The Chancellor, Dr. Smith, staff, faculty, students and community members celebrated the opening of a facility that is designed to encourage and teach entrepreneurship to students such as Powell. And while Powell, 23, says she is using the lab facilities to its full measure, as a student she's been developing her business plan for some time.

“I always had a dream of owning a chain of hair salons,” said Powell, an Elizabeth City native.

But that dream isn't simply limited to hair salons. Since she’s attended ECSU, Powell’s idea has evolved to include a line of what she describes as ethnic clothing, some of which she designs using specialized fabric from African nations such as Ghana.

Working with the resources and skills available to her, and with the guidance of her professors, Powell says she is growing confident in her ability to pursue her dream. It's clear that the ECSU entrepreneur lab was designed for students like Powell.

“ECSU is helping me develop my skills,” she said. “Now in my senior year, I’m finding ways to work my strategies.”

“And that is,” says Dr. Smith, “precisely the function of the entrepreneur lab.”
“This gives them the focus and the mentorship to create their own business plan,” said Dr. Smith.

The lab consists of computer terminals with programs designed to enhance business planning skills, and workstations designed to enhance creativity. During the ribbon cutting ceremony, Powell could be seen working in the creativity station.

And there is guidance from faculty. Dr. Confidence Amadi, a professor of business administration, is overseeing the lab activities. Students such as Powell can seek his guidance as they develop their business strategies.

**“She’s one of my gems,” says Dr. Amadi of Powell.**

Powell’s journey toward entrepreneurship actually began with her parents, who met as students at ECSU. Her mother, Adria Gibbs, actually began a business called The Lion’s Den: The House of Cultural Vibes a number of years ago, and that will be the name of Powell’s venture. With family living in Ghana, and a father who is a native of Jamaica, Powell has the resources to create a multi-cultural business that will provide not only fashion and hair styling, but inspiration to a community she is certain will embrace the business, Elizabeth City.

The experience Powell is gaining as a student, she says, is preparing her for all of the intricacies of running a business. From budgeting and marketing, to leadership skills, Powell says the ECSU Business and Economics department and her studies relating to entrepreneurship, are setting her off on a path that she hopes will begin to see a great deal of progress after she graduates this May.

“By the time I graduate in May, I’ll have a business plan,” says Powell.

And that plan will be developed, in large part, due to the creation of the entrepreneur lab, and the guidance of professors such as Dr. Smith and Dr. Amadi.

**“I’m getting what I need to be an entrepreneur,” Powell said.**
**FACULTY PRESENTATIONS**


**FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**


**GRANTS FUNDED**

- “Exploration of Nematode-bacterial associations” As supplemental fund for a period of one year (National Science Foundation $59,927). September 01, 2016-August 31, 2017

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**DR. ADETAYO VICTOR ADEDEJI**

**FACULTY PRESENTATIONS**


**FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**


**GRANTS FUNDED**

- Acquisition of Instruments to Develop and Characterize Patterned Micron-Sizes Thermochromic Vanadium Dioxide to Study the Size and Edge Effect on Semiconductor-to-Metal Transition Characteristics ($311,430.00)

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**DR. DOLAPLO ADEDEJI**

**FACULTY PRESENTATIONS**

- Brittney Hinton, Dolapo Adedeji, Gloria Payne: “In vitro Antiproliferative Analysis of Metformin Hydrochloride in Androgen-sensitive (LNCaP) And Androgen-insensitive (PC-3) Human Prostate Cancer Cell Lines”. Poster presentation at the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET). April 22-26, 2017. Chicago, IL

**FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**

- Brittney Hinton, Dolapo Adedeji, Gloria Payne: “In vitro Antiproliferative Analysis of Metformin Hydrochloride in Androgen-sensitive (LNCaP) And Androgen-insensitive (PC-3) Human Prostate Cancer Cell Lines”. Poster presentation at the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET). April 22-26, 2017. Chicago, IL

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**DR. HIRENDRANATH BANERJEE**

**FACULTY PRESENTATIONS**

- Effects of MicroRNA 146a and Let7c in Tumor Microenvironment”, European Cancer Congress, Lisbon, Portugal (July 17-19, 2017)

- “Role of Noncoding RNAs in Prostate Cancer”, 10th Global Annual Oncologists Meeting, July 11-13, 2016, Cologne, Germany

**FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**


**GRANTS FUNDED**

- Dr. Kuldeep Rawat and Dr. H. Banerjee – Expanding Aerospace Education (North Carolina Space Grant) Expanding Aerospace Education ($10,000)

- E-MARC ECSU Minority Access to Research Careers U*STAR (NIH $244,000), 2016

- Expanding Aerospace Education ($10,000)

- Dr. Kuldeep Rawat - Expanding Aeronautical Education (North Carolina Space Grant) ($311,430.00) – The following individuals provided some assistance with technical aspects: Dr. Kuldeep Rawat, Dr. Jinchun Yuan, Dr. S. Khan

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**DR. HARRY BASS**

**Professor, Natural Sciences (Biology)**

**GRANTS FUNDED**

- Dr. Gloria Payne (PI) and Dr. Harry Bass (Co-PI) – Digitalization of Plantarium (Department of Defense, $597,283) – The following individuals provided some assistance with technical aspects: Dr. Kuldeep Rawat, Dr. Jinchun Yuan, Dr. S. Khan
DR. RONALD BLACKMAN  
Senior Research Professor, Natural Sciences (Biology)  

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS  

GRANTS FUNDED  
- Dr. R. Blackman and Dr. G. Harmon are co-PIs; MSEIP grant (Using Synthetic Biology to Enhance Minority Student Achievement in Science and Technology—$711,645) (U.S. Dept. of Education, continuation)  

DR. ANTHONY U. EMEKALAM  
Associate Professor, Natural Sciences (Pharmacy)  

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS  
- “I am my family community health support” Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy 10th Anniversary Health Disparities Conference March 16–17, 2017 New Orleans, Louisiana  

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS  

DR. GARY HARMON  
Professor, Natural Sciences (Biology)  

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS  

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS  

GRANTS FUNDED  
- Dr. R. Blackman and Dr. G. Harmon are co-PIs; MSEIP grant (Using Synthetic Biology to Enhance Minority Student Achievement in Science and Technology—$711,645) (U.S. Dept. of Education, continuation)  

DR. ALI KHAN  
Professor, Natural Sciences (Pharmacy)  

GRANTS FUNDED  
- Dr. Gloria Payne (PI) and Dr. Ali Khan (Co-PI) - The VESTEM Innovation and Collaboration (VESTEMic) Model (NSF, $350,000)  

GRANTS FUNDED  
- Dr. Gloria Payne (PI) and Dr. Ali Khan (Co-PI) - The VESTEM Innovation and Collaboration (VESTEMic) Model (NSF, $350,000)  
- Dr. Gloria Payne (PI) and Dr. Harry Bass (Co-PI) – Digitalization of Planetarium (Department of Defense, $597,283) –  

DR. JEFFREY ROUSCH  
Professor, Natural Sciences (Biology)  

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS  

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS  

DR. MARGARET YOUNG  
Associate Professor, Natural Sciences (Biology)  

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS  
- Dr. Margaret Young - Moderator – Interactive Poster Session “Metabolic engineering”. SIVB National Conference, Raleigh, NC. June 13, 2017  
- C. Herricks and Dr. Margaret Young (2017). Student Poster Presentation: “Tissue culture of the kenaf (Hibiscus cannabinus) cultivar Whitten”. ECSU Undergraduate Research Week, April 2017  

DR. TESFAYE SERBESSA  
Associate Professor, Natural Sciences (Chemistry)  

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS  
- “Graduate Research Preparation Fellowship Program”, Twenty-fourth International Conference on Learning, Raleigh, NC  

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS  

DR. JINCHUN YUAN  
Professor, Natural Sciences (Biology)  

GRANTS FUNDED  
- “An integrated and Holistic environmental and ecological assessment of the Gulf Stream current environment off the coast of Cape Hatteras, NC.” UNC Coastal Studies Institute, $6,302.00.  
- Dr. Yuan, Dr. Hasan and Dr. Anderson, “Young Faculty Exchange and Student Mentoring in Coastal Hazards and Maritime Environment Security at ECSU” received $1,499,984 from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) (Continuation Award)  

GRANTS FUNDED  
- “An integrated and Holistic environmental and ecological assessment of the Gulf Stream current environment off the coast of Cape Hatteras, NC.” UNC Coastal Studies Institute, $6,302.00.  
- Dr. Yuan, Dr. Hasan and Dr. Anderson, “Young Faculty Exchange and Student Mentoring in Coastal Hazards and Maritime Environment Security at ECSU” received $1,499,984 from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) (Continuation Award)
FACULTY PRESENTATIONS


GRANTS FUNDED


FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

- Co-authored “Mobile Aerospace Education Lab (m-AEL): A NASA Supported K-12 Roadshow-In-A-Box” Initiative To Advance Aviation/Aerospace Education In Underserved Counties was accepted by the American Society For Engineering Education (ASEE)

GRANTS FUNDED

- Co-Investigator for NASA MUREP Aerospace Academy of North Carolina Grant ($347,000)
- Co-investigator for DOJ/NIJ Cost Effective Aviation Technologies and Research to Support Counter-Poaching Operations and Rural Law Enforcement Grant ($956,204)

Ms. ROBIN MANGHAM
Lecturer, Technology, (Aviation Science)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS


GRANTS FUNDED

- Expand Aerospace Science Education in Northeastern NC (EASENNC), North Carolina Grant Affiliate Program – NASA/NC Space Grant Consortium Funding, (PI), Funded Award: $10,000 (2016-2017).
- National Summer Transport Institute at ECSU (Co-PD), Source: Federal Highway Administration/NC Department of Transportation (NC DOT), Funded Award: $55,000 (Summer 2017).
- Aviation Career Education Academy (PI), Source: FAA/NC Division of Aviation, Funded Award: $6,000 (Summer 2017).

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


GRANTS FUNDED

- Expand Aerospace Science Education in Northeastern NC (EASENNC), North Carolina Grant Affiliate Program – NASA/NC Space Grant Consortium Funding, (PI), Funded Award: $10,000 (2016-2017).
- National Summer Transport Institute at ECSU (Co-PD), Source: Federal Highway Administration/NC Department of Transportation (NC DOT), Funded Award: $55,000 (Summer 2017).
- Aviation Career Education Academy (PI), Source: FAA/NC Division of Aviation, Funded Award: $6,000 (Summer 2017).
DR. LIN CHEN
Assistant Professor, Mathematics & Computer Science
(Computer Science)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
• “Optimized Machine Learning for Human Agent Teaming”. At the Army Research Laboratories (August 5, 2017) and Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) and Army Research Laboratories, Summer Faculty Research Fellowship.

DR. MALCOLM DCOSTA
Professor, Mathematics & Computer Science
(Computer Science)

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

DR. LINDA HAYDEN
Professor, Mathematics & Computer Science (Mathematics)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
• Mentoring the Next Generation of Science Gateway Developers and Users May 13-24, 2017, Athens, Greece.
• 11th International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment, Kampala, Uganda.

GRANTS FUNDED
• REU Site: Science Gateways Research Experience for Undergraduates (SG-REU), National Science Foundation, Amount: $479,964.

DR. ANTONIO ROOK
Lecturer, Mathematics & Computer Science
(Computer Science)

GRANTS FUNDED
• ECSU NC-MSEN NSTI-Middle School, FHWA, Amount: $52,193

DR. DIPENDRA SENGUPTA
Professor, Mathematics & Computer Science (Mathematics)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
• 2016 Application of Graph Entropy in CRISPR and Repeats Detection in DNA Sequences. Computational Molecular Bioscience, 6, 41-51.
• 2016 “Prime Difference Champion” Arxiv.

Department of Education, Psychology & Health

DR. KIMBERLY FITCHETT-BAZEMORE
Associate Professor, Education, Psychology & Health
(Special Education)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

GRANTS FUNDED
• $5,000 grant from the Appalachian State Energy Summit for Reflection/Zen Zone Development to create natural areas that will facilitate relaxation, encourage students to be outside, and to generally beautify the campus.

• Grant Writing & Research Collaboration 2017

Appalachian State Energy Summit grant funded ($5,000)
• Included as Project Evaluator on two grants submitted by Dr. Mackey (PI)
• Included as Project Evaluator on the E-MARC grant renewal by Dr. Banerjee (PI)

DR. KACEY DIGIACINTO
Associate Professor, Education, Psychology & Health
(Kinesiology)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

• DiGiacinto, K., & Hersman, B. (2016). Don’t be afraid of ICT: Modeling effective technology use for best practice. AIESEP International Conference in Laramie, WY.

GRANTS FUNDED
• REU Site: Science Gateways Research Experience for Undergraduates (SG-REU), National Science Foundation, Amount: $479,964.

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DIGIACINTO (continued)


Distinguished Service


DR. GERALDINE HILL
Assistant Professor, Education, Psychology & Health (Education)

Grants Funded

• “IGNITE Next Generation of New Teachers” Proposal Sponsor: Kellogg Foundation, Total Funds Requested: $300,000, Dr. G. Williams, Principal Investigator Dr. G. Hill Co-Principal Investigator & Dr. J. Brown Co-Principal Investigator.

DR. BOUNG KANG
Assistant Professor, Education, Psychology & Health (Kinesiology)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS


FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


DR. Gwendolyn Williams
Distinguished Professor, Education, Psychology & Health (Education)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS


• Graduation Keynote Address to Students of North East Academy, Aerospace, Advanced Technologies.

• Growing the 2 + 2 Partnership to Promote Home Grown Teachers – Presentation to Districts and Partners-Halifax County, May 2017.

• Reading and Writing One Week Professional Development Institute, 3 hour Professional Development Summer 2017

• “Harnessing the Power of the Research Agenda” In celebration of the 125th Anniversary in Scholarly Dialogues

• Framing the Collaboration with Department of Education, Psychology and Health @ ECSU, Presentation to Rotary Foundation, March 2017.

• Project Based Learning- An Investigative Way of Teaching and Learning- Presentation to New Faculty, On Boarding Series, Elizabeth City State University April 2017.

• Building Strong Partnerships with the Northeastern North Carolina’s 21 Counties—Presentation to Area Superintendents—The Pines, Elizabeth City, NC, October 2016.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


• Scholarly Publication Boards

• Editorial Advisory Board- Navigating Micro Aggressions Toward Women in Higher Education- IGI Global.

Grants Funded

• Northeast Academy for Aerospace and Advanced Technologies Get REAL: Reinventing Education to Accelerate Learning ($200,000)

• Project Based Learning Proposal Sponsor: Golden Leaf, Total Funds Requested: $200,000; A. Harris, Principal Investigator, G. Williams Co-Principal Investigator

• “IGNITE Next Generation of New Teachers” Proposal Sponsor: Kellogg Foundation, Dr. G. Williams, Principal Investigator Dr. G. Hill Co-Principal Investigator & Dr. J. Brown Co-Principal Investigator

• Strengthening the Teacher Education Program (SAFRA) $136,145
• Ehringhaus backed sales tax to fund schools during the 1978 Vikings-Rams football game was aired on ABC.
• Franklin wrote and lived history during Civil Rights Movement. Topic—“Modeling Occupational Status Using Affect Control Theory.”
• Minister was unsung hero of civil rights movement. Topic—“Modeling Occupational Status Using Affect Control Theory.”

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

• College president began career at Elizabeth City State. Daily Advance, July 10, 2016.
• College president passed through EC State. Daily Advance, July 17, 2016.
• Graduate Center named after education supporter. July 31, 2016.
• Daniels was closest thing ECSU had to a professional lobbyist. Daily Advance, August 7, 2016.
• Holley helped ECSU adjust to rapid change from desegregation, August 14, 2016.
• Witherspoon known as peacemaker on Pasquotank desegregation. August 14, 2016.
• Jones among most prominent doctors of his time. Daily Advance, September 11, 2016.
• Football stadium named after EC State dean. Daily Advance, September 18, 2016.
• 1978 Vikings-Rams football game was aired on ABC. Daily Advance, September 25, 2016.
• Franklin wrote and lived history during Civil Rights Movement. Daily Advance, October 2, 2016.
• Ehringhaus backed sales tax to fund schools during Great Depression. October 9, 2016.


Dr. Melissa Stuckey
Assistant Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences (History)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS


Mr. Waverly Tillar
Lecturer, Social and Behavioral Sciences

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

NC HOUSE BILL 2, -LBGTQ- Panel Discussion—“Time To Think Differently”

Dr. Jingbin Wang
Associate Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS


Dr. Confidence W. Amadi
Professor, Business & Economics

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


Dr. W. Lin
Professor, Business & Economics

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


Dr. Kingsley Nwala
Professor, Business & Economics

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS


Dr. Ebere Oriaku
Professor, Business & Economics

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


Dr. Ngozi Oriaku
Professor, Business & Economics

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Oriaku, N. and Oriaku, E. 2016. The relationship

DR. JOY TURNHEIM SMITH
Professor, Chairperson, Business and Economics

GRANTS FUNDED
(7/1/16-6/30/17)

- Smith, J. BUAD 360. UNC Course Redevelopment Grant (part of larger submission). Funding sought: $2500 BUAD 360.

DR. KUNGPO TAOK Assistant Professor, Business & Economics

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

GRANTS FUNDED


FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS
- "A Sneak Peek into College Writing: Conducting a Plagiarism Workshop for High School Students." Crosspoint: A Journal of Transitions for High School & College Writing Teachers, 2.1 (2016); co-authored with Abigail Scheg.
- "Theoretical Examination of Toni Cade Bambara’s "The Lesson."" Global Journal of English Language and Literature, 4.2 (2016).

DR. XIALOI YUAN
Professor, Business & Economics

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
- "A Sneak Peek into College Writing: Conducting a Plagiarism Workshop for High School Students." Crosspoint: A Journal of Transitions for High School & College Writing Teachers, 2.1 (2016); co-authored with Abigail Scheg.
- "Theoretical Examination of Toni Cade Bambara’s "The Lesson."" Global Journal of English Language and Literature, 4.2 (2016).

DR. MARY-LYNN CHAMBERS
Associate Professor/Interim Director of International Studies, Language, Literature & Communication

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
  - "Honore de Balzac;" "Ernest Hemingway;""S.Y. Agnon;" "Roberto Bolano;""Leonora Carrington;” "Emma Donoghue;” "Anton Chekhov;" "William H. Gass;" "Elie Wiesel;" "Adam Mickiewicz"

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH
- "A Sneak Peek into College Writing: Conducting a Plagiarism Workshop for High School Students." Crosspoint: A Journal of Transitions for High School & College Writing Teachers, 2.1 (2016); co-authored with Abigail Scheg.
- "Theoretical Examination of Toni Cade Bambara’s "The Lesson."" Global Journal of English Language and Literature, 4.2 (2016).

MR. ROBERT CHAMBERS
Adjunct, Language, Literature and Communication

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS
- "A Sneak Peek into College Writing: Conducting a Plagiarism Workshop for High School Students." Crosspoint: A Journal of Transitions for High School & College Writing Teachers, 2.1 (2016); co-authored with Abigail Scheg.
- "Theoretical Examination of Toni Cade Bambara’s "The Lesson."" Global Journal of English Language and Literature, 4.2 (2016).

DR. MICHAEL JASPER
Associate Professor, Language, Literature, & Communication

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH
  - "Honore de Balzac;" "Ernest Hemingway;""S.Y. Agnon;" "Roberto Bolano;""Leonora Carrington;” "Emma Donoghue;” "Anton Chekhov;" "William H. Gass;" "Elie Wiesel;" "Adam Mickiewicz"

GRANTS FUNDED
- Dr. Michael and Dr. Amber Stamper, "Course Redesign Grant" (UNC-SA, $10,500)
- Dr. Michael Jasper and Dr. Amber Stamper, "National Shooting Sports Foundation Student Activity Grant (National Shooting Sports Foundation, $10,300)
Department of Language, Literature & Communication (continued)

DR. DR. KENNETH ELVIS JONES
Hugh-Cale Distinguished Professor, Language, Literature, &
Communication

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

• Unpublished: “College Women’s Attitudes about

Imprisoned Women in Orange is the New Black and

Real Life Women Prison Inmates,” (2017) with student,

Brandi Gray, Elizabeth City State University.

OTHER

• Led Honors Program debate team to fourth place finish

and “Best Affirmative Research” award at the National

African American Honors Programs (NAAAHP)

Conference, November 2016.

• Led quiz bowl team to second place finish in 10-team

Honda Campus All-Star Challenge National Qualifying

Tournament at Virginia Union University, Richmond, VA,


• Led quiz bowl team to a top-20 finish at the Honda

Campus All-Star Challenge National Championship

Tournament in Los Angeles, CA, April 2017.

Ms. JENNA MILLER
Lecturer, Language, Literature, & Communication (English)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

• Council of Writing Program Administrators (CWPA) 2016

Conference – “From Quality Enhancement Plan to First

Year Writing Program: Using Assessment to Re-Envision

Freshman Composition Courses and Writing Center

Support” – July 16, 2016

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

• “A New Era: African Americans in Alabama 1970-


Vann Newkirk. Tuscaloosa, AL: U of Alabama P.

Forthcoming.

• “Evangelical Communities Reborn: LifeChurch.tv,

Rhetorical Space, and the Impact of Persuasive

Communities Online.” Journal of Religion, Media and


• “Antagonism on YouTube: Metaphor in Online

Discourse.” Journal of Religion, Media and Digital

Culture. 5.1(2016): 271-274.

• “The Graven Images of Social Media: A Visual

Rhetorical Approach.” Christian Research Journal

39.2(2016).

• “An Ethic of Instagram.” Christian Research Journal

(2016).

• “When the Day is Honed and All is Bright’: A Review

of Steve Scifidi’s The Cabinetmaker’s Window:” 32

Poems. 2016. Editor/Literary Advisor, Short Story

Criticism Series, Layman Poupard Publishers, Gale

Research:

• “Auguste Villiers”; “George Robert Gissing”; “Alberto

Gerchunoff”; “Ann Beattie”; “Angela Carter”; “Dhania

Lahiri”; “D. H. Lawrence – The Virgin and the Gipsy”;

“Thomas Hardy – Wessex Tales”; “Thomas Hardy –

Three Strangers”; “Shirley Jackson – The Lottery”;

“Albert Camus, “Donald Barthelme”; “Margaret

Atwood.”

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

• ECSU HBCU Master’s Degree Program, U.s. Department

of Education, $2.5 M

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

• Elizabeth City State University Research Week – “The

Beauty of Language, Literature, and Communication” –

“The Poems” – April 14, 2016.

DR. AMBER STAMPER
Associate Professor, Language, Literature, & Communication
(English)

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

• Co-producer, The Silence of War. Documentary Film

Program, Wake Forest University.

www.thesilenceofwar.org (enhanced eBook with

embedded short documentary films), September 2016.

• ECSU HBCU Master’s Degree Program, U.s. Department

of Education, $2.5 M

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

• Elizabeth City State University – “Advising Bootcamp” –

September 12, 2017.

DR. ERIC WEIL
Associate Professor, Language, Literature & Communication
(English)

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

One-Act Plays Produced:

• “Welcome to Afterlife,” Playwrights Round Table,

Orlando, FL, January, 2017

• “A Match Made In . . .”, Valencia Community College,

Orlando, FL, April, 2017

One-Act Play Accepted for Production:

• “Chicken or Meatloaf,” Cone Man Running Theatre,

Houston, TX. Forthcoming, Nov. 2017

Poems Published:

• “Girl Escapes Kidnapers, Credits Prayer,” Kakalak, 2016.

Blind-judged annual anthology of NC and SC poetry and

photography.


• “Memory’s Postcard,” Pinesong, 2017. Second place,

Hayman Poetry of Love Award.

• “moonlit nut hulls,” Pinesong, 2017. Second place,

Bloodroot haiku Award.

• “When to Lift the Eye,” Pinesong, 2017. Third place,

Poetry of Courage Award.

• The Pinesong publications are blind-judged contests

sponsored by the North Carolina Poetry Society.

Public Poetry Readings:

• Page After Page Bookstore, Elizabeth City, April, 2017.

National Poetry Month program.


Awards program for the North Carolina Poetry Society.

• The Third Place, Charlotte, NC, September, 2017. Invited

featured poet at monthly reading.
MRS. JULIET BOYKINS
Visiting Lecturer/Director of Bands, Visual and Performing Arts (Music)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

MR. CLARENCE GOSS, JR.
Assistant Professor, Visual and Performing Arts (Graphic Design)

GRANTS FUNDED
- Mr. Clarence Goss – NC Problem Gambling Program, Fall 2016-Spring 2017 ($5,000).

MR. DOUGLAS JACKSON
Assistant Professor, Visual and Performing Arts (Music)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

DR. GLORIA KNOTH
Professor, Visual and Performing Arts (Music)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
- Dr. Gloria Knight (Moderator) – “Surviving in the World of STEM,” Region 7, Presenters: Dr. Tayloe Harding, Dr. John Kieser, Dr. Wentzcraft-Ornellas, Facilitator: Dr. John Henry, National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Annual Conference. Dallas Texas, (November 21, 2016).

DR. CHRISTOPHER PALESTRANT
Professor, Visual and Performing Arts (Music)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
- “State of the Art,” Rotary of Elizabeth City, August 29, 2016.
- “Science of Sound.” Science Café series, Port Discover, Elizabeth City, October 12, 2016.
- Early Baroque Music and Instrumentation,” for performance by Tempesta di Mare, Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, November 14, 2016.
- “Broadway: 100 Years in 100 Minutes,” Evenings at Saint Patrick Series, Norfolk, February 09 2017.
- “Structure of the Blues,” as part of the program Symphonic Blues, ECSU, May 01, 2017.
- “The Blues Had a Baby” combined 6-8th grade students, Saint Patrick School, May 11, 2017.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS/SCHOLARLY CREATIVE WORKS
- (Original composition), Between the Stoney Points for String Quartet, and related research to Related background research of American 18th century Colonial and 19th century Appalachian folk music.
- (Original Composition) Performances of The Tidewater March
- Four performances by 52-piece professional concert band. Freedom Forever
- Norfolk Collegiate Hackney Theater, Norfolk, VA, July 10, 2016
- Great Bridge Baptist Church, Chesapeake, VA, July 11, 2016
- Spring Branch Community Church, Virginia Beach, VA, July 12, 2016
- The 24th St. Stage, 24th Street and Atlantic, Virginia Beach oceanfront, July 13, 2016

ENSEMBLES/PERFORMANCES/ADJUDICATIONS
- Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus
- Chrysler Hall, Norfolk, VA–Borodin: Polivitsian Dances, September 24, 2016
- Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia Beach–Borodin: Polivitsian Dances, September 25, 2016
- Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia Beach, VA–The Music of Harry Potter, October 29, 2016
- “Uphill” (four-piece blues band. 16, avg. 3 hours on keyboards, organ, vocals)
- with the ECSU-Albemarle Symphony Orchestra, Elizabeth City, NC, May 5, 2017

DR. WALTER SWAN
Associate Professor, Visual and Performing Arts (Music)

ENSEMBLES/PERFORMANCES/ADJUDICATIONS
- Dr. Walter Swan (Performing)
- Virginia Opera Chorus – 38 performances, 2016-2017
- Chorus for Handel’s Messiah, Hampton, VA, December 2016
- Soloist at Shaw University’s Benefit Concert in Raleigh, NC, 2016

MR. JEFFREY WHELAN
Associate Professor, Visual and Performing Arts (Graphic Design)

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS
- “Foundation Pedagogy for Social Awareness: Change by Design,” College Art Association Annual Convention, New York City, February 2017

Department of Visual & Performing Arts
Faculty Accomplishments
ECSU Research Magazine FALL 2017

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HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

FOUNDING
On March 3, 1891, Hugh Cale, an African-American representative in the N.C. General Assembly from Pasquotank County, sponsored House Bill 383, which established a normal (teaching) school for “teaching and training teachers of the colored race to teach in the common schools of North Carolina.” The bill passed, and Elizabeth City State University was born.

TODAY
Academics. Currently, ECSU offers 24 baccalaureate degree programs through its ten departments in arts and sciences, selected professional and pre-professional areas, and four master’s degree programs in Biology, Elementary Education, Mathematics, and School Administration. As of May 2013, undergraduate and/or graduate degrees have been conferred upon more than 20,000 students.

Rankings. Over the years, the university fared well among publications that rank institutions. ECSU has earned national acclaim for its advancements: In 2007, Diverse Issues in Higher Education ranked ECSU #1 among Historically Black Colleges and Universities for its black male student-athlete graduation rate. Between 1999 and 2015, ECSU repeatedly earned national acclaim in U.S. News and World Report magazine’s ranking of best colleges in the south. The U.S. News and World Report 2016 edition of Best Colleges ranked ECSU #2 in the category of Top Public Schools (Regional Colleges in the South) and #18 among Historically Black Colleges and Universities. For the fourth consecutive year, Washington Monthly ranked ECSU #1 among baccalaureate colleges (2012-2015). ECSU was also named on the 2015 and 2016 Military Friendly® Schools lists. The Military Times has also ranked ECSU 17th in the nation for Best Bet for Vets among 175 universities. In 2016, ECSU was ranked #20 according to BestColleges.com, for the best HBCUs in the country. Also, Money magazine in cooperation with Essence ranked Elizabeth City State University as one of the top 15 HBCUs in the nation, and one of the top 50 best universities for African-American students.

The Campus. Since 2003, ECSU has built a Physical Education/Field House, University Suites, the Walter N. and Henrietta B. Ridley Student Complex, Viking Village, and Viking Tower. In 2010, the Pharmacy Complex opened, and the Willie and Jacqueline Gilchrist Education and Psychology Complex was completed in 2011.

In January 2016, Dr. Thomas E.H. Conway became Elizabeth City State University’s 11th chief executive officer and sixth chancellor. He was officially installed during a ceremony March 10, 2017.
History
From a normal school of teachers in 1891 to joining the University of North Carolina system in 1971, ECSU is a place where the smartest minds from all over the country come together to discover, learn and cultivate the foundations of their future.

Today
Currently, ECSU offers 28 baccalaureate degree programs through its ten departments in arts and sciences, selected professional and pre-professional areas and, four master’s degree programs in Biology, Elementary Education, Mathematics, and School Administration. As of May 2013, undergraduate and/or graduate degrees have been conferred upon more than 20,000 students.