ECSU Ranked Second Among Top Public Baccalaureate Colleges In The South
11th Among Historically Black Colleges and Universities
GREETINGS FROM THE CHANCELLOR

DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS:

It is with great enthusiasm that we bring to you the fall 2009 edition of the ECSU Magazine. As a proud alumus, I have enjoyed reading this wonderful publication and I am certain you will as well. As Chancellor, I am proud to keep you informed of the many exciting programs, activities, accomplishments and new projects at our university.

As you move through each page of the magazine, I am confident you will agree we have some extraordinary individuals who comprise our campus family. Thanks to the dedicated faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of the university, ECSU ranked 2nd among top public baccalaureate colleges in the south and 11th among historically black colleges and universities in 2009. Other exciting stories include our Board of Trustees, “award winning” faculty and staff members, student accomplishments, and athletic championship titles.

I am always impressed with the quality of alumni who have committed themselves to supporting the university. As well, we are happy to highlight alumni accomplishments, news and events. Talk about Viking Pride!

I applaud and thank each of you for your continued service to the university. As we move forward with renewed enthusiasm and energy, let us pledge to work together toward a better future for our students and ECSU.

Best wishes and I hope you enjoy the magazine!

Dr. Willie J. Gilchrist
Chancellor
Course Helps Students Reach Their Goals

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To submit information for the ECSU Magazine, e-mail, fax, or send drafted articles to the address listed below; or call the office at 252.335.3594. All items submitted will be edited.

Elizabeth City State University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability.

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Cover photo by Varick Taylor ’99
DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

On behalf of the Trustees of Elizabeth City State University, it is my distinct pleasure to greet you and to show our gratitude for the support all of you provide to our illustrious University. Over the years you have shown our communities throughout northeastern North Carolina and points beyond your commitment to higher education and the welfare of the state and nation. We want you to know how grateful we are.

Throughout its history, Elizabeth City State University has held steady in accomplishing its mission of providing quality education to a myriad of promising students. Events such as the Founders Day Scholarship Gala assist in providing these promising students opportunities that they would not otherwise have. All who have contributed to this function, in essence, contribute to the development of leaders of our society for years to come. We commend you.

I take this opportunity to applaud the faculty, staff and administrators, who have meticulously used the resources of our state and nation to provide services to our students and to improve humankind for the betterment of all of us. Tirelessly, they give of themselves daily as they prepare our students for the future. We want them to know that their work is valued by all of us.

Again, greetings, and I wish for you all the good things that life has to offer.

Sincerely,

Harold E. Mitchell
Chairman

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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President (Not pictured)
The students in Dr. Lloyd W. Mitchell’s class are serious about personal change – 2,000 pounds worth to be exact.

During the last three years, nearly 600 students who have enrolled in his Health Concepts class at Elizabeth City State University have dropped a collective ton of weight. By year’s end, he expects the figure to top 2,400 pounds.

“I’m very, very pleased with that weight loss,” said Dr. Mitchell, an assistant professor of health and physical education. “But I’m also pleased with other aspects of the class – like leadership and self control.”

Indeed, Dr. Mitchell insists the two credit-hour course is not about weight loss, although that is one of the most visible results. It is about setting goals in each of eight different areas of health — physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, financial, environmental, community and professional/cultural health — and moving toward them. He hopes the resulting lessons in behavior modification and health will stick with the students long after they have left his class.

“The goal is for every student to take control of their life,” Dr. Mitchell explained. “I want them to know that all of the things that bombard them every day – including their feelings, their thoughts, their fears, food, friends, stress – they have to command that. They have to take control. They are in the driver’s seat, and if they do that, they will be happier and healthier.”

For each goal chosen, a student must set at least two objectives outlining actions on how to achieve the goal.

“The objectives must be measurable and quantitative so that the students can put it into a chart or graph,” said Dr. Mitchell, who holds advanced degrees in public health, cultural geology and space studies.

At the end of the 12 week course, the chart will clearly show progress – or lack of it – toward meeting the objective, and ultimately, the goal. For example, students who set a physical health goal of reducing their weight may set objectives of exercising three times a week and of limiting their consumption of fried foods to once a week. They must chart their workout days and times and fried food consumption, and document their efforts by photos and other means.

Weldresha April Davenport never thought a professor and a class would have as much impact on her daily life as did Dr. Mitchell and the Health Concepts class.

The 25-year-old sophomore and Elizabeth City transplant from Mount Vernon, N.Y., said she had tried many times in the past to lose weight without success, but in Health Concepts, “it made me evaluate myself and evaluate everything around me. It made me realize that the things around me were affecting me,” she said.

A family history taken for the class turned up members with diabetes, high blood pressure and cancer, Davenport said. As a result, she set goals to improve her physical and emotional health. The outcome: She shed eight pounds during the course of the class. Both have gone a long way toward improving her physical and emotional health.

That was in Spring 2009. Since then, she has continued her objectives of walking 45 minutes to an hour four times weekly and eating nothing containing high fructose corn syrup, including sodas, candy and certain seasonings. She has dropped a total of 26 pounds.

“Dr. Mitchell and the class have inspired me,” said Davenport. “My sister and a friend now walk with me when I walk in my neighborhood.”

She said what made this effort to lose weight different from those in the past was Dr. Mitchell.

“I tell people that I had somebody who was there backing me up, supporting me,” she said.

She recalled that she earned a “B” in the class. Dr. Mitchell said students’ grades are not dependent on how much weight they ultimately shed, but whether they are making demonstrable progress toward their goals.

“I am more concerned about whether they have taken control by engaging in behaviors that allow them to move toward the goal,” he said. “It’s challenging, but when the results come in, they are really pleased.”

While the average weight loss has been two to three pounds during the run of the class, one student continued with his physical health goal and lost a whopping 40 pounds during the school year. Over 200 students enrolled in the fall semester course. Every student in the course has improved in one of the eight health concept categories.

“After taking this course, students realize they can take control over several aspects of their lives and create a healthy future for themselves and their families,” Mitchell said.
“Visual Semonettes”
Symbolism Through Sculpture

Alexis Joyner is ever mindful of the power of the image.

A sculptor and chairman of the Art Department at Elizabeth City State University, Joyner has produced hundreds of pieces – mostly in wood – during his more than 30-year career as a professional artist. Ranging in height from 1½ to 7 feet, his works are dramatic and inspiring.

“I call them little visual sermonettes,” he said, “because each has a different message.” Those messages – of hope, perseverance and overcoming great obstacles – speak not only to the African-American experience, but to universal themes that touch all of humanity.

“From the Rain,” the signature piece in a recent exhibition of Joyner’s sculpture at the African American Atelier in Greensboro, N.C., features a matriarch holding an umbrella that she has closed.

“Not to be corny, but you know that expression, ‘Into every life rain must fall,’ well, she has put her umbrella down symbolizing that she has coped with these issues,” Joyner explained.
The piece contains extraordinary detail in both its sculpting and its meaning. This hallmark makes his works highly sought after for regional, national and international exhibitions. Joyner’s work is in private collections and several galleries across the country, including the New York Public Library’s noted Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City. Three of his metal works adorn Elizabeth City State University’s campus, including “Ananse,” a work that stands 14 feet and symbolizes creativity and the spider trickster from West African folktales.

Nearly 40 of Joyner’s sculptures were featured in the Greensboro exhibition. It is only the second exhibition of three-dimensional art in the African American Atelier’s 19-year history, according to exhibit organizers. The African American Atelier, Inc., a non-profit art organization, seeks to promote an awareness, appreciation and sensitivity to the visual arts and culture of African Americans. The organization also works in harmony with other ethnic groups.

“Alexis Joyner’s work is strong, bold and truly profound,” said Dr. Alma S. Adams, co-founder of the Greensboro gallery, an art professor at Bennett College and a member of the North Carolina state legislature.

Dr. Adams, who curated the exhibit, initially saw Joyner’s work in a catalog of a group exhibition held in Greenville, N.C.

“I was really drawn to his work,” she said. “There is so much symbolism there. It speaks to community. It speaks to heritage.” Many of the pieces in the show depict women with strong hands, legs and feet, she said. “They are powerful people with a strong presence. They have the theme of holding our community together.

“When you see it, it makes connections to our families, to our history,” Dr. Adams continued. “They remind me of people I know and people I had around me while I was growing up.”

Hundreds of schoolchildren, college students and adults who have seen the exhibit have responded very positively to Joyner’s work, Dr. Adams noted. Youngsters in storytelling and sketching programs have sat around the three-dimension works, studying each piece from all sides. “It sends a message of authenticity,” she said, “and makes them understand better what artists do and their significance. It’s very inspiring.”

Much of Joyner’s work is inspired by his travels to Ghana and Nigeria and his memories of his childhood growing up in Capron, a small town in Southampton County, Va. His parents were sharecroppers with little more than a sixth-grade education, he said. “But they were two of the most brilliant people I’ve ever known,” said the 54-year-old Joyner.

His mother was a talented seamstress, who made tuxedos, wedding dresses and other fine clothing. “Someone could give her a picture in a catalog and she could make a garment that looked like it came from Saks Fifth Avenue,” he said.

His parents, he said, encouraged him to do his best even when they learned he was majoring in art at Virginia State University. He went on to earn a master of fine arts degree in sculpture in 1984 from Old Dominion University.

Even as he taught art in the public schools in Isle of Wight County, Va., for 10 years beginning in 1979, Joyner was sculpting pieces mostly from hardwoods native to the region. He said he inherited from his parents a strong work ethic that has him in his backyard art studio even now into the wee hours working to bring his latest vision to life. He has taught art at Elizabeth City State University since 1989. His goal, he said, is to inspire budding young artists. He understands that it can be difficult to make a living as an artist.

“I try to be real with them,” Joyner said. “I know that first and foremost that you have to be totally committed to make a go of it in art. It’s like music – you have to practice, practice, practice.” He said he also tries to impart to his students the responsibility that comes with being an artist, chiefly the power of the image and using art for positive ends.
Sheila Lee begins the work day early in the morning, but she wouldn’t have it any other way. Someone, after all, has to rouse thousands of radio listeners from their comfort zones. Someone has to serenade early risers pouring that first cup of coffee. Lee says people need a little joy to face the demands of a new day so every weekday, at 6 a.m., this gospel music, radio host is armed with joy.

“I’ve hosted “Morning Joy” for 11 years and I enjoy what I do. Getting up at 4:30 a.m. is no problem for me but some people have problems rising early. I’m there, on their radio, ready to encourage, ready to play the music they want to hear,” Lee said.

On WRVS, 89.9 FM/HD, Lee plays the latest released music and old favorites – quartet music, hip hop, traditional gospel music, worship and praise music. She features local singers as well as those topping the nation’s gospel and secular music charts. Lee also relays church announcements, university events, the weather forecast, time updates and community announcements. Kindly, Lee urges listeners to participate in cancer walk-a-thons, charity food and clothing drives, university scholarship drives, school fundraisers and volunteer drives. Her dedication to the community prompted an award early in 2009, the Central South Distribution Community Service Award. Listeners nominated Lee for the award that could have gone to several announcers across the nation.

Later in May of 2009, Lee won another award, the North Carolina Gospel Announcers Guild Prestige Award. Each year the North Carolina Gospel Announcers Guild recognizes gospel announcers, songwriters, and other media and gospel music professionals across the state at an annual convention. Lee accepted the award at the Greenville Convention Center in Greenville, N.C. She remains thankful for the nomination and support she has received over the years. She applauds her listeners for supporting WRVS, a nonprofit radio station especially during this economic crisis.

The awards decorate an on-air personality who first served WRVS as a community volunteer. In fact, Lee volunteered for three years as the host of the morning gospel show. She remained committed to the show because she loves what she does. Her previous jobs include posts in retail, banking, a Chesapeake, Virginia, elementary school, and a Hampton Roads TV show, “Spread A Little Sunshine.” Lee, the wife of a local minister, Robert Lee, enjoyed making announcements at her previous jobs and working with people. Hosting this gospel show has been one of her most rewarding positions.

Gospel music, she notes, is joyful music with a message that listeners don’t outgrow. Future segments on her show will include additional interviews, health news, preventative tips and surprise guests. Some parts of the show will not change.

“Gospel music is my passion so they can hear the enthusiasm in my voice every day. With gospel music, you’re spreading the good news through music,” Lee said.
Elizabeth City State University rose in two of the 2009 rankings published by U.S. News and World Report magazine’s “America’s Best Colleges.” This year, ECSU is ranked second among Top Public Baccalaureate Colleges in the South and 11th among the nation’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

To identify the Top Public Baccalaureate Colleges the publication looks at institutions that focus primarily on undergraduate education but grant fewer than 50 percent of their degrees in liberal arts disciplines. At these schools, at least 10 percent of the undergraduate degrees awarded are bachelor’s degrees. The 319 baccalaureate colleges are divided into four categories: North, South, Midwest and West. The indicators of success include seven broad categories: peer assessment; graduation and retention rate; faculty resources (for example, class size); student selectivity (for example, average admission test scores of incoming students); financial resources; alumni giving.

ECSU Chancellor Willie J. Gilchrist said the ranking is the kind of news that contributes to enrollment growth. He applauds the N.C. General Assembly and UNC President Erskine Bowles for making public education affordable and accessible. He credits faculty and staff with improving the university’s academic programs and assisting with the graduation and retention rates.

“We’ve maintained dedicated faculty at the university and recruited additional faculty who will continue this tradition of quality, public education at Elizabeth City State University,” Gilchrist said. “As a result, our students have qualified for some extraordinary internships, research projects and positions in the performing arts.”

The Chancellor is encouraged by an increase in alumni donations. Gilchrist said ECSU alumni play an important role in the university’s fundraising efforts. He is confident that new rankings by America’s Best Colleges will motivate recent graduates to establish a pattern of giving that their predecessors set long ago.

“Our alumni have been supportive, and they’re excited about their alma mater,” Gilchrist said. “During the next year, we will implement additional strategies to involve more of our young alumni. Their contributions will play a significant role in the university’s future developments.”

The university’s rank, 11th among HBCUs, is another indicator, Gilchrist said, of how well the university fares among peers. Last year, ECSU was ranked third among Top Public Baccalaureate Colleges in the South and 12th among HBCUs, a slot they shared with Winston-Salem State University. This year marks the third year the publication has compared and ranked HBCUs with each other and identified those offering “the best undergraduate education” at an HBCU. The publication conducted a peer survey among HBCUs and asked the president, provost and the admissions director/dean to rate the academic quality of all other HBCUs they were familiar with. They also gathered statistical data from each college for up to 15 indicators of academic excellence. The Department of Education determines which of the universities are categorized as HBCUs. There were 80 HBCUs eligible to be ranked in this year’s report.

“The rankings support what alumni have said for years—Elizabeth City State University is a very special place to earn your degree. We continue to be a small university that celebrates its rich heritage as well as the growing diversity of our student body.”
On November 12, 2009, Elizabeth City State University hosted North Carolina’s first event dedicated to bringing the entrepreneurial/commercial space industry (NewSpace) to our state. Thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr. J. Anthony Sharp, director of Aviation Science, and Bill Greuling, Vice President of the North Carolina Aerospace Alliance, we have taken an important step forward.

The one-day forum began with a review of the industry to educate business, economic development, and state and local government leaders about NewSpace and the jobs it can bring to North Carolina. Speakers from NASA, the Federal Aviation Administration’s Office of Commercial Space Transportation, and the U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Space Commercialization contributed to this education slate.

The second purpose of the forum was to develop a “next steps” strategy for the development of an indigenous NewSpace industry that is integrated with the state’s aviation and aerospace industry clusters. This will require hard work. An impressive list of speakers made it clear that the payoff is more than worth the effort. Jeff Greason, CEO of XCOR Aerospace, described how commercial sub-orbital flights for passengers and payloads will begin within two years. Bob Richards, CEO of Odyssey Moon, presented the scientific, educational, and commercial potential of private-sector robotic lunar activities.

Of course, these next steps will not happen without the participation of North Carolina companies and the state government, and these were well-represented. North Carolina Deputy Secretary of Commerce Dale Carroll, North Carolina Director of Aviation Richard Walls, and VX Aerospace CEO Raymond Jones discussed how the public and private sectors can contribute to this effort.

Why is NewSpace important to North Carolina? Consider this snapshot from the North Carolina Department of Commerce 2009 Aerospace and Aviation report:
- 26,000 people are employed in engineering fields
- Over 180 aerospace manufacturing companies
- Over 135 aviation service companies
- A solid aerospace supply chain
- Five military installations
- Aerospace and aviation programs at universities and community colleges across the state

ECSU is the only one with a four-year aviation program, as described by Dr. Sharp during his presentation, and is therefore positioned to be the leading academic institution for a statewide NewSpace initiative.

Combine these assets with the NewSpace industry and you have a recipe for:
- New business for existing companies
- An exciting field for students and entrepreneurs
- Job growth and economic development that can be tied to targeted industry clusters and regions across the state
- Demand for aerospace and aviation education which feeds workforce development

In 1903, North Carolina was the launch pad for commercial aviation. In the 21st Century, we should be launching our own NewSpace industry. The difference between the two is only a matter of altitude.

Article appears courtesy of Jeff Krukin, a NewSpace business development consultant.
Elizabeth City State University is the recipient of a $13,000,000 award from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for support of the Textbook and Learning Materials Program. The award will be used over several years: $3 million in 2009, $5 million in 2010, $5 million in 2011.

Officials in Senegal are trying to increase enrollment and improve the quality of education at all levels — primary schools, middle schools, high schools and in higher education. Expanding access to middle schools, stimulating the demand for girls’ education, and creating a school environment favorable for the retention of girls, are still great challenges in Senegal.

Currently, Senegal is in the midst of reforming its education curriculum. By the year 2015, officials anticipate 95% of all elementary school aged students will be enrolled in school. Additional challenges for administrators include: increasing the number of qualified teachers and improving facilities, textbooks and other learning resources.

ECSU will continue to assist educators in Senegal by developing 3,000,000 textbooks and learning materials for students in grades 1–13. These textbooks and learning materials will be developed in a collaborative partnership with Senegal’s Ministry of Education (MOE) and other educational specialists in Senegal and under the guidance of a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) in Senegal and a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) at ECSU.
ECSU has a new brand identity: ECSU – Elevate Higher. Emerge Stronger. The university unveiled the new logo and tagline during the Fall Faculty-Staff Institute on August 14, 2009. The new ECSU website, featuring the new brand, debuted in September 2009.

ECSU has experienced phenomenal growth and has increased in stature over the past decade. Under the leadership of Dr. Gilchrist and his administration, the university is poised for another monumental breakthrough among institutions of higher education as academically rigorous and relevant programs such as aviation science and the doctor of pharmacy partnership program continue to develop and be successful.

Higher education has become increasingly competitive, and people have more options than ever for earning bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees. Because of the competitive market, most colleges and universities have embraced branding as a way of differentiating themselves and increasing awareness of their programs and activities.

The university will build and manage the new brand to make ECSU a strong, positive presence in northeastern North Carolina and a recognized leader among institutions of higher education through teaching, research, leadership development, community outreach and engagement, and economic development. In this way, every member of the extended Viking family has a distinct role as a brand ambassador.

Because of ECSU’s visionary leadership team, student-focused environment, rigorous academics, top-quality faculty, dedicated staff, successful and loyal alumni, geographic location, and history of past success, the university is positioned to fulfill its brand promise and live up to its tagline – Elevate Higher. Emerge Stronger.

U.S. Department of Education Awards
$3 Million for ECSU Graduate Programs

Elizabeth City State University received $3 million from the U.S. Department of Education under the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Masters Degree Program Grant. Funding will be allocated over a six-year period at $500,000 per year. Funds are intended to establish and/or strengthen master’s degree programs in the following areas: mathematics, engineering, the physical or natural sciences, computer science, information technology, nursing, allied health or other scientific disciplines. ECSU plans to strengthen existing graduate programs in biology and mathematics by providing additional personnel, equipment and materials and graduate student scholarships. Funds will also be used to create a new Professional Science Master’s (PSM) Program in Applied Mathematics.

“We will increase the number of students graduating with degrees in areas where there are critical needs—math and science. The grant will improve graduate educational opportunities for African-Americans and low-income students. After graduation, they will qualify for good jobs that contribute to the economic development and productivity of the region,” Viltz said.

“Our graduate program joins other University of North Carolina system graduate programs to embrace the PSM degree which prepares students for careers in business, government and non-profit agencies. Students in this program will take a series of mathematics courses and professional skill development courses which are highly valued by employers in those sectors.”

ECSU Constructs A New Building For The Education and Psychology Departments

In 2010, ECSU began construction of a new building that will house the Education and Psychology departments. The three story structure will also house math and science labs for methods instruction, psychology neuroscience labs, computer labs and a teaching theatre. The teaching theatre is a multifunctional room that serves a teaching theatre and meeting space.

Dr. Sylvia Mason, dean of the School of Education and Psychology, said all classrooms are multifunctional. At least five can be transformed into larger spaces for group study, workshops and scheduled meeting spaces. The building will also allow instructors to telecast some classes. At night, the building will truly shine as the beacon of the northeast.

“Designer renditions are beautiful. The most amazing part of this for me was being a part of the design team,” Mason said. “Watching the faculty’s ideas come to fruition has truly been humbling.”
Our school newspaper has gone by many names--The Newsletter, The SNS Monthly, The State Normal Banner, The Compass--but anyone stopping by ECSU’s G.R. Little Library would learn that the very first printed edition of our institution’s paper was dated May, 1927 and was known as The Normal Magnet. A single copy survives and is on the shelves of the ECSU University Archives.

The formality of the “Editor’s Greetings” of this issue--Volume One, Number One--sets the tone of the times: “This is the first attempt...to give the reading public a brief account of the activities of this department...and the advancement of the teaching profession.... It is our hope that from this issue you will, at least, realize the importance of a thorough normal school training for those who anticipate entrance into this pedagogical field”.

“All For One-One For All”, exclaimed a headline by Miss Eva J. Lewis, a graduate of the University of Michigan and SNS High School teacher of English in 1927. She honored the career of the first school Principal and President Dr. Peter Moore by writing:

“One for All and All for One”. He embodies that spirit and it is only just and fitting that those who have benefitted so largely by his efforts should in turn work to give him the appreciation that is his due...Let it be “All for One” on this day [May 26, 1927] -- an expression of gratitude well-merited by Dr. Moore for his untiring zeal in all that tends to build us up".

State Normal Magnet, May 1927

Editor: M. Luther Wilson, graduate of the High School Department Class of 1926 and a member of the Junior Class of 1927.
Since all students were future teachers, the Practice School played a critical role in student life. An excerpt from a Magnet editorial sheds light on this crucial and emotional experience:

**The Heart of a Normal School**

“Do you realize the relationship one’s heart bears to his body? ... So it is with the heart of a normal school. What is the heart of a normal school? ... This organ or department is better known as the Practice School. The life of the normal school depends strictly upon it. Since such a school aims to send out of its doors well-trained and fully-capable men and women who will in turn train our youth, then it must have a well equipped laboratory in which they must work... The Practice School presents a multitude of problems which carry with them the elements of life situations...

It is impossible for any Practice School to function properly if it is fashioned after the old type of a school—one that carries with it the idea of “move when I tell you to move,” or “do this thing according to my idea.” But on the other hand we train the child to think for himself, and to use his own judgment in responding properly to a stimulus presented on the spur of the moment. The idea of the Practice School today is free activity, personal judgment, and student participation rather than teacher performance. When the Practice School begins to live up to this idea, it is then that the heart of the normal school will be functioning as we would have it function.”

Don’t You?

---

By Miss E. M. Cardwell

Tis great to serve mankind
In thousands of the different ways.
Some preach, some feed, some clothe
But I prefer to teach.
What ever is done must be my best
—I believe,
don't you?

Some get their training East;
Some get their training West.
It doesn’t matter where
As long as you get the best
But send me to E. City
To dear old S. N. S.
Then I can stand any test—I believe,
don't you?

Miss Edith Mocile Cardwell, a graduate of Columbia University Teachers College, oversaw the students and SNS student teachers in the first and second grades of the Practice and Observation School during the 1926-1927 school year. She showed her affection for the School on the Magnet’s front page with this poem.
Nine of the 13 graduates from the UNC/ECSU PharmD Partnership Program expect to remain in North Carolina to work as pharmacists. Four of them remained in Northeastern North Carolina. That is good news for a state with a shortage of pharmacists and a growing population that needs their services.

One of the graduates, Lee Ann Lloyd, remains in Elizabeth City and works at the pharmacy inside Walmart. She worked as a part-time employee for a pharmacy during high school and undergraduate school. Lloyd worked at the Wal-Mart pharmacy while enrolled in the UNC/ECSU PharmD Partnership Program. There she witnessed the hard work and dedication required. The experience was invaluable.

“I enjoyed chemistry in high school, and knew that a degree in pharmacy would require quite a few chemistry courses. I also knew that being in the health care profession, pharmacists had great job security,” Lloyd said. “I just wanted to go to pharmacy school, and I am thankful that I could do that while being close to home.”

Lloyd was one of 13 students to earn the Doctor of Pharmacy degree (Pharm.D.) after participating in the UNC/ECSU PharmD Partnership Program. Those graduates joined 143 graduates at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy at the May 9, 2009 commencement in Memorial Hall at UNC-Chapel Hill.

The graduates’ names appear below:

Ahmed Emad Abrahim, Cary, N.C.
Allison Corinne Bennett, Portland, Ore.
Tyler Dewitt Harlow, Kannapolis, N.C.
Travis Scott Heath, Orlando, Fla.
Jennifer Brynn Spencer, Hulbert, Wilmington, N.C.
Lee Ann Lloyd, South Mills, N.C.
Lindsay McCray Page, Rocky Mount, N.C.
Denish Vinod Patel, Charlotte, N.C.
Michelle Joy Ribaudo, Falconer, N.Y.
Alesha Jamel Thomas, Hamlet, N.C.
Allison Morgan Williams, Middlesex, N.C.
Ivan D. Wolanin, Springfield, Mass.
Laura Michele Yarbro, Raleigh, N.C.

Dr. Huyla Coker, Director of the UNC/ECSU Doctor of Pharmacy Partnership Program, said the faculty and staff are proud of this graduating class. Three graduates have been completing Pharmacy Practice or Drug Information Specialty Residencies.

“The first graduates from the Partnership Program have been an extraordinary group of students to work with. They have excelled in the classroom and throughout their advanced professional experiences out in the community. I am extremely proud to now have the privilege of referring to the graduates of the Class of 2009 as my colleagues,” Coker said.

Michelle Ribaudo said she enjoyed the program and thought the collaboration between the two universities was a good idea. Ribaudo had worked as a nationally certified (pharmacy) technician previously. That experience assured her she was in the right line of work.

“It felt good to accomplish new things between UNC-Chapel Hill and ECSU, Ribaudo said. “I enjoy helping people understand their medications. I’ll work as a retail pharmacist at an independent pharmacy in New York.”

Since 2005, the Partnership Program has enrolled 10-15 students per year at the Elizabeth City State University campus. Once enrolled in the PharmD program the student follows an intensive four year curriculum including ten months of professional experience programs. Students in the Partnership Program remain on the ECSU campus for three years of didactic instruction in the professional education program, with the exception of program orientation and special events. Instruction is delivered through synchronous video-teleconferencing with some on-campus instruction and ancillary web-based instruction. This partnership enables the PharmD program to increase the number of graduates each year, and to promote increased numbers of pharmacists working in underserved populations, especially in northeastern North Carolina.

The PharmD is neither an undergraduate degree (such as a BS or BA) nor a graduate degree (such as an MS, MBA, or PhD). The doctor of pharmacy is a professional degree for pharmacists similar to the doctor of medicine (MD) for physicians or a doctor of dental surgery (DDS) for dentists.
Marshall greeted the largest freshman class in ECSU history at the annual Fall Convocation and Candlelighting Service. Marshall is state President of AT&T. Marshall is responsible for the company’s regulatory, legislative and community affairs activities in the state. She was previously Senior Vice President – Regulatory and Constituency Relations for AT&T California. Marshall has 28 years of experience in the telecommunications industry. She is deeply committed to advocacy for children in need of adoption or in need of support in foster care. Marshall advised freshmen to cherish their years at ECSU.
Administrative Appointments

Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement

Elizabeth City State University announces Mr. William G. Smith as the new Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement at Elizabeth City State University. Mr. Smith will also supervise the following departments: Alumni Relations, The Community Development Program, University Relations and Marketing, Radio and TV Services. Mr. Smith holds a B.A. degree in Public Administration from North Carolina Central University and has completed the Mid-Management Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Banking.

Mr. Smith has over 30 years experience in the financial services industry; Chief Business Development Officer for the Proposed Imperial Community Bank (2008); President and Chief Executive Officer at Mutual Community Savings Bank Inc. SSB (2001-2008); Senior Vice President and Community Development Lending Sales Leader for the Mid-Atlantic Region at Wachovia (1999-2001)

Director of Enrollment Management and Retention

Dr. Monette Williams, was appointed director of Enrollment Management. Offices under her supervision include the Office of Admissions and Recruitment, Office of the Registrar and Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships. Dr. Williams holds a B.S. degree in Office Administration from North Carolina Central University and has completed the Mid-Management Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Banking.

Dr. Williams has over 30 years experience in the financial services industry; Chief Business Development Officer for the Proposed Imperial Community Bank (2008); President and Chief Executive Officer at Mutual Community Savings Bank Inc. SSB (2001-2008); Senior Vice President and Community Development Lending Sales Leader for the Mid-Atlantic Region at Wachovia (1999-2001)

Faculty on the Move

Dr. Anthony Emekalam, Assistant Professor, Pharmacy, was recognized as the Jim Bernstein Community Health Leadership Fellow for 2008-2010. The Fellowship Program aims to develop future leaders to work in and improve the health of rural and other underserved communities and populations in North Carolina. He also participated in the ECSU 2008 Outreach and Engagement Academy. Through the Academy Dr. Emekalam developed a new online course: PHSC 210: Medical Calculations.

Dr. Jennifer Robertson, Assistant Professor, Pharmacy, completed the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Educational Scholars Program. The vision of the Education Scholars Program is inspired by Ernest Boyer of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The Program is based upon the belief that teaching is a respected scholarly activity in the higher education community, and as such, occupies a place of honor with other faculty work and scholarship.

Jacqueline H. Poole, Professor, Chemistry, Physics and Geology, recent completed her graduation requirements for The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D) Degree in Educational Leadership at Capella University, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. Poole acquired the advanced theoretical and practical knowledge, along with leadership skills that positions her as an expert in her field. Dr. Poole presented her dissertation entitled "Developing an Online Chemistry Laboratory for Non-Chemistry Majors," that demonstrated original and independent investigation and achievement. Her dissertation reflected not only her mastery of research techniques but also her ability to select an important problem for investigation and to deal with it competently. Dr. Poole received her Master of Life Sciences Degree (MS) from the University of Maryland at College Park and is a 1978 Graduate of Elizabeth City State University with a Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree in Biology.
Dr. Gale Isaacs, faculty, Language, Literature and Communications, was recently elected vice president of the North Carolina Conference of the American Association of University Professors (NC-AAUP). The mission of the NC-AAUP is to promote the welfare of the professoriate by advancing the causes of academic freedom, tenure, shared governance, and due process in the State of North Carolina. It represents statewide interest and concerns of faculty members of public and private institutions of higher learning and communicates state-wide concerns to the National AAUP. Dr. Isaacs is a professor in the Department of Language, Literature and Communication at Elizabeth City State University where she also serves as Coordinator of the academic program in Speech-Language Pathology.

Dr. Akbar Eslami, faculty, Technology; Aliza Williams, Senior, Industrial Technology, and Kerry Krauss, Adjunct Faculty, Technology, published a paper entitled “A Remote Access Robotics and PLC Laboratory for Distance Learning Program,” Proceedings of the 2009 American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Annual Conference and Exposition, June 14-17, 2009, Austin, TX. Dr. Akbar Eslami received $15,000 grant from department of defense for Information Assurance Scholarship Program. The objective of this project is to provide scholarship and promote information assurance education through scholarship program at ECSU.

Mr. Andrew Gambrell, faculty, Art, was the guest artist for a homecoming art exhibition, “Modern Static”, at his alma mater, Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina. Professor Gambrell exhibited a body of new work featuring paintings, collages and video. He also gave a gallery talk to the public on opening night, and made visits to several classes to critique student art.

Mr. Alexis Joyner, chair, Art Department, participated in the annual UNC sculpture symposium hosted by East Carolina University. Professor Joyner exhibited two sculptures in the UNC sculpture faculty show and served as a panelist for a faculty roundtable discussion. Mr. Alexis Joyner exhibited nearly forty sculptures in a one-man show at the African American Atelier in Greensboro, NC. The show ran from October through December, 2009. The show was curated by Alma Adams, PhD. Professor of Art at Bennett College. Dr. Adams is a NC state representative.

Dr. David Bejou, dean, School of Business and Economics, developed a student retention model in 1996, which he had used in a few universities since then. This model was published in 2005 and its main thesis was recently featured by the Chicago Tribune and the New York Times. Chicago Tribune: http://www.chicagotribune.com

In the spring of 2009, Dr. Claudie Mackey received an award from the National Association of Basketball Coaches. The association’s Guardians of the Game program provides awards in four of its core value categories. Dr. Mackey won the 2009 award in the category of education.

Guardians of the Game is a national awareness and education program of the National Association of Basketball Coaches. The goal of the program is to focus attention on the positive aspects of basketball and the role coaches play in the lives of student-athletes, in addition to the contributions coaches make to their communities. The Guardians of the Game program emphasizes four core values:

Advocacy - NABC coaches are advocates for the game of basketball, student-athletes, and coaches, providing leadership and guidance on issues affecting the basketball community.
Leadership - NABC coaches provide moral and ethical leadership on issues affecting the game of basketball and society.
Service - NABC coaches serve as community leaders who help enhance their communities through civic involvement.
Education - NABC coaches are committed to continuing education and the development of their profession in order to be better mentors, teachers, and leaders.

Dr. Akbar Eslami received Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE) 2008 Outstanding Industrial Technology Professor Award (OITPA) during 2008 ATMAE Annual Conference. The recipient of OITPA award is selected based on excellence in teaching, research and service to the profession. Currently, Dr. Eslami serves on the ATMAE Board of Accreditation for Region III. He is also the past director of region III. In addition, during his tenure as Department Chair at ECSU, the following major accomplishments are noted: revision of Industrial Technology program to three areas of specializations: Computer and Electronics, Computer Networking and Mechanical & Manufacturing, accreditation of Industrial Technology program (2003-2009), and establishment of the Engineering Technology program, mechanical, computer software, hardware and Computer networking labs within the Department of Technology.
Who’s New At ECSU

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Mr. Roland Lovelace, Jr.
Interim Head Athletic Trainer
Athletics

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Ms. Demetrius Armwood
Admin. Support Associate,
School of Mathematics, Science & Technology

Mrs. Shanta Armwood-Outlaw
E-Spare Program Coordinator,
School of Mathematics, Science & Technology

Ms. Susie Banks
Admin. Support Associate
School of Mathematics, Science & Technology

Dr. Harry Bass, Jr.
Professor, Dean of
School of Mathematics, Science & Technology

Dr. David Bejou
Interim Dean
School of Business and Economics

Ms. Mary-Lynn Chambers
Visiting Lecturer
School of Arts and Humanities

Mr. Wellington Gordon
Visiting Lecturer
School of Arts and Humanities

Mr. Marcus Hilliard
Lecturer/Assistant Football Coach
School of Education and Psychology

Mrs. Hope Hohenstein
Interim Reading Specialist,
General Studies

Ms. Merry Godley
Public Safety Officer
Campus Police

Ms. Darlene King
Public Safety Officer
Campus Police

Mr. Dalbert Pitter
Public Safety Officer
Campus Police

DIVISION OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Mrs. Ralisha Mercer
Development Office
Institutional Advancement

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EPA APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

Mr. Damon Wade
Interim Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Assessment

Ms. Eundene Brown
Assistant Director of Sponsored Programs, Contracts and Grants

Mrs. Donna James-Whidbee
Acting Director of Human Resources and Payroll

Staff On The Move

Deborah S. Flippens, Video Director, Interactive Video Services received the Community Choice Award at the 25th North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) Community Day Celebration held at the SAS Institute in Cary, N.C. December 3-4, 2009. The North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) is a highly reliable, cost-efficient network. NCREN is one of the nation’s first and one of the world’s leading statewide regional optical networks.

For more information about NCREN visit www.mcnc.org.
Alana Simmons Earns Scholarship Money By Entering Pageants

Alana Simmons is enjoying the crown, title and especially the benefits of being Miss Essence 2009-2010. As the pageant winner, her calendar includes invitations to appear at events across the country. While the publicity and travel are exciting, the 19-year-old, Newport News native junior at ECSU is most proud to have earned a $2,000 scholarship.

"As an out-of-state student, I need the scholarship money that’s awarded at pageants," said Simmons. "If I can earn scholarships, I won’t accumulate the kind of debt that student loans create." While Miss Essence was her first national pageant, Simmons has competed in several other contests with hopes of winning scholarship money and a crown. She was in the 2008 Miss Omega Psi Phi contest at ECSU and the Miss Portsmouth Seawall Pageant of the Miss America Organization. She also competed in the 2008 Miss Black Virginia USA pageant and won first runner-up.

Simmons, a junior majoring in music education, used her musical skills in voice and piano to wow the judges in the Miss Essence pageant’s talent segment. She hones those skills in the ECSU Music Department as a soprano in the University Concert Choir and pianist with the ECSU Collegians Jazz Ensemble. Rigorous choir rehearsals, two hours a day of piano practice and 15 choir performances a year keep her sharp. She also sings with Divine Unity, a student trio that performs at ECSU football and basketball games, campus convocations and the 2009 Founder’s Day Scholarship Gala.

With everything on her plate, Simmons said she has certainly grown as a musician over the last three years. "The faculty here does so much more than teach," she said. "There’s a good training process here and the continuous string of performances builds confidence."

All the stage time gave Simmons the boost she needed when she stepped onto the Miss Essence runway. The competition, held in Kansas City, Mo., drew 23 impressive candidates judged on personal interviews, swimsuit and evening gown appearances. Her talent earned her bonus points.

Simmons said she was not nervous. "I’d been in so many pageants and events, I just walked out there and performed," she said.

Her musical talent is homegrown. Her mother, a music teacher and her aunt both play the piano. Simmons started with the violin, but turned to the piano as a seventh-grader. With two younger siblings later playing the piano, there was rarely a quiet moment in the Simmons house. As her musical talent grew, Simmons sought additional outlets such as playing piano for a Newport News church. After graduating from Heritage High School in Newport News, Va., she enrolled at ECSU and began planning her future.

"My goal is to finish my program here in four years and go on to graduate school. I will use my pageant platform, “Everyday Heroes: The Importance of Mentorship” to complete my responsibilities as Miss Essence."

"By the grace of God, I can use my education and talent to serve others, particularly children," she said.

Drakeford Productions LLC produces the Miss Essence, Miss Teen Essence and Mrs. Essence pageants. They are not associated with Essence Communications or Essence magazine.
Mr. and Miss ECSU 2009-2010

Mr. ECSU 2009-2010
Andre Williams
Classification: Senior
Major: Physical Education with dual concentration in Exercise Science and Biology
Hometown: Queens, New York

MISS ECSU 2009-2010
Andrea Anstead
Classification: Senior
Major: Biology with a concentration in Pre-Dentistry
Hometown: Castalia, North Carolina

Mr. and Miss Elizabeth City State University Royal Court 2009-2010
Miss Blue & White Cierra Sawyer
Mr. & Miss Senior Class Demetrius Anthony & Lauren Lee
Mr. & Miss Junior Class Mddri Armstrong & Constance Singletary
Mr. & Miss Sophomore Class Rudy Macedon & Maya White
Mr. & Miss Freshman Class Arkeen Simmons & Brittany Whidbee
Footsman & Lady in Waiting Samuel Williams & Sabrina Joline

Student Government Association 2009-2010 Officers
President Illiana Thomas
Vice President Ehrick Sotengco
Recording Secretary Nikita Washington
Corresponding Secretary MyAsia Reid
Attorney General Danielle Parker
Treasurer Bernard Bazemore
Miss ECSU Andrea Anstead
Mr. ECSU Andre Williams
Commuter Student-At-Large Cassidy Canon

First row: Andrea Anstead-Miss ECSU; Second Row: (From top to bottom) J’Vonn Davis, Cassidy Cannon, Ehrick Sotengco, Illiana Thomas, Bernard Bazemore; Third Row: (From top to bottom) MyAsia Reid, Danielle Parker, Nikita Washington; Not Pictured: Andre Williams- Mr. ECSU
Ms. Damika Howard, a junior from Virginia Beach, Va., received the 2009 Community Impact Award for Elizabeth City State University. Presented annually to one student from each member campus of the NC Campus Compact program, the Community Impact Award goes to students who have made significant, innovative contributions to campus-based efforts to address community needs. Ms. Howard, currently serving as Student Activities President for the Student Government Association has been involved in the SGA for the past three years. She works to organize student activities and events such as homecoming, step shows and student forums. During her tenure, student involvement has increased significantly. Ms. Howard’s campus-based contributions include participation in organizations and programs such as Sigma Alpha Pi, Orientation Leader, Peer Health Educator, Viking Scholar and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated. She is also heavily involved in peer mentoring young females, serving as a big sister at Girls, Inc. and has her own non-profit organization called DEW (Dedicated to Empower Young Women) in Johannesburg, South Africa. Ms. Howard plans to continue her efforts to address community needs by promoting the importance of saving energy and recycling.

Kaiem Frink Is A Recipient Of An NC Space Grant

Mr. Kaiem Frink, an Elizabeth City State University graduate student in mathematics and remote sensing, is the recipient of a $6,000 NC Space Grant. Each year, NC Space Grant awards graduate student research fellowships to students attending its member institutions who are pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). This competitively awarded program engages the future STEM workforce in hands-on and/or applied aero/space-related research projects and facilitates the development of mentor relationships between students, faculty and the NASA community. Applicants may carry out their research project at their home institution (award up to $6,000) or a NASA center/industrial contractor (award up to $8,000), under the general supervision of the applicant’s research mentor. At the end of the award period, students are required to submit a research summary to NC Space Grant. In 2008, Frink earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer and Information Systems from ECSU. The NC Space grant will help cover the costs of his graduate school research project at ECSU.
Opportunities abound for talented students at Elizabeth City State University. Just ask Bethany Thombley.

With the backing of The Elizabeth City State University Foundation and help from Institutional Advancement and the community, the gifted soprano traveled to Italy for four weeks with Operafestival di Roma, an opera training program for students across the globe.

To audiences filled with hundreds of enthusiastic opera fans, Thombley sang the role of Sister Dolcina in Puccini’s “Suor Angelica,” the role of Frasquita in scenes from Bizet’s “Carmen” and in the chorus of Mozart’s “The Marriage of Figaro.”

“I never thought my voice would lead me to Rome,” said Thombley, a junior from Newport News, Va., whose performances with the University Concert Choir have taken her on regional tours in the United States. “Studying abroad was an awesome opportunity.”

Dr. Walter Swan, professor of applied voice at ECSU, recognized Thombley’s raw talent early on. With hard work over the years her vocal skills advanced. He encouraged her to audition for the 2009 season in Rome. He coached her and accompanied Thombley and her mother to auditions, which were held in Washington, D.C.

“I was nervous,” Thombley recalled. And she was just getting over a cold when she tried out in late February 2009. “I tried to keep Dr. Swan’s advice in mind – that this was within reach.”

Thombley impressed the audition team and was offered the unique opportunity to train and perform with the international group in Italy from July 1 through 27, 2009.

The trip’s $8,000 cost was raised in large measure by the ECSU Foundation. With the help of Nancy Muller with the Office of Institutional Advancement, Thombley also sang at a series of fundraising concerts within the community.

“I am so grateful for the support,” Thombley said. “I saw how hard others were working to make the opportunity to study and sing abroad become a reality.”

Thanks to their help, Thombley was winging her way over the Atlantic Ocean in her first trip overseas. The foreign audiences were welcoming and attentive, she said.

Her schedule with Operafestival di Roma included three weeks of master classes, vocal and language training and music and staging rehearsals. Language training was key because the operas were sung in French and Italian.

“The preparation was nerve-racking and overwhelming,” Thombley said. “But doc told me to take it in pieces,” she said of Dr. Swan, her mentor.

The preparation culminated in a week of performances given in a 15th-century Roman courtyard, the Palazzo della Sapienza, that is acoustically superb. The productions were fully staged with period costumes, props, lighting and orchestra. More than 500 people packed the palazzo to enjoy the opera.

Additional performances were held in S. Paolo entro le Mura, a church in central Rome, and in a performance space at a hotel.

“I was thrilled to be part of such a historic and professional setting,” Thombley said. “I never thought I would sing classical or opera music, but it was fascinating. You have to broaden your horizons,” she said.
Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina Donate $30,000 For ECSU Scholarships

Regional representatives from the Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina presented a $30,000 check for scholarships to Dr. David Bejou, interim dean of the Walter R. Davis School of Business and Economics at Elizabeth City State University. Standing left to right: Suzette Ward (Gateway Insurance), Bill Vogedes (Vogedes Insurance), Dr. David Bejou, and John King (Southern Insurance).

Theater Named In Honor Of 1952 Graduate:
The Mary Albritton Douglas Auditorium

In the fall of 2009, The ECSU Foundation named the theater of the Walter N. & Henrietta B. Ridley Student Center in honor of a 1952 graduate (Elizabeth City State Teacher’s College), Mrs. Mary Albritton Douglas. Mrs. Douglas is a native of North Carolina who graduated fifth in her undergraduate class of 123. Mrs. Albritton Douglas’s college roommate, classmates, friends, and family joined her at the celebration held one day before she served as the Grand Marshall of the Homecoming 2009 Parade.
Scholarship Fund For Former Director Of Admissions

In memory of Mr. Grady Deese Jr. (Director of Admissions 2001-2009), Elizabeth City State University has established a scholarship fund to help their most deserving students. Since 2001, Mr. Deese served as Director of Admissions at ECSU. Colleagues in the Office of Admissions described him as their “top recruiter” and as an administrator who consistently set an outstanding example for his staff. Throughout his career, Grady touched the lives of many students and families.

In order to help future students, we need your support in reaching our goal of $5,000. Please visit http://www.ecsu.edu to contribute online (Click on Give Today!). To contribute by payroll deduction, complete the attached form and fax (252) 335-3489. Please for information, please contact Alicia Mercer, Director of Annual Fund at (252) 335-3329. Refer your gift, Deese Scholarship Fund.

ECSU Host Parents And Families Weekend

The Division of Institutional Advancement and the Division of Student Affairs hosted another successful Parents and Families Weekend on October 9-11, 2009 at Elizabeth City State University.

In 2008, the Elizabeth City State University Parents Club was revived along with Parents and Families Weekend. Over 70 parent and family members joined ECSU students, faculty, staff, and the community to witness first-hand what it truly mean to be a Mighty Viking. During the weekend, parents and families were able to interact with the chancellor, campus administrators, student leadership groups and organizations, spend time with your ECSU student, attend a football game, and participate in host of fun activities and events. The weekend wrapped up with a special State of the University Breakfast with Chancellor Willie J. Gilchrist.

The Parent Club encourages parental involvement in the university; allows parents to support the well-rounded education for ECSU students by providing financial and volunteer assistance for their educational and recreational needs; promotes the university and its programs throughout the community; and assist the university in fulfilling its mission through the organization’s activities.

Please join the ECSU Parent Club and show your support for ECSU students. For more information, please contact Alicia J. Mercer, Divisional of Institutional Advancement at (252) 335.3329 or email parents@mail.ecsu.edu. You can also visit our website at www.ecsu.edu. VIKING PRIDE!

The Elizabeth City State University Foundation Thanks ECSU Day Supporters

The ECSU Foundation wishes to extend special thanks to each church that hosted an ECSU Day. Hosting an ECSU Day is a great way for a church to demonstrate its commitment to giving students access to higher education through scholarships.

The following churches showed their support in 2009:

Faithway Apostolic Church of Jesus
Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
New Middle Swamp Missionary Baptist Church
Oxley Hill Missionary Baptist Church
St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church

If your church would like to host an ECSU Day or contribute to the ECSU Foundation, please contact Letitia Evans, Development Officer, Division of Institutional Advancement at (252) 335-8740.
DONOR REPORT
2008-2009

Preserving the ECSU Legacy for Future Generations
STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

Elizabeth City State University wishes to offer our sincere appreciation to the following individuals and organizations, whose philanthropic contributions have enabled us to advance our university in providing much needed scholarship support to our deserving students.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report — there may be errors that will go unnoticed… and uncorrected if you do not make us aware. Please notify us of any errors, and we will make every effort to ensure accuracy in future publications.

The following list consists of contributions made to the Elizabeth City State University Foundation between July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.

**Founders’ Circle**

**$100,000 and Above**

- CIAA
- NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation

**Viking Leadership Circle**

**$50,000 – $99,999**

- Mary A. Douglas
- Triangle Community Foundation
- Wachovia Foundation

**Platinum Viking Society**

**$25,000 – $49,999**

- AT&T Foundation
- Lorimer Midgett Trust Fund
- Deirdre Pearson

**Gold Viking Society**

**$10,000 – $24,999**

- ECSU National Alumni Association, Inc.
- Exxon Mobil Foundation
- Herkford County Schools
- Darnell and Stephanie Johnson
- Tom Joyner Foundation
- LCP Transportation, LLC
- Nucor Plate Mill
- Frank Skidmore
- State Farm Mutual Automobile
- Thompson Hospitality

**Silver Viking Society**

**$5,000 – $9,999**

- Ronald and Velma B. Blackmon
- Elizabeth City Pasquotank Public School Fund
- Elizabeth City – Pasquotank Tourism Development Authority
- G.E. Foundation
- Willis and Jacquelyn Gilchrist
- Anthony A. Lewis
- Matthew Lewis, Jr.
- Matthew Medley
- NC Legislative Black Caucus Foundation
- NCAA
- Oxley Hill Missionary Baptist Church
- Presidential Inaugural Ball Committee
- Billie J. Reid
- State Farm
- Verizon
- Elijah White

**Bronze Viking Society**

**$1,000 – $4,999**

- Abbott Laboratories
- LaTanya D. Afolayan
- Ahoskie Alumni Ch. – KAPsi
- Alliance Nissan
- Rochester Baker, Sr.
- Hilton “Joe” Barrett
- Randy Bell
- Mary Jenkins Boone
- Ann Bouldin
- Melvin Boyd
- Dunston Brooks
- Donnice E. Brown
- Earl M. Brown
- Hezekiah Brown
- Ronnie Brown
- Helen Caldwell
- Central State Univ.
- Charles D. Cherry
- Ralph Cole

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- Melvin Boyd
- Dunston Brooks
- Donnice E. Brown
- Earl M. Brown
- Hezekiah Brown
- Ronnie Brown
- Helen Caldwell
- Central State Univ.
- Charles D. Cherry
- Ralph Cole

Daries Morris, Jr.
New Middle Swamp Church
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Abdul Sm. Rasheed
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Melvyn N. and Vonda R. Riley
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R. Eugene Rogers
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Ervin C. Simons
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Chiquita Taylor
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Derrick Wilkins
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Bennie Williams
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William G. Smith
Ish Sud
Barbara B. Sutton
Norman S. Thomas
Demetra Y. Tyner
Linda Wallace
Yvonne S. Walton
Barbara A. White

Blue and White Club
$100 - $499
Lillian B. Abron
Anthony K. Adade
Gwendolyn Allen
Susie B. Armstrong
Dennis H. Askew, Jr.
Lillie M. Atkinson
C.E. Austin
Morris A. Autry
Robert Aydlett
Margie R. Baker
Walter D. Baltrop, Jr.
Annie B. Banks
Ricky L. Banks
Tony L. Banks, II
Alma Banks-Roberts
Lora A. Barclift
Eliza Barco, Jr.
Sherrol M. Bass
Samuel Beamon
Vincent L. and Maureen Beamon
Ernestine L. Beifield
Ulysses Bell
Randi B. Bellamy
Timothy R. Bellamy
Daryl Bennett
Edith Bernard
Evelyn H. Bevrian
Clarence E. Biggs
Clinton and Jean Bischoff
Melanie P. Blackford
Ernestine Blackledge
L.S. Blades, III
Eddie and Bessie Bland
Juanita W. Blow
Shirley B. Blue
Martha C. Bobbitt
Booher T. Bond
Sherry Boone
Phyllis N. Bosomworth
Robert E. Bowden
Paula Bowle
Gwendolyn D. Bowser
Jay Briley
Frankie Brinkley
Larry D. Brinn, Jr.
Janice A. Brothers
Javon Brothers
Eudene Brown
Eva V. Brown
George M. Brown
Larry and Gloria M. Brown
Jacquelyn W. Brown
Jerrell J. Brown
Willie L. Brown
Carrie Van Brunt
Curtis E. Bryant
Joseph A. and Carolyn W. Buggs
Marion B. Byrd
Cheryl R. Cantor

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Abbott Laboratories
Abroni Quansah
Advantage Business Strategies, Inc.
AEONM, Inc.
Alliance Nissan
AT&T Foundation
BB&B Construction
Barclays
Bassackward Lures
Biffco Foundation
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Chirokel Consulting, LLC
CIAA
Comerica Bank
Coplon Development Co., LLC
The Daily Advance
The Desert of NC
Doubletree Johnson City
Eastern Carolina Cardiovascular
Eastside Civilian Club
Elizabeth City Trophy and Awards
Enterprise Rent-a-Car
Enterprise Information Services, Inc.
Evolve Therapeutic Counseling
ExxonMobil Foundation

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Wanda C. Ruffin
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Samuel Young
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ECSU MAGAZINE SPRING 2010
National Alumni Association

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The total contributed to the Foundation from the alumni chapters is $14,054.10

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J.T. Dolea
John H. Bias
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Richmond
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Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church
Faithway Apostolic Church*
Fifth Baptist Church
First Baptist Church of Powellsville*
Macedonia Church of Christ
Melton Grove Missionary Baptist Church
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RBC Centura
Reclamation Family Services
Retirees of Elizabeth City State University
River City Community Development
Rotary Club – Kitty Hawk
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Southern Bank
Southern Insurance Agency, Inc.
Spoken 4 Communications

New Chapel Baptist Church
New Generation Campus Ministries
New Middle Swamp Missionary Baptist Church*
Oxley Hill Missionary Baptist Church*
Pinny Wood Chapel Baptist Church
Mount Pleasant Branch Missionary Baptist Church
Powerhouse Church of Redemption
Providence Missionary Baptist Church
Saunders Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Second Missionary Baptist Church
Shepherd’s Inn Ministries
St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church*
Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church*
Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church

*denotes sponsored an ECSU Day

Senior Challenge

Deanna Bennett
Bryce Carmichael
Carleesha Dorsey
Clarence Godfrey
Lorene Hoffler
Julian Lee
Robert Lee
Chris Patterson
Demetria Pennix
Cheryl Rawlins
Heather Rawlins
Bryan Spence
Dequan Spencer
Shenay Wilson

State Farm Companies
Stusqu, PLLC
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W. Langley, Inc.
Wachovia Foundation
Wal-mart
Walgrens
“I know that many of the resources I’ve benefited from while a student at Elizabeth City State University were made possible by the generosity of others. I truly believe that making a financial contribution to ECSU is the best way to make a difference.”

— Illiana B. Thomas, SGA President
2009-2010 and graduating senior

The ECSU Foundation Increases Scholarship Awards

The Elizabeth City State University Foundation was formed to provide educational assistance for students, to support faculty, and to secure the operational needs of the university. Because of the generous contributions of its donors, the ECSU Foundation was able to increase total scholarship awards for the third consecutive year. During the 2009 fiscal year, scholarship fund distribution increased by 22% from $625,000 to $765,000. The additional $139,000 was an increase over the previous year’s 21% award increase.

To contribute, please visit http://www.ecsu.edu and click on Give Today or send your contributions to: The ECSU Foundation, P.O. Box 1467, Elizabeth City, North Carolina 27906

Thank you for your continued support!

Major Gifts and Pledges

Alumni and Friends Establish ECSU Endowed Scholarship Funds

CLASS OF 1969 SCHOLARSHIP FUND ($44,220)
The Class of 1969 embarked on a campaign to raise over $40,000 to support scholarships. Monies raised included donations, pledges and planned gifts.

DR. BRIAN COPELAND SCHOLARSHIP FUND ($25,000)
Established in memory of Dr. Brian Copeland ('79), in support of scholarships for students from New York with a preference from Brooklyn, New York. This scholarship fund is offered to Education and Science Education majors with a GPA of 3.0 or better.

LATANYA AFOLAYAN ENDED SCHOLARSHIP FUND ($12,185)
Established in support of scholarships for Education, Music, Business, Visual Arts, Political Science and English and Communication Studies majors with a 2.5 GPA or better.

CHARLIE AND LOUISE HUGHES ENDED SCHOLARSHIP FUND ($8,000)
Established in memory of Mr. Charlie and Louise Hughes in support of scholarships for North Carolina native Elementary Education majors with a GPA of 3.0 or better.

CLASS OF 1979 SCHOLARSHIP FUND ($5,570)
The Class of 1979 established a scholarship fund in support of scholarships for students with a GPA of 2.5 or better.

JAMES “BIGGIE” FIELDS, JR. PERCUSSION ENDED SCHOLARSHIP FUND ($5,000)
Established in memory of Mr. James “Biggie” Fields, Jr., ('84) in support of scholarships for Music Majors or a Heritage High School percussion student who plans to play in the ECSU Marching Band.

Planned Gift

Dr. Sadie Johnson Carter, '72 - $10,000
Ms. Gwendolyn Bowser, '69 - $10,000
Ms. Charlotte O’Neal, '79 - $10,000
Ms. Kim Luckes, '77 - $10,000
ECSU Grants

**$800,000 - Housing Counseling Assistance Program**
Mr. Morris Autry, director, Community Development, was awarded $800,000 by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Housing Counseling Assistance Program at Elizabeth City State University. The purpose of this program is to provide assistance to the community in the areas of housing education and counseling.

**$500,000 - Renovations to the Moore Hall Auditorium**
Elizabeth City State University was awarded $500,000 by the National Park Service for renovations to the Moore Hall Auditorium. The Historic Preservation Funds will provide support for the rehabilitation of Moore Hall. The 630-seat auditorium in Moore Hall is a historic structure on the ECSU campus and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. With the exception of the auditorium; Moore Hall’s spaces were last remodeled in 1988 and are fully in use today. With a complete rehabilitation, the auditorium could become a vital center for student performances, religious services, a large teaching space for faculty and a venue for on-campus trainings and conferences. With National Parks Service financial assistance, ECSU will be able to fully rehabilitate the auditorium for use by an ever-expanding student body and staff.

**$458,947 - The ECSU Minority Health Disparities International Research Training Program**
Dr. Ephraim Gwebu, chair, Chemistry and Physics, was awarded $458,947 by the U.S. DHHS National Institutes of Health (NIH) for The ECSU Minority Health Disparities International Research Training Program. This program provides opportunities for undergraduate students from U.S. health disparities populations to conduct research in (i) drug discovery to combat such health disparity disease as prostate cancer and diabetes and (ii) psycho-socio-behavioral research to identify risk factors for type II diabetes, a disease that disproportionately affects minorities in the USA. Selected honor students are members of U.S. health disparities populations, majoring in biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, sociology and social work. The students receive research training under the tutelage of prominent U.S. and foreign mentors at universities in South Africa.

**$346,722 - Educational Talent Search Program**
Dr. Cheryl Lewis, director, Educational Talent Search, received $346,722 in additional funds to continue the Educational Talent Search program at ECSU. The purpose of Elizabeth City State University’s Educational Talent Search Program is to provide comprehensive outreach services to 900 eligible participants at 10 schools in six counties, in the Northeastern North Carolina region.

**$327,186 - Upward Bound Program**
Ms. Maxine Baskerville, director, Upward Board, was awarded $327,186 by the U.S. Department of Education (DoED) for the Upward Bound Program. The purpose of the Upward Bound program is to generate in its participants the skills and motivation necessary to persist in completing a program of secondary education and to have them enter and complete a program of post-secondary education.

**$331,910 - ECSU Student Support Services Program**
Ms. Maxine Baskerville was awarded $331,910 in additional funds for the ECSU Student Support Services program. Student Support Services is designed to enhance the retention and graduation rate of its participants. It not only encourages students to complete their undergraduate studies but also to go on to graduate and/or professional schools. Student Support Services assists students in improving their academic and personal skills as well as preparing them to effectively handle the challenges of college life. The program offers academic advisement, counseling, instruction, study skills, tutorial services and educational/cultural activities.

**$284,446 - HP Higher Education Innovation Project**
Dr. Kuldeep Rawat, faculty, department of Technology, was awarded $284,446 in equipment and monetary awards by Hewlett-Packard Company for the HP Higher Education Innovation Project. The goal of this project is to improve quality of computer science and engineering technology education by developing HP mobile and remote computing infrastructure that supports digital learning environment that facilitates new teaching strategies and faculty from the School of Math, Science & Technology (SMST), the Chief Information Officer, the Directors of IT Client Services, Instructional Technology, Distance Learning and an Instructional Design Specialist with the Dean of SMST acting as the key administrator to oversee this project at ECSU. The project will help faculty teams redesign computer science and engineering technology courses that will directly impact over 250 students during two year project period.

**$252,045 - McNair Scholars Program**
Dr. Cheryl Lewis, director, McNair Scholars Program, was awarded $252,045 in additional funds to continue the McNair Scholars program at ECSU. The Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program at ECSU is designed to provide exemplary outreach services to 150 (for a period of 5 years) undergraduate students (30 students per cohort).
$99,848 - VA/NC Alliance for Minority Participation project from the University of Virginia.
Dr. Ali Khan, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, was awarded $99,848 for the VA/NC Alliance for Minority Participation project from the University of Virginia. ECSU will recruit, admit and retain approximately 25 students to provide pre-college Summer Bridges enrichment program activities to improve their analytical and critical thinking skills in STEM fields. The Summer Bridges program will consist of: intensive daily sessions over at least a four-week period; academic instruction by university faculty members; hands-on laboratory activities that develop problem-solving skills, verbal and quantitative reasoning; and career motivation and group activities to promote peer support. Program activities will also include a fall orientation for all the LSAMP students.

$63,803 - Housing Counseling Program Project
Mr. Morris Autry, director, Community Development, was awarded $63,803 by The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Housing Counseling Program Project. The objective of this project is to expand homeownership opportunities and improve access to affordable housing through an effective comprehensive housing counseling program. The types of housing counseling services to be provided are: pre-purchase, mortgage default/delinquency, post-purchase, home equity conversion mortgage (HECM), rental, fair housing, predatory lending, homebuyer education and post-purchase education. Counseling services will be provided through one-on-one counseling and seminars and workshops. The target area includes Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan, Currituck, Camden and Gates counties.

$96,544 - Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Mrs. Melba Brown-Smith, director, TV and Radio Services, was awarded $96,544 additional funding by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for Elizabeth City State University’s Community Service Grant. Entry to the Radio Community Service Grant 2009 Program is limited to stations that provide public radio service to a region or minority stations in limited circumstances, under the current policy. The funding is used toward legal, managerial, staffing and operational needs of the station.

$65,083 - Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Platform to Prepare Students for Careers in Transportation Program
Dr. Ellis Lawrence, professor, Technology, was awarded $65,083 from the N.C. Department of Transportation (DOT) for the Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Platform to Prepare Students for Careers in Transportation Program. In the program, 16 high school students will focus on applying math, physics, flight theory, computer-aided design (CAD) and microcontroller programming in development of a mini-UAV helicopter that can be used for transportation and other civilian applications.

$52,241 - Rural Listener Access Incentive Fund
Mrs. Melba Brown-Smith was awarded $52,241 by The Corporation for Public Broadcasting for the Rural Listener Access Incentive Fund. The project will provide support for The Rural Listener Access Incentive Fund for creative, sustainable rural public service. Rural public radio stations grapple with circumstances urban stations rarely experience; a coverage area with fewer potential listeners spread over a wider geographic area; audiences whose needs can compel unique radio use; fewer potential listeners spread over a wider geographic area; audiences whose needs can compel unique radio use; fewer media outlets forcing the station to be more things to more people; limited audience research; a smaller talent pool from which to draw; and due to fewer listeners, more difficulty in garnering the local membership, etc.

Dr. Mehran Elahi, Chair Department of Technology, was awarded $40,529 from Texas Tech University for the A Hybrid Solution for Renewable Energy: System Optimization Research Project. In pursuit of research in the Multidisciplinary Program in Wind Science Engineering (WISE) center at Texas Tech University (TTU), ECSU is proposing a research collaboration with the wind energy team at the WISE center to bring university personnel up to date with the fundamentals of wind energy and the current research activities being conducted by the wind energy committee.

$29,418 - Diversity in Research in Environmental and Marine Sciences II (DREAMS II) Program
Dr. Maurice Crawford, assistant professor, Technology, was awarded $29,418 for the Diversity in Research in Environmental and Marine Sciences II (DREAMS II) program from the National Science Foundation (NSF). This program will address the low numbers of African Americans and other underrepresented students in the geosciences. The program will use a theme-based approach (Coastal Environmental Challenges in the 21st Century) to provide students with a new and integrative learning experience.
$25,000 - Strengthening Public and Academic Library Collections Grant
Dr. Juanita Midgette, director, Library Services, was awarded $25,000 from the North Carolina Library Services and Technology Act for the Strengthening Public and Academic Library Collections Grant. This grant will be used to upgrade the reader level and quality of holdings in the G.R. Little Library by increasing the overlap, currently 26.59%, with Resources for College Libraries, 2007. Approximately 305 books at an estimated cost of $73 per volume will be purchased. The content areas will be in Management Function, School Administration, and Organization and Aircraft and Control Engineering. The books will support recent or planned curricular offerings in Aviation Science (Bachelors), Public Administration (Masters) and School Administration (Masters).

$25,000 - Martian Geology for the Next Generation of Explorers Project
Dr. Thomas Rossbach, assistant professor, Chemistry, Geology and Physics, was awarded $25,000 from North Carolina State University for the Martian Geology for the Next Generation of Explorers project. The project is a weeklong summer workshop for K-12 teachers to familiarize them with the geology of Mars and how Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing will be used to explore Mars. Teachers can use this experience to inspire their students to become the next generation of space explorers.

$23,474 - The Energy Transfer Processes in Rare-Earth Doped Low Phonon Energy Hosts for MIR Laser Research Project.
Dr. Althea Bluiett, assistant professor, Chemistry, Geology and Physics, was awarded $23,474 by the U.S. DoD DA AMC Army Research Laboratory (ARL) for the Energy Transfer Processes in Rare-Earth Doped Low Phonon Energy Hosts for MIR Laser Research Project. In this research, crystal growth, laser spectroscopy, and modeling of different combinations of rare-earth ions co-doped will be explored for 4-5 um laser development. Co-doping the host materials will modify the excited state dynamics of RE-ions, which should improve the emission intensity and pump efficiency. Interest in compact and efficient mid-infrared solid-state laser materials is due to the paucity of commercially available lasers operating between 3-5 um. Solid state lasers at this wavelength are sought after for DoD applications, medicine and basic research.

$20,339 - GEAR-UP Summer Finance Experience
Dr. Confidence Amadi, associate professor, Accounting, Finance and Economics, was awarded $20,339 by UNC-General Administration for the GEAR-UP Summer Finance Experience. The project provides early financial readiness and experience for undergraduate students.

$20,000 - GIS Display Capability for FEMA Region III Storm Project
Dr. Jinchun Yuan, associate professor, Math and Computer Science, was awarded $20,000 by The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for the GIS Display Capability for FEMA Region III Storm Project. The objective of the project is to obtain a GIS database with display capabilities of the FEMA Region III area Storm Surge Models. The displays and overlay features will be based upon data received from RENCI, and the U. S. Corps of Engineers supplied data sets. Elizabeth City State University will assist with the development of GIS database display capabilities for the study. The University will also collaborate with USACE and RENCI to deliver enhanced visualizations for storm surge modeling results.

$18,000 - Small Business and Technology Development Center
Mr. George Brown (director, Small Business and Technology Development Center) was awarded $18,000 from N.C. Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC) for the ECSU’s Small Business and Technology Development Center at ECSU. This project provides financial assistance to the Northeastern Regional Service Center, operated under the sponsorship of Elizabeth City State University. The monies will defray the operating expenses of the Small Business and Technology Development Center.

$11,375 - The Monitoring Effects of Potential Increased Tidal Range in the Cape Fear River Ecosystem Due to Deepening Wilmington Harbor, North Carolina Project.
Dr. Maurice Crawford was awarded an additional $11,375 for the Monitoring Effects of Potential Increased Tidal Range in the Cape Fear River Ecosystem Due to Deepening Wilmington Harbor, North Carolina Project. The project includes monitoring water levels, sampling of benthic and epibenthic organisms, pore water, vegetation sampling, QA/QC, data management and reporting.

$11,394 - GEAR-UP School Leadership Program
Dr. Ali Khan was awarded $11,394 from UNC General Administration for the GEAR-UP School Leadership Program. The purpose of this project is to award funding in support of the North Carolina GEAR UP School Leadership Program. Support is for a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 35 participants, which includes transportation to and from camp.
$10,828 - Transforming Earth Systems Science Education (TESSE)
Dr. William Porter, professor, Math and Computer Science) was awarded $10,828 by the University of New Hampshire for Transforming Earth Systems Science Education (TESSE) Program. The program is designed for current (in-service) and future (pre-service) teachers. It includes a two-week summer course in Earth Science covering topics of planetary science, lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere. It also involves an eight-week summer research immersion program and an academic year program. The project serves as professional development for current and future teachers.

$10,000 - Examinations of the Effects of Colorectal Cancer (CRR) Risk Factor Awareness Training on Changing CRC Health Behavior Among African Americans Project.
Dr. Kulwinder Kaur-Walker, associate professor, Psychology, was awarded $10,000 from UNC Program on Ethnicity, Culture and Health Outcomes (ECHO) for the Examinations of the Effects of Colorectal Cancer (CRR) Risk Factor Awareness Training on Changing CRC Health Behavior Among African Americans Project. This project addresses health disparities in colorectal cancer (CRC) screening and mortality rate amongst underserved African American minorities in Northeastern North Carolina using church-based community participatory approach. The research literature very clearly indicates that African Americans are at a higher risk and are least likely to be screened and adhere to screening for CRC. Screening is the key to diagnosis and early treatment of CRC in 50 years or older individuals. Pre and post intervention data will be collected for comparison of intervention groups with the controls in intervention.

$10,000 - Culture of Astrocytes and Different Glioblastoma Multiforme Cell Lines for Raman Spectroscopy by Optical Tweezers Project
Dr. Hirendranath Banerjee, associate professor, Biology, was awarded $10,000 from The University of California for the Culture of Astrocytes and Different Glioblastoma Multiforme Cell Lines for Raman Spectroscopy by Optical Tweezers Project. This project is a collaboration between CBST-UC Davis and the Biology Department at ECSU for studying spectroscopic patterns of different glioblastoma cells from different patients in comparison to normal Astrocyte for eventual biomarker detection.

$10,000 - NC Space Grant College and Fellowship Program
Dr. Thomas Rossbach was awarded $10,000 in additional funds from North Carolina State University for the NC Space Grant College and Fellowship program. This grant focuses on developing a program on the geology of Mars by introducing local K-12 teachers to Earth processes and how these processes relate to NASA’s objective of manned missions to Mars.

$10,000 - ECU Professional Science Masters Degree Program
Dr. Paula Viltz was awarded $10,000 from North Carolina State University for the ECU Professional Science Masters Degree Program. This program will provide a broad base of formal course work and research in mathematics and will require students to complete a specialized internship.

$6,000 - My Source Community Impact Award Grant
Mrs. Melba Brown-Smith was awarded $6,000 for the My Source Community Impact Award Grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). The My Source grant is a driving force of the Public Awareness Initiative (PAI). This grant initiative is a shared communications framework that enables public television and radio stations the opportunity to powerfully demonstrate their values and relevance to their communities.

$5,000 - Leads for Anti-Cancer Compounds from Natural Sources Research Project
Dr. Jeffrey Rousch (chair, Department of Biology) was awarded $5,000 from the NC Biotechnology Center (NCBC) for the Leads for Anti-Cancer Compounds from Natural Sources Research Project. This research project consists of exploring Microphotosynthetic cell extracts, which are known to contain commercially interesting bioactive molecules. The exploitation in developing new medicines is largely unexposed and the potential for these cells to produce anti-cancer compounds will be tested using a number of cancer cell lines. Extracts exhibiting anti-cancer properties will be leads for medicinal molecule discovery.

$2,000 - GIS Workshop: Introduction to ARCGIS Project
Dr. William Porter was awarded $2,000 from North Carolina Central University for the GIS Workshop: Introduction to ARCGIS Project. The project will increase student awareness of GIS and its uses in examining spatial data.

$1,000 - Collections Bookshelf Award
Dr. Juanita Midgette was awarded $1,000 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for the Collections Bookshelf Award. This award includes treasured objects and artifacts held by Elizabeth City State University for preservation for future generations with help from the Institute of Museums and Library Sciences Connecting to Collections Bookshelf, a core set of conservation books and online resources donated by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).
Nearly $1 Million In Federal Grants Allows The Community Development Program To Serve Albemarle Residents

When the economy is tight, residents of the Albemarle search for reliable sources of information. The source they have come to depend on is the Community Development Program at Elizabeth City State University.

During the last year, nearly 1 million dollars in federal grants awarded to ECSU’s Community Development Program allowed staff to offer free homebuyer education seminars, housing counseling sessions, financial literacy programs and a select number of home repairs seminars.

Morris Autry, Director of the Community Development Program, said approximately 500 families have taken advantage of the offerings. The information presented during these programs helps participants make critical life decisions. “Owning a home is still an achievable dream for area residents. Residents must be willing to make sacrifices and stay on a budget,” Autry said. “Those who already own a home must also make sacrifices and monitor their spending habits so they won’t lose their homes.”

The programs and seminars offered on a quarterly basis, primarily serve residents in Pasquotank, Perquimans, Camden, Chowan, Currituck and Gates counties. Some of the grants allow services to extend to residents of Dare, Bertie, Martin and other northeastern North Carolina counties.

In September 2009, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded an $800,000 grant to the Community Development Program at ECSU. This Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) grant will rehabilitate 30 owner-occupied homes; provide housing counseling and financial literacy for 300 area residents; assist 50 first-time homebuyers with up to $3,000 to help with down payments and closing costs; and provide funding for the computer learning center at Herrington Village and the Elizabeth City Housing Authority.

In October 2009, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the Community Development Program $61,000 for housing education and counseling sessions. The mortgage foreclosure counseling sessions are important, as six of the surrounding counties in northeast North Carolina have reported alarmingly high foreclosure rates during the past year.

The Community Development Program’s HUD-approved counseling services are available weekly to individuals who request them. The staff also holds quarterly sessions for groups. “These federal grants helped us address the critical needs of residents in northeast North Carolina. The ECSU Community Development Program is one of the few community programs that offers such a wide range of services — home repair, financial literacy classes, down payment assistance and more,” Autry said. “We hope these services will continue providing residents with affordable housing opportunities in the Albemarle region.”

Aviation Science Department Holds ACE Camp

Last summer, students, staff and faculty in the ECSU Aviation Department welcomed area middle and high school students to campus for discussions about career opportunities in the aviation industry. During the weeklong Aviation Career Experience (ACE) camp, the students learned about the parts of airplanes that allow flight, airplane structure and the career options for professionals in aviation. The students took discovery flights with Dr. J. Anthony Sharp, director of Aviation Science Program, at the local airport. The visiting students also joined ECSU students and faculty at Roebuck Stadium to launch small, model rockets.

ACE Camps are co-sponsored across the country by the Federal Aviation Administration. Last summer marked the first time the camp was offered at ECSU. Dr. J. Anthony Sharp said the camps are one of many efforts underway to publicize the Aviation Science program and to stir the interest of youths in the aviation industry. ECSU is the only university in the UNC system that offers a Bachelor’s degree in Aviation Science.
Each November, ECSU joins institutions across the country in celebrating International Week and American Education Week. This year marked ECSU’s 45th celebration that included over 12 events for the public sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education.

International Education Week “promotes programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences in the United States.” The National Education Association’s American Education Week “spotlights the importance of providing every child in America with a quality public education from kindergarten through college, and the need for everyone to do his or her part in making public schools great.”

At ECSU, International Education Week and American Education Week are celebrated together to reflect the close relationship between International and American Education objectives. Mr. Torian Lee is the chair of the International Week committee while Dr. Saundra Copeland was chair of American Education Week.

Each chair, along with over 20 faculty and staff in the committees helps produce the wide range of ECSU International and American Education Week activities, helping to inspire an even stronger commitment among students, faculty and staff to become more globally educated. Activities foster a greater sense of the global community on campus. In addition, they encourage a greater awareness of other peoples, other countries, world affairs and their influence on our lives, among the University’s various constituencies and inform the ECSU family and surrounding community of the various ways the university is engaged in international scholarship and engagement.
Farewell Message from the President

Dear Alumni and Friends:

It has been my extreme pleasure to serve as the president of the ECSU National Alumni Association, Incorporated during the past three and a half years. With your strong support, we have accomplished many of the goals set forth for our organization.

First and foremost, we made sweeping changes in how we manage our fiscal affairs, thereby improving our operational efficiency. We are delighted to report that for the past two years we have been in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and have restored the fiscal integrity of our association. In addition, last year, our improved fiscal management allowed us to establish with the ECSU Foundation an endowed fund, which now has a corpus of more than $60,000. Moreover, we contributed significantly to the Foundation to provide financial resources for students in need of both scholarship support and student services.

We would like to commend you also for your efforts in student recruitment and fundraising. In both of these areas we have made significant improvement. Although the economy has affected the entire nation in ways unimaginable a few years ago, I must say the Vikings have made a valiant effort to support the university in areas where state funding has been diminished. With that said, however, let us resist the notion that we have done enough. There is still a lot of work ahead.

As the new NAA leadership takes the helm, we urge you to stay engaged and educated about what is happening at ECSU. Remember, ECSU needs the support of all alums to stay competitive and viable in these demanding times.

Again, thank you for your support. We look forward to your continued involvement and commitment. Most especially, we wish for the new officers and board members much success in the upcoming years. Viking Pride!

Sincerely,

Charles D. Cherry, Ed.D.
NAA President (2005-2009)
ECSU 33rd Alumni Awards Banquet

The National Alumni Association of Elizabeth City State University held its 33rd Annual Alumni Awards Banquet on September 11, 2009 at the K. E. White Graduate Center in Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

The Honorees Are......

Alumni Affairs Award: Mr. Melvin Norman, ’77
Business Award: Mr. Rodney Hawkins, ’99
Community Service Award: Dr. Paul Norman, ’81
Education Award: Dr. Darnell Johnson, ’73 and Dr. Stephanie Johnson, ’74
Government Relations Award: Mr. Timothy Rodgers, ’83
Professional Achievement: Dr. Stephanie Dance-Barnes, ’95
Viking Spirit Award: Mrs. Gwendolyn Bowser, ’69
Viking Image Award: Mrs. Lena Council

2009 DOWN EAST SPORTS GALA HONOREES

BAND
Dr. Marcus J. Newsome, ’75
Timothy R. Rodgers, ’83
Gwendolyn Sanders, ’77
Ervin Simons, ’71
Delores “Dee Dee” Stewart Smith, ’61

CHEERLEADING
Mamie Malbon Burse, ’63
Dr. Stephanie D. Johnson, ’74
Shirley Miller Mills, ’64

FOOTBALL
Wyntella Ford, ’83
Thomas Earl Liverman, ’61
(Track)
Alfred Leon Pearson, ’64
Phillip Smith III, ’61
Elwood “Tank” Williams, ’64
Leroy F. Williams, Jr., ’65

BASKETBALL
Charles “Peabody” Davis, ’65
Will M. Francis, ’65
Nathaniel R. Heyward, ’71
Dr. Brady B. Johnson, ’63
Frank W. “Yogi” Neal, ’65
Dr. Angella D. Nelson, ’89
Abdul Rashid, ’71
Melvyn N. Riley, ’61
(Football and baseball)

BASEBALL
Jasper D. Evans, ’63
Nathaniel Moore, ’62

TENNIS
Robert Backus, ’76 (Band)
Gene Thompson, ’66
Nathaniel Grant, Jr., ’68
Kennis Wilkins, ’76

Down East Sports Gala
A “Hit” with Down East Fans

In order to bring something new and exciting to Down East football fans and ECSU alumni, the National Alumni Association and Viking Varsity Club teamed up to present the first Down East Sports Gala on September 18, 2009. More than 200 guests attended the event, held at the Gateway Convention Center in Rocky Mount, N.C. The event brought three distinct purposes, first, to recognize unsung athletes, cheerleaders and band members who have made significant contributions to ECSU’s sports legacy. Second, to provide an occasion for alumni “fun” raising. Last, the event raises funds in support of ECSU athletics.

Adding to the festivities of the evening, Joey Sommerville, a jazz-pop trumpeter from Atlanta, Ga., entertained the audience with 90 minutes of fabulous music. During his set, Joey invited Jashaun Peele, an ECSU student, to join him onstage to show off his musicality with the saxophone. The evening ended with an array of soulful dance music “spun” by DJ Royal of Rocky Mount.

After an evening of great music, delicious cuisine and special award recognitions, guests were anxious to hear about the plans for next year. According to the organizers, alumni should stay tuned for upcoming announcements.
Mrs. Lela M. King of Washington, N.C. celebrated her 100th birthday on Saturday, January 24, 2009. Her granddaughter, Mrs. Marian Alexander DeBerry of Chicago helped to celebrate her birthday along with about 150 friends and family. Mrs. King is an active charter member of the Beaufort County Alumni Chapter of ECSU.

Mrs. King completed her high school education at Washington Colored High School and then returned to State Normal School and received her Teaching Certificate. Ms. King received her B.S. degree in Elementary Education in 1939 under President John Henry Bias who helped elevate the two-year normal school to a four-year teachers college in 1937. After teaching 40 years in the Beaufort County System, she decided to retire.

One of the highlights of the party was the reading of a congratulatory letter to Mrs. King from President Barack Obama. “If your regeneration’s willingness to strive for something better becomes the next generation’s, your proclivity for hard work becomes theirs, your empathy for others become theirs—America will continue its journey towards a better day.” Congratulations again on your first century and warm wishes for many more joyful years and experiences to come.

To celebrate Mrs. King and her accomplishments as one of ECSU’s centenarian alumni, ECSU Institutional Advancement staffers Leticia Evans and Melba Smith, along with Jean Bischoff, University Archivist, traveled to Washington, N.C. to videotape an interview with Mrs. King and ask her about her life and ECSU in the days before it was a university.

**ECSU:** Let’s begin with your name and where you were born.

**KING:** My name is Lela Moore King and I was born on January 20, 1909 in Bath, N.C.

So began the delightful interview with Mrs. King. She continued on, explaining that she was born an only child and that her father died when she was only four years old, but her mother lived to the age of 99. From the age of 14 or 15, the family lived on a five-acre farm in Washington.

**ECSU:** What was it like living on a farm?

**KING:** Cows, chicken, pigs, a garden with peas, beans…we didn’t have to go to the store more than once a month because everything was raised right
there. We bought sugar, flour, and few other things. We had everything we needed right at home…everything was so different then than it is now.

Mrs. King further explained that during her high school years, her mother felt that finishing her high school years at the Normal School in Elizabeth City was necessary to prepare her for her future. The high school in Washington was not “standardized,” while the high school at State Normal was a standard high school. She says she attended for three years and then returned to Washington her senior year when it became standardized.

ECSU: How did you feel about leaving home?

King: It felt good to leave home. I was the only child, and I was glad to be around other teenagers. Momma would send cakes and chicken back with me to share with the other girls. The train to Elizabeth City ran twice a day.

ECSU: Whom do you remember most from your school days?

KING: I remember Reverend Doles in particular. He was quite comical. I dearly remember Mrs. Eva Lewis, our English teacher when I returned to school after I married. She urged me to go deeper into writing. She liked some of the things I wrote and felt I was good at expressing my thoughts and feelings. Our dormitory matron in Symera Hall…she was ALWAYS on our backs. We were not allowed to play cards in the dorm, so we’d put a chair or a bed against the door so they had to knock. While she knocked, we’d hide the cards. Most of the names are gone from me now…it’s been a LONG time.

ECSU: What did you do for fun?

KING: I loved the Lyceum programs. They were mandatory, but even if they weren’t we wouldn’t want to miss. I always liked to go to the basketball practices. I was afraid to play (I had been very sheltered), but I loved basketball. I didn’t know much about football, but baseball interested me too.”

ECSU: How did you feel when you graduated?

KING: I felt good when I graduated. I wanted to get a job and help my mother. She was straining to put me through school. She was a chambermaid in the one hotel in Washington. We lived together until I got married. Once I married, I returned to State Normal’s summer school to improve my teaching credential.

ECSU: What was the first ECSU President like? [Peter Wedderick Moore was the first President Emeritus of ECSU from 1891-1928.]

KING: Mrs. King leans back in her scooter chair and laughs. My memory of President Moore mostly involves trying to sign his name to our money orders. We weren’t allowed to cash our money orders at the post office in town until he signed his name and we paid him the amount owed on our bill at the school. We’d try to sign his name so we could hold back some spending money and buy things we wanted in town.

ECSU: What was the first job you ever held?

KING: My first job was at Bell Haven. When I first started teaching, I got $33 or $35 a month. At the time, it went further than it would now. School only was in session for 6 months a year. I moved up to Chocowinity Elementary School and stayed there until I retired.

Once retired, Mrs. King details how she has taken classes, gone on trips and joined many clubs such as the NAACP, the Helping Hand Club and the Leisure Ladies and Gents Club.

ECSU: Are you still active with many of the clubs?

KING: Until about a year or two ago, I decided to skip more meetings and mostly stay at home. The meetings were too long!

Before saying goodbye, the visitors from ECSU admired Mrs. King’s skill in maneuvering her motorized chair. “Come again!” she called, as she threw it in reverse and headed for the kitchen to answer the phone. “As Momma would say, I appreciate your concern.”

An amazing woman.
HOMECOMING WEEKEND

HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS

Thousands of Viking alumni and friends converged on Elizabeth City, N.C. for a weekend of fun and frivolity on October 16 - 17. In addition to the usual alumni icebreaker, after party, tailgating and of course the game, alumni turned out for class reunions and other events taking place in the city.

For alumni, the weekend kicked off with the Coronation of Dr. Paul Andrew Norman (’81), as Mr. Alumni 2010. Dr. Norman won the coveted title through his fundraising efforts that yielded approximately $29,000, the largest amount ever raised by a single contestant. He is the immediate past President of the ECSU National Alumni Association, an active member of the Raleigh-Durham-Wake Alumni Chapter and is a recently appointed member of the ECSU Board of Trustees.

Upon accepting his crown from Richard Reid, Mr. Alumni 2003, and Dr. Viola Vaughan-Holland, Ms. Alumni 2009, Paul stated, “I was in it to win it for the benefit of ECSU students.”

Dr. Norman’s royal court was comprised of the following alumni — first runner-up, Irene Bullock Overton (’63), Washington, DC Metro Chapter; second runner-up, Alice McDonald (’63), Peninsula Alumni Chapter in Hampton, Va.; third runner-up, Susetta Bowser Johnson, Elizabeth City Area Alumni Chapter; fourth runner-up, Mr. Willis Ferebee (’59), Virginia Beach Alumni Chapter. Collectively, the Mr. and Ms. Alumni contestants raised more than $35,000 under the leadership of Mary Cates (’61), homecoming chairperson and the presidency of Dr. Charles D. Cherry (’63).

Homecoming would not be complete without alumni anniversaries. In honor of their 40th, 30th, 25th and 10th anniversary as ECSU graduates, the alumni from 1969, 1979, 1984 and 1999 respectively met at various locations on campus, Elizabeth City and Norfolk, Va. in celebration. Whether it was a luncheon or a cruise aboard the Spirit of Norfolk, these alumni planned their activities with a twofold purpose. First and foremost, they met to renew friendships and reminisce about old times. Secondly, their purpose was to support the ECSU general scholarship fund. As a result, the
class of 1969 presented more than $42,000 to Chancellor Gilchrist during the football pre-game ceremony. In addition, the class of 1979 donated over $27,000 in support of ECSU scholarship program.

The 2009 Homecoming Weekend came to a close on Sunday morning at a Prayer Breakfast, hosted by the ECSU NAA. William Barnes (’69), a member of the William T. Bowser, Sr. Alumni Chapter (Md.), was the keynote speaker. The Alumni Choir, coordinated by Maryella Leigh (’67), provided the music ministry. The NAA collected approximately $1,200 in scholarship donations.

HOMECOMING 2009 RAFFLE WINNERS

1st Prize, 2010 CIAA Weekend – Annette Lartigue, Trenton, N.J.
2nd Prize, $1,000 – Joe W. Shambley, Winterville, N.C.
3rd Prize, $500 – Portia Manley, Cary, N.C.
4th Prize, 2010 ECSU Homecoming Weekend – Kevin McKinnon, Knoxville, Tenn.

Alumni Icebreaker Dance Contest Winners
Gale Pollard and Sharon Bradford – Prize: One (1) CIAA ticket each
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

NAME ____________________________________________
FIRST LAST MIDDLE MAIDEN

STREET ADDRESS _________________________________________

CITY ___________________________ STATE ___________ ZIP ___________

HOME PHONE (            ) __________________________________ E-MAIL ADDRESS ___________________________

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:  ☐ $30 REGULAR/ASSOCIATE  ☐ $400 SINGLE LIFE  ☐ $720 COUPLE LIFE

CHAPTER AFFILIATION?  ☐ YES  ☐ NO  IF YES, CHAPTER NAME ___________________________

DID YOU ATTEND ECSU?  ☐ YES  ☐ NO

YEAR OF GRADUATION _______________________________________

IF YOU DID NOT GRADUATE, GIVE YEAR(S) OF ATTENDANCE __________

Major ____________________________ Degree Earned ____________________________

Send us your membership application.
Mail to: Elizabeth City State University,
Office of Alumni Relations, Campus Box 977
1704 Weeksley Road
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Fax: (252) 335-3489

If you have questions about your membership or form, contact:
Office of Alumni Relations
Phone: (252) 335-3498
Email: ecsualumni@mail.ecsu.edu
1-877-687-2476
Alumni Chapter Presidents

Have you relocated or just graduated from Elizabeth City State? Are you just trying to locate some fellow Vikings and want to join the local alumni chapter? If the answer is yes to any of these questions, check out this updated list of chapter presidents. They should be able to assist you.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR/ MID-ATLANTIC REGION
Mrs. Delores Stewart Smith
788 Ruixhure Drive
Arnold, MD 21012
410-647-3731
dee2smith@comcast.net

REGIONAL DIRECTOR/ SOUTHERN REGION
Mr. Wytella Ford
252-758-5039
Greenville, NC 27834
1004 Colonial Avenue
Ms. Mary cates
ec_eecsu@yahoo.com

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

A. P. LESTER
Mr. William Johnson
201 White Street
Williamston, NC 27892
252-792-3024
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ATLANTA METRO
Mr. Otis Strong
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strong_talk@yahoo.com

Bertie County
Ms. Linda Peele
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252-332-5340
lindapeele@embarqmail.com

Greater Triad
Shon Barnes
201 Harmon Ridge Lane
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336-201-3247 (h)
336-997-0253 (c)
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J. T. DOLES
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Ms. Jean Coleman
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Kinston/Lenoir
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NEW YORK/Long Island
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msb24e@aol.com

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(w) 757-545-5963
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757-851-3915
bobbie4040@verizon.net

Perquimans
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pamelamodlin@hotmail.com

PORTSMOUTH
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Clasl889st@comcast.net

Sandhills Chapter
Mr. James Hand
116 James Hand Road
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910-997-7780

Tri-County
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4610 Saint Andrews Drive
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252-234-9051
ngrant@ncrr.com

Virginia Beach
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5349 Albright Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23464
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ecox48@aol.com

Washington County
Rev. Harry White
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Plymouth, NC 27962
252-793-3127
lee76w@yahoo.com

Washington DC Metro
Ms. Stacia McFadden
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301-316-4764 (h)
301-356-4153 (c)
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Mr. William Barnes
13800 Baden Naylor Road
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301-888-1947
wbarnes@wpgcps.org

Wilmington
Mr. Harris McIntyre
109 Spring Creek Lane
Wilmington, NC 28405
910-686-4757
hmcttyre@ncs.k12.nc.us
Torchbearers

1960s

Gene Thompson (’66) was named Men’s Tennis Coach on January 8, 2005 at Virginia State University. As coach, he has guided the Trojans to 55 wins and 25 losses in four years, 31 wins and 16 losses in the CIAA, with four third place finishes in post season play. His list of accomplishments include winning the CIAA Eastern Division Championship in 2008 and coaching three all-conference players and four finalists.

Prior to attending VSU, Thompson coached the men’s and women’s tennis teams at Lincoln University part-time for 10 years. However, he is a man who wears many coaching hats. Thompson currently serves as the Assistant Women’s Basketball Coach for the VSU. His basketball coaching, along with football, track and field and tennis, began at the high school level with stops in North Carolina (Southwestern), Virginia (Douglass & Warren County) and Delaware (Wilmington & A.I. DuPont). Throughout his tenure he has earned state titles in football (’71), basketball (’78, ’83 and ’88), and track and field (’95). In Delaware, he was named State Coach of the Year in basketball, tennis, and track and field. He was also named Conference Basketball Coach of the Year nine times.

For over 30 years, he has worked the fame Five Star Basketball Camp alongside coaches like Hubie Brown, Rick Patino and John Calipari. He has coached several NBA greats such as Christian Laettner, Grant Hill, Monte Williams and Vince Carter on his camp teams.

A native of Newport News, VA, Thompson graduated from Carver High School, attended Compton College and graduated from Elizabeth City State University, with a Bachelor of Science degree. He received his master’s degree from Virginia State University.

Thompson is also a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

1980s

Steven L. Walker (’87) is currently President/CEO of Creative Vibe Productions, which started in Baltimore, MD. and is now located in Northern Virginia (Stafford). CVP is a music production company and recording studio that specializes in audio production from various genres of music.

His artists have shared the stages with some of the biggest names in the music and entertainment industry. Currently, he has just released two new singles, Ask Him and Gospel Anthem, on one of his Gospel Artists’ albums. In addition, he has also released music for his wife Lily’s album “Just As I Am.”

Walker began his studies as a Music Merchandising (Music Industry Studies) major at Elizabeth City State University in 1983 earning his bachelor’s degree. His principle instruments were percussion and piano. While at ECSU, Walker was a member of the Marching Band, Jazz Band, Concert Band and Mr. M. & The Organization. He was also a NAMM Scholarship Award Recipient.

After earning his degree, Walker taught general music and was a chorus director for schools in Baltimore, MD and NC. He continues to tour the country with various artists he produces and manages. He also plays the drums outside of the recording studio.

For more information on the CD single(s) or Creative Vibe Productions, you can visit www.myspace.com/lily4gospel and www.creativevibeProductions.com.

Johnny Oates (’82) was recognized as the Food Lion CIAA Tailgater of the Year, during halftime of the 2008 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Football Championship Game. As an official corporate sponsor of the CIAA for more than 15 years, Food Lion sponsored the Food Lion CIAA Tailgater of the Year Contest held at Durham County Stadium in Durham, N.C., on Saturday, November 08, 2008.

The Food Lion CIAA Tailgater of the Year Contest is part of the Championship Weekend schedule of events. Mr. Oates signed up to participate in the contest at the championship game and won the $500 Food Lion gift card. A panel of judges rated tailgaters display, hospitality, assortment of foods and preparation.

1990s

Thurman L. Turner (’91) was named as the Judicial District Manager for Onslow County’s Probation and Parole Division. He is the first African American to attain this position for this area of North Carolina.

Mr. Turner received his bachelor’s degree from Elizabeth City State University, where he also joined the Lambda Gamma Chapter in spring 1988. He is a long-time member of the Tau Beta Beta Chapter of Halifax and Northampton Counties.

Michael A. Myrick, Ed.D. (’94) is currently the Principal of J.F. Webb High School in Oxford, N.C. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English. He served two years as Student Government Association (SGA) President. Dr. Myrick received both the Master of Education in Educational Administration and Supervision and the Doctor of Education from Virginia State University. He is married to the former Florence Turner, (’95) a biology graduate. They have two children.

Nataya Myers Harris, (’95) an Administrative Support Associate for Academic Affairs, received a Master of Public Administration from Strayer University on October 17, 2009. The commencement ceremony was held at the Norfolk Scope Arena in Norfolk, Va. She received an honor medallion for a 3.7 grade point average.
Dr. Christopher K. Johnson (’98) is the Country Program Director for the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) Solidarity Center, South Africa office. In this role, he directs programming between the largest American trade union federation and its counterparts in Southern Africa. The South Africa office focuses on organizing, collective bargaining, strategic research, and HIV/AIDS education. He has been based in Johannesburg since 2007.

Christopher is a 1998 graduate of ECSU with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He also holds a Master of Arts in African and African-American Studies from the State University of New York at Albany, and a Doctor of Philosophy in African-American Studies from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA where he worked as the teaching assistant for Dr. Molefi Asante, the leading theorist of Afrocentricity. His written work has appeared in the Journal of Black Studies, the Encyclopedia of African American History, and the Encyclopedia of Black Studies.

Damond L. Nollan (’99) was born in Seoul, Korea, but raised in Tacoma, Washington. Upon graduation from Lincoln High, Damond decided to attend college on the east coast. In 1994, he selected ECSU as the school and Music Industry Studies as the degree. In 1999, Damond opened a record store with another ECSU Music Industry Studies graduate, Kamari Lyons. In the same year, he began work as the webmaster for ECSU. After closing the record store, the partnership was dissolved and Damond opened a web development firm. In 2002, Damond decided to seek an MBA, which led him to teaching business courses at ECSU in 2007. He cut short his tenure as an instructor, however, when North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC, offered him an IT Manager position.

Currently, Damond is pursuing a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) degree in the School of Advanced Studies at the University of Phoenix.

2000s

Alicia Myrick (’01) of Como, North Carolina, received National Board Certification as an Early Childhood Generalist. Ms. Myrick graduated from ECSU with a major in sociology and a certification in elementary education. She currently works at Riverview Elementary School teaching 3rd grade. She coordinates the tutorial after school programs. She has also received honors for being the Teacher of the Year in 2005 and 2006.

LaQuisha Hall (’03) serves as Mrs. Maryland Galaxy 2009, placing first runner-up to Mrs. Galaxy 2010, Jennifer Rinaldi. She graduated from Elizabeth City State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English (minor in Pre-Law). While attending ECSU, LaQuisha began writing and editing for The Compass, campaigned for the position of Miss ECSU and was a Mighty Viking Varsity cheerleader. LaQuisha is a respected educational instructor and community service leader. She is eager to further efforts of promoting sexual abuse awareness internationally. She actively promotes her platform, Stop the Silence! Sexual Abuse Education & Support, which presents a two-pronged approach—educating the public about the realities of sexual abuse and supporting survivors through the recovery process. LaQuisha works alongside Stop the Silence, serving as the International Spokesperson and a board member.

Through Stop the Silence, LaQuisha founded and runs Queendom T.E.A. (The Etiquette Academy), where she mentors, supports and teaches teenage girls about topics that include feminine etiquette, sexual abuse, teen pregnancy, etc. She is also a member of W.A.V.E (Women Against Violence Everywhere) for Turn Around, Inc., serves as the Atlantic Districts Regional Director for Dreamcatchers for Abused Children, speaks and volunteers on behalf of the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) and is a supporter of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA).

Jessica Fields (’06) a business major with a concentration in management; graduated from the North Carolina Central University (NCCU) Law School in May ’09. She recently passed the N.C. bar exam. She is originally from Newport News, VA.
Vikings In The Military

ECSU Alumns Promoted to Colonel

ECSU accomplished much to ensure that the cadets were prepared for future challenges. The ROTC Program called them “Trailblazers” but the rightful ownership is defined by those that forged their paths. They were the ROTC instructors, faculty and staff of our great university. They overcame the adversities and now accept the duties as Colonel. Congratulations to:

Colonel Rodney T. Haggins, Class of 1987
Lambda Gamma - Omega Psi Phi

Colonel Mechelle Hale, Class of 1988, Delta Chi 1986
Delta Sigma Theta

Colonel Tracy Winborne, Class of 1988
Beta Zeta - Alpha Phi Alpha

Colonel Thurinton Harvell, Class of 1988
Epsilon Alpha - Kappa Alpha Psi

This is a major milestone for the Elizabeth City State University ROTC Program!!!

Sergeant Keir Lipford is currently serving in the U.S. Air Force as a Security Force Member. He has been in the Air Force for seven years. SGT Lipford is currently stationed in Iraq, where he has been deployed three times. He has also served in Las Vegas, Italy, and New Mexico. Keir was on the 1999-2001 Viking Basketball Team. Keir has three children – two sons (Jordan and Khalil) and a daughter (Keirra).

LCDR Derek Burrus ('99) was promoted to his current rank of Lieutenant Commander of United States Coast Guard on September 1, 2009. His promotion group was one of the first approved and signed under the Obama Administration. LCDR Burrus graduated from ECSU in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science with a minor in Airway Science. He attended the Coast Guard’s Officer Candidate School located at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. He received his commission in September 1999.

While assigned to Coast Guard headquarters, LCDR Burrus was accepted into the Coast Guard’s postgraduate program. He attended the University of Maryland fulltime where he obtained a Master’s degree in Information Technology. LCDR Burrus is currently assigned to the Coast Guard Atlantic Area Command Center for SAR/Marine Environmental Response located in Portsmouth, VA. LCDR Burrus is also a Youth Minister at the Bethlehem COGIC in Chesapeake, VA. He is married to the former Felicia Saunders, ’99. They have two children, Devin and Mikayla.

Save-the-Dates

SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2010

Robert E. Harvey/Tri-State Alumni Chapter
Annual Scholarship Luncheon
Saturday, June 19, 2010
12-4pm

The Clarion Hotel
6821 Black Horse Pike
Egg Harbor Township, NJ
Cost: $50
Contact: Norman King, 610.259.8241

Geraldine Wright Lewis Memorial Scholarship Dance
The Chesapeake Conference Center
900 Greenbrier Circle
Chesapeake, VA 23320
9pm-1am
Cost: $50
Contact: Mr. Mathew Lewis, 757.549.4009

SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2010

Peninsula Alumni Chapter
Annual Scholarship Dinner & Gala
McGrew towers Conference Ctr.
(Hampton University Campus)
6-9pm
Cost: $25
Contact: Ms. Margaret Jones, 757.851.3915
Tri-County and J. T. Doles Chapters Host The 39th Annual National Alumni Convention

The Tri-County and J. T. Doles Alumni Chapters, under the leadership of Nathaniel Grant, Jr. and Benny Hodges, welcomed over 100 alumni on July 10 - 11, 2009 to the 39th Annual National Convention, held at the Doubletree Hotel, in Rocky Mount, N.C.

The convention held workshops that focused on a variety of topics, including a self-healing session conducted by Dr. Keita Vanterpool ('94); group decision-making by Dr. Charles Singleton ('68), and practical approaches to fundraising by Dr. Laura Walton Buffaloe ('65). Other alumni, Thomas Evans ('68); Abdul Rasheed ('71); Alicia Mercer ('04); Ralisha Mercer ('98); Mark Belfield ('81); Wyeltta Ford ('83) and Arnetha Garner ('69) facilitated sessions ranging in topics from “alumni giving” to “increasing young alumni participation.”

In addition, Roger McLean of R. A. McLean and Associates presented information on financial matters and chapter responsibilities and Leroy Williams, class of 1965, was the keynote speaker for the Saturday morning breakfast.

Chapter Updates

PENINSULA ALUMNI CHAPTER

The Peninsula Chapter recognizes the following members for their outstanding achievements during the year. They are: Joseph Buggs, '61, a newly elected member of the National Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Rodney Hawkins, ’99, received The Business Award at the Alumni Awards Banquet held on September 11, 2009. He was also appointed vice chair of ECSU Foundation Board of Directors.

Alice M. McDonald, ’63, was second runner-up for Ms. Alumni 2009-2010.

Timothy Rodgers, ’83, received the Government Relations Award at the Alumni Awards Banquet held on September 11. In addition, he received an award as an Outstanding ECSU Drum Major at The Down East Sports Gala held on September 18.

Mr. Phillip Smith, III, ’61, was honored for Football at The Down East Sports Gala held on September 18.


WASHINGTON DC METRO ALUMNI CHAPTER

The Washington, DC Metro Alumni Chapter started the year strong with a new and energetic administration. President Stacia L. McFadden, a 1997 computer science graduate of ECSU, has set several goals to take the chapter to new heights. They include: 1) resurrecting old and creating new initiatives to make the chapter more visible in the local and ECSU communities, 2) increasing alumni membership, with a particular focus on welcoming young alums, 3) hosting more informal gatherings so that alumni have more opportunities to reconnect with one another, and 4) utilizing current technologies more effectively for the transaction of business.

The DC Metro Chapter is fortunate to have a very strong leadership team. President McFadden is the director of technology at St. Patrick’s Episcopal Day School in Washington, DC. Vice President James Cherry (’96) is a former SGA President. James is currently a Network Engineering Project manager with Verizon Communications, where he has been employed for more than 12 years. Zabrina Hoggard (’96), recording secretary, earned a degree in physics at ECSU. For the past 11 years, Zabrina has served the country proudly as an officer in the United States Air Force. She is currently assigned at the Pentagon.

The Office of Corresponding Secretary is held by Bernadette DeBerry-Fear (’70). She has a degree in mathematics and secondary education. She is currently a math teacher in the Montgomery County Public School system and CEO of DeBerry, Inc. Patricia Harris (’74), treasurer, is an ECSU graduate with a degree in intermediate education. Pat has been an active member of the National Alumni Association since graduating from ECSU. She has served on the NAA Board of Directors, where
she served as chairperson for eight years. Charlotte O’Neal (’77), is an English major, serves as parliamentarian. Charlotte currently is employed by the Department of Defense as a logistics manager. Julius Riddick (’77) is the financial secretary. He has a degree in business administration with a concentrating in management. Julius is currently employed with the Social Security Administration as a Lead Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist. Last, but not least, Phyllis Elmore (’82) is the chapter’s membership chairperson. She is currently working in the telecommunication center at the Department of Commerce as a senior system analyst and information technology specialist.

**EVA J. LEWIS ALUMNI CHAPTER**

The Eva J. Lewis Alumni Chapter recently presented four scholarships to Pitt County students: Shawn Hardy and Aquan Whitaker from D. H. Conley High School; Wesley Taylor from J. H. Rose High School; Semaj Wallace from Ayden Grifton High School. All four recipients received the scholarships based on their academic achievement, involvement in school activities, and community service. A banquet was held in their honor on Saturday, August 1, 2009, at the Cornerstone’s Family Life Center. Anthony Price, ECSU admissions counselor, was the featured speaker. Special recognition plaques were given to alumni members who contributed to our scholarship fund. In addition, the chapter honored the memory of the following “Fallen Vikings”: C.L. Bembry (’33), Mamie Carney (’36), Magealene Grimes (’36), Rosa Bell (’44), Jessie Williams (’44), Melvin Rountree (’46), and Cherry Gordon (’59).

**WILLIAM T. BOWSER, SR., JOHN H. BIAS AND WASHINGTON, DC METRO CHAPTERS**

The William T. Bowser, Sr., John H. Bias, and Washington, DC Metro Chapters collaborated to sponsor the first ever ECSU Alumni Summer Jam on Friday, August 7, 2009, at the Ridgley Run Community Center in Jessup, MD. With an almost packed house, participants had a wonderful time dancing to the tunes of DJ Prez (Melvin Rawles, ’86) and laughing to the hilarious antics of comedian Kenny Rob. The event also provided a great atmosphere of fellowship as alumni and friends reconnected.

**NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS (2010-2013)**

**NAA OFFICERS**

**President**
Dr. Jeanette H. Evans, ’63

**First Vice President**
Mr. Elston Howell, ’88

**Second Vice President**
Ms. Gwendolyn D. Bowser, ’69

**Recording Secretary**
Ms. Adriane Patterson, ’01

**Corresponding Secretary**
Ms. Irene Bullock-Overton, ’63

**Treasurer**
Dr. Demetra Tyner, ’71

**Financial Secretary**
Ms. Shirley F. Jones, ’75

**Chaplin**
Ms. Cassie B. Swimpson, ’71

**Parliamentarian**
Mr. James A. Spence, ’73

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Chair**
Mr. Ervin C. Simons, ’71

**Vice Chair**
Ms. Shirley M. Williams, ’79

Mr. Enoch D. Bond, ’04

Mr. Joseph A. Buggs, ’61

Ms. Priscilla Burrus-Penny, ’75

Dr. Jeanette H. Evans, ’63,

Dr. Willie J. Gilchrist, ’73

Mr. Nathaniel Grant, Jr., ’64

Ms. Susie S. Hodges, ’65

Mr. Todd L. Twine, ’92

Ms. Yvonne S. Walton, ’76

Dr. Charles D. Charles, ’63, Ex-Officio

**1891 Club**

JOIN NOW!

Join the 1891 Club and celebrate the founding year of Elizabeth City State University by providing scholarship funds for a deserving person to attend ECSU. Members will maintain their active yearly membership by making an annual minimum contribution of $18.91.

**If you have any questions about your membership, please contact:**
Office of Alumni Relations
(252)335-3224 • ecsualumni@mail.ecsu.edu

**Send us your application or form by:**
Mail: Elizabeth City State University,
Office of Alumni Relations; Campus Box 977, 1704 Weeksville Road, Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Fax: (252)335-3489

**Membership applications** are available on our website at www.ecsu.edu/alumni/forms.cfm.

**JOIN NOW!**
ECSU MAGAZINE
SPRING 2010

REGISTRATION FEE: $85 per person (Registration fee includes participation in all convention activities.)  There will be no reduction in fees for persons planning to attend for one day.  **On-site registration is $100 per person.**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 1, 2010.

Special Note: First 50 persons to register will receive a “gift.”

Make checks / money orders payable to: Elizabeth City Area Alumni Chapter and mail to the Office of Alumni Relations, Attn: Ms. Patresia A. Holley, Financial Secretary, Elizabeth City Area Alumni Chapter, 1704 Weeksville Road, Campus Box 977, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

“CaribbeanFest in VikingLand”

Friday, July 16, 2010  Cost: $15 in advance/ $20 at the door

Sponsored by the Elizabeth City Area Alumni Chapter (Proceeds - Scholarship Fund)
13TH ANNUAL DOWN EAST VIKING FOOTBALL CLASSIC
September 16-18, 2010
ECSU vs. Fayetteville State University
Rocky Mount, NC

ECSU HOMECOMING 2010
October 28-31, 2010
Elizabeth City, NC
ECSU vs. Chowan University
On the brink of elimination, Elizabeth City State University battled to capture its first CIAA Women’s Bowling Championship held March 21-23, 2009 at AMF Durham Lanes.

Led by most valuable bowler Tiffany Johnson, the top seeded Lady Vikings knocked off the second seed Bowie State University 4-1 and 4-0 in the finals after being nearly ousted from the tournament. The Lady Vikings advanced to the finals only after edging third seed Virginia State University 4-3-1 in the semifinals.

“They wanted to win,” said Lady Vikings’ head coach Jody Williams about his team. “The girls stayed together and stayed focused.”

The Lady Vikings entered the morning unbeaten in the winner’s bracket of the double-elimination baker championship format after two victories Sunday, but they were stunned 4-2 by Bowie State. The loss sent the Lady Vikings to the elimination bracket where they barely held off Virginia State. The seven-game match went to a tiebreaker game.

By CIAA rules, the tiebreaker in the elimination round is a modified baker game in which both teams play the last five frames instead of 10 frames in a normal baker game.

With four consecutive strikes, including three in a row from Johnson, the Lady Vikings slipped past Virginia State in the tiebreaker game to reach the finals for another shot at Bowie State, which was unbeaten in the championship bracket.

In the finals, the Lady Vikings dispatched Bowie State twice with ease. Coach Williams was worried during the elimination match, but the Lady Vikings battled through adversity to win three straight matches for the 2008-09 championship.

“They had the will to win,” Williams said about the Lady Vikings.

Joining Johnson on the 2008-09 All-CIAA Tournament Team was Tycora Brown of Bowie State, Keia Marshall of Shaw University, Tiffany Ball of Saint Paul’s College and Danielle Gammon of Virginia State University.

During the awards ceremony, the Lady Vikings received their 2008-09 championship plaque while Bowie State was awarded the runner-up plaque and Virginia State University accepted its third-place plaque.
Vikings Finish Season 7-4 Overall

The ECSU Football Vikings ended the season 7-4 overall, after competing in the 11th annual Pioneer Bowl.

The Vikings took on the Golden Tigers of Tuskegee University at Charlie W. Johnson Stadium in Columbia, S.C., on Dec. 5, 2009. It was the only NCAA-sanctioned bowl game involving HBCU athletic conferences, pitting a Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) team against a team from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC). Unfortunately, the Golden Tigers outscored the Vikings 21-7 to cap an otherwise notable season for the Mighty Vikings.

Head Football Coach Waverly Tillar said the athletes of the 2009 team were standout competitors in the CIAA. With thrilling victories at the Down East Viking Football Classic and Homecoming 2009 studding their belts, the Vikings proved to be a fierce band of fighters.

“Our coaches saw signs of maturity and courage in several of our players this season,” Tillar said. “Quarterback Creven Powell was a respectable leader who has a good grasp on the offense. He stood behind the former quarterback, Curtis Rich, for two years but performed well in his first year (as starting) quarterback.”

Tillar also gave credit to the team’s defensive players who he said also improved during the year.

“Justin Hamilton broke the ECSU career interception record; Malcolm Jenkins, a defensive end, led the conference in sacks; and Terry Griffin, a defensive tackle, was number one for forced fumbles in Division II,” Tillar said.

“Our fans can look forward to seeing up to seven students on the defense return next year,” he said.

Offensive and defensive members of the Vikings football team received accolades throughout the season. Among the highlights:

- Four members of the team were selected to play in the Russell Athletic HBCU Bowl on Dec. 19, 2009, in Montgomery, Ala.
- Three team members were selected to play in the 2010 Valero Cactus Bowl on Jan. 7, 2010, in Kingsville, Texas.
- Three players were named Heritage Sports Radio Network 2009 All-Americans – offensive tackle Dylan Stivers, tight end Karvin Gwaltney and defensive end Malcolm Jenkins.
- Defensive back Josh Brooks and running back Daronte McNeill were named to the 2009 CIAA All-Rookie team. Coach Tillar and several Vikings received CIAA weekly honors during the season.
- Five players were All-CIAA performers – wide receiver Reggie Smith, Dylan Stivers, Karvin Gwaltney, defensive back Justin Hamilton and punter Daniel Mendez.

Tillar said he and the coaching staff are looking ahead to a 2010 team that will fiercely pursue the CIAA championship.
CIAA Recognizes ECSU Coaches For Outstanding Season

Elizabeth City State University bowling Coach Jody Williams was named the 2008-2009 CIAA Bowling Coach of the Year as announced at the CIAA Spring Meeting at the Durham Marriott.

The CIAA also formally acknowledged Waverly Tillar and Linda Bell as CIAA Coach of the year in football and volleyball, respectively. This past season Tillar coached the Vikings to their second division championship and CIAA Championship game appearance in the past three seasons while Bell led the Lady Vikings to both their first ever CIAA Crown and an appearance in the NCAA playoffs.

Like Bell, Williams guided the Lady Viking bowling team to their first bowling championship in school history. ECSU also won their second division title since the CIAA began sponsoring bowling in 2001 (2003).

For more information on ECSU Athletics, visit www.ecsuvikings.com.

Hall of Fame

Four people were inducted into the ECSU Sports Hall of Fame during Homecoming 2009. Nathan Higgs, Shawn Walker, Mrs. Addie Griffin and Everett “Bic Mac” McIver.

ECSU Hall of Fame inducts four

Nate Higgs was a four-year starter, All Star forward for ECSU. He led the team in scoring and rebounding for three years. He scored a career high 2,066 points and retrieved over 1,000 rebounds in his collegiate career. He was one of the leading scorers and rebounders in the CIAA and the NCAA Division II. He was voted All CIAA in 1992, 1993 and 1994 as well as CIAA Conference Player of the Year in 1993 and 1994. Higgs signed as a free agent with the Seattle Sonics of the NBA and was drafted in the first round by the Omaha Racers of the CBA. He has played several years in the International Basketball Professional Leagues and is currently playing in Barcelona, Spain.

As an undergraduate, Walker was a three-year, starting guard for the ECSU Vikings. He scored 1,461 points and was the NCAA Division II statistical leader in free throw percentage (1992) and 3-point field goal percent. During the 1993-1994 season, he set a school record for the most 3-point field goal attempts (485) for a single season. In his junior year, Shawn set the record for the most field goals made (219). He was selected All CIAA in 1993 and 1994 as well as team Co-Captain. Walker is currently the head coach for the Vikings Basketball team. He led the Vikings to the CIAA Conference Tournament Championship in 2007 and the NCAA Division II playoff. He was selected CIAA Basketball Coach of the Year in 2008.

Addie Griffin has held the several positions in the Athletics Department: Clerk typist, Secretary, Administrative Assistant, Cheerleader Advisor, Senior Women’s Administrator and Associate Director of Athletics. She was voted CIAA Senior Women’s Administrator of the Year and was the first woman administrator on the Conference Executive Committee as Women’s Vice President. Griffin served on the Faculty Athletic Committee, the ECSU Courtesy Committee and serves on the Executive Committee for the Down East Viking Football Classic. She is an advocate for student athletics so she serves as the Athletic Academic Coordinator and advisor to the Student Athletic Advisory Committee. She also served as the first secretary and treasurer for the ECSU Sports Hall of Fame.

Everett McIver was a four-year starter and defensive end for the ECSU Vikings. He led the Vikings in tackles and QB sacks for three years and was one of the leaders in the CIAA and the NCAA Division II. During his junior and senior seasons 1991-1992 he was team co-captain and was voted All CIAA in 1990, 1991 and 1992. He was selected CIAA Conference Defensive Player of the Year in 1991 and 1992. McIver was chosen for the Sheridan Black College All American Team in 1992 and selected as the Washington Pigskin Club Football Player of the Year in 1992. McIver started as an offensive lineman for several years with the New York Jets, Miami Dolphins, Dallas Cowboys and Atlanta Falcons in the NFL.
In Loving Memory

Elizabeth Bias Cofield
January 21, 1920 – October 23, 2009
(Daughter of John Henry Bias, Second President, 1928-1939)

As the first black elected to the Raleigh Board of Education and the first black and first woman elected to the Wake County Board of Commissioners, Elizabeth Bias Cofield has been a trailblazer in public service and local politics.

Born in Raleigh and reared in Elizabeth City, Cofield spent much of her childhood on the campus of Elizabeth City State University, where her father was the university president. The importance of education from was instilled in Cofield at an early age. She earned an undergraduate degree in elementary education from Hampton Institute (now Hampton University) and a master’s degree in administration and supervision from Teacher’s College, Columbia University in New York. A lifelong learner, she pursued additional studies in personnel administration and guidance from N.C. State University.

Cofield used her education to inspire and guide students for nearly 40 years as a Professor of Education and Personnel Administrator at Shaw University in Raleigh. Affectionately known as “Ma Cofield,” she challenged students to think critically, to lead rather than follow, and to strive for personal and academic success. Cofield’s influence can be seen around the country through the achievements of thousands of Shaw alumni whom she taught and mentored as students. For her decades of service and impact on students, Shaw awarded Cofield an Honorary Doctorate in 2006.

During the ‘60s, Cofield’s political activism centered on the civil rights movement. She helped found the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) chapter on the Shaw campus and, together with her husband James, organized and participated in sit-ins and marches.

Over the years, Cofield opened her home to other aspiring black politicians, sharing her counsel, knowledge, and support. Her encouragement has inspired candidates and promote fair and equitable policies for all Wake County citizens.

Cofield has served as charter member of the Wake County Council for the Aging, and chairperson of various organizations, including the Wake County Board of Social Services, Health Council-Central North Carolina, and Raleigh Community Ambassador Project. She was also vice president of the National Association of Women Deans and Counselors, regional director of Jack and Jill of America, and vice president of the Black Caucus of the National School Boards Association. She is a founding member of the Wake County Black Democratic Caucus and was elected to serve in various national offices for public officials, including the National Association of County Commissioners. On September 9, 2008, Cofield was inducted in the Raleigh Hall of Fame.

Cofield’s lifelong dedication to public service has inspired women, blacks, elected officials, and citizens from all corners of the country to reach for great heights and work without reservation to make their community a better place to live for all.
ALUMNI
Velma Lee Turnage Joyner ’41
Martha Jenkins Moore Thompson ’43
Hattie Turner Riddick ’45
Nancy Flood Hall, ’45
Hattie Carter Becton ’45
Dennis Haywood Askew ’53
Carroll M. Rodgers ’53
Paul James ’60
Al Clifton Lucas ’63
Virginia D. Whitehurst Greene ’65
Mamie Scott Hall, ’65
Wilder Taylor ’66
Steve Mayo ’66
Sheila Hicks Ervin ’68
James Powell ‘68
Rev. Dallas L. Brown Sr. ’69

Edna Hargrove Penn ’69
Lela Griffin Skinner ’71
Maxine Beatty ’75
William Sylvester Westbrook ’79
Harold D. Coppedge ’79
Donna M. Hardy ’80
Jeanette Hick Foust ’84
Carol Ann Smith ’84
William Brockenberry ’86
Theresa Overton Palmer Watson ’86
Lisa Taylor ’89
Thurman L. Turner ’90
LeVar Dontrell Bond ’05

EMPLOYEE
Grady Deese