



From the Office of President Richard Rafes

East Central University

Campus Update December 18, 2008

FAREWELL TO PRESIDENT RAFES



Last month the announcement was made that Dr. Richard Rafes had been selected as the president West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, W.Va. With great emotion the Rafes' said

goodbye to faculty, staff, students and supporters at the farewell reception this month.

According to Rafes, "It was one of the toughest decisions we have ever made, but in the end, the close proximity to my wife's sister and aging parents was the deciding factor in our decision to accept the new position."

Dr. Duane C. Anderson, provost and vice president for academic affairs at ECU, was named interim president of the university by the Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma, effective Jan 1, 2009.

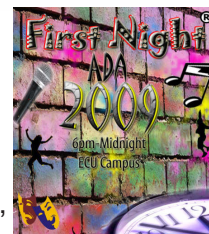
"We plan to begin the search for a new president as soon as possible. Dr. Anderson has an outstanding record at ECU and we have every confidence the university will be in great hands under his leadership," said Dr. Joe Anna Hibler, chair of the RUSO Board of Regents.

FACULTY AND STAFF CENTENNIAL POSTERS

ECU's Communications and Marketing Department has developed a Centennial Poster and is requesting all faculty and staff to autograph the border. If you did not get a chance to sign the poster, please stop by Danley Hall, 3rd floor. A limited number of posters will be ordered at the end of January – reserve yours today!

FIRST NIGHT® ADA

The second annual First Night® Ada New Year's Eve celebration is underway with more than 60 performing acts and a laser show for the New Year's countdown. The non-alcoholic, free, family friendly event will be Dec. 31, at 6 p.m. - midnight, on the campus of ECU.



The evening will end with an amazing laser show, featuring a tribute to ECU, which will officially kick-off ECU's Centennial Celebration.

CELEBRATING ECU'S CENTENNIAL

In addition to the ECU Centennial website, local media will air Public Service Announcements and the Ada HUB and Ada Evening News have created sections in their publications that will share moments in ECU History with the community.

Beginning in the fall of 2009 all ECU Freshmen will receive a \$100 Scholarship each semester for four years. For complete details visit www.ecok.edu/scholarship.

Specific events have been planned for faculty, staff, students, alums and the community throughout the year. To list a few:

- Alumni Orange & Black Sweetheart Social
- A 1909 Evening
- Week of festivities surrounding March 25, where in 1909 Gov. Haskell signed the Ada normal bill
- Week of festivities surrounding the first day of classes on Sept 20, 1909.



Don't forget to submit your favorite ECU memories or photographs to ecuinfo@ecok.edu. For additional centennial information visit www.ecok.edu/centennial.

580-332-8000

www.ecok.edu



LT. GEN. JAMES D. THURMAN GIVES ADDRESS

Lt. Gen. James D. Thurman, the deputy chief of staff of the U.S. Army, received the highest honor the university bestows upon its

former students – Distinguished Alumni Award -- during ECU's Fall Commencement ceremony.

Thurman became the Army's deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7, on Sept. 22, 2007. Thurman has the Army General Staff responsibility for strategy formulation, overall force development, individual and unit training policy, the functional aspects of strategic and tactical command and control systems, nuclear and chemical matters and establishing requirements and priorities for the employment and sustenance of Army forces.

More than 240 students received their Bachelor's Degree and more than 100 graduates received their Master's Degree on Dec. 13, 2008.

ECU NURSING STUDENTS EXCEED PASS RATE

The 2008 graduates from the ECU nursing program attained a 94 percent first time pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). Graduates from all nursing programs in the United States must pass this examination in order to practice as Registered Nurses.



According to Dr. Joe Catalano, the 2008 Oklahoma average first time pass rate for all RN nursing programs is right at 85 percent and the 2008 national average for all programs in the U.S. and its five territories is 87 percent.

MIS LAB DEDICATED TO DR. CARL BARDIN

ECU honored the late Dr. Carl Bardin by dedicating the MIS computer lab in his name.



Bardin was an extremely patient and passionate instructor who taught in the School of Business from 1970-1984 then from 1984-2006 after which he served as an adjunct professor until his last days.

ALUM AND FORMER FACULTY MEMBER

DONATES \$10,000 TO GSA

Louise Young, ECU alum and former faculty member made a \$10,000 donation to the ECU Gay-Straight Alliance. The funds will help start a lectureship series that will focus on diversity awareness and issues of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community. The Young Armstrong Lectureship Fund will enable the GSA to promote tolerance of different sexualities.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr. Dwight Myers was recognized by the NASA Glenn National Research Center for the research contribution of his work on the paper entitled "Theoretical and Experimental Investigation of the Thermochemistry of CrO₂(OH)₂(g)".

Dr. Karen Williams was recognized at the 2008 Sigma Pi Sigma Quadrennial Congress held at Fermilab (NSF National Physics Research Lab for High Energy Physics) in Batavia, Ill. Williams is only the 4th recipient of the prestigious Seagondollar Service Award.

Dr. Mara Sukholutskaya was selected to present about Russian folktales to all the Russian classes in Glastonbury, Conn. which has the longest-running public school-Russian program in the country.

ECU A LEADER IN NATION IN GRANT PRODUCTION

The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System's (IPEDS) current ranking lists ECU as leader in the country in the amount of government grants received by public institutions with 5,000 students or less.

ECU received \$20 million during the 2009 fiscal year from grants and other external funding, not including donations. The grants and contracts ECU receives provide nearly 75 full-time jobs that contribute about \$3 million to the economy, as well as several part-time jobs that provide an additional \$1 million.

GRANT AWARDED FOR PLAZA FOLIAGE

A \$23,812 grant from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation will help purchase trees and shrubs to enhance the new Centennial Plaza adjacent to the Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center.



SECOND ANNUAL GROUP OF CHESAPEAKE SCHOLARS ANNOUNCED AT ECU

Eight outstanding students at ECU have been named recipients of Chesapeake Cartography Scholarships.

The awards, which range from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

BURL TO PLAY IN CACTUS BOWL

ECU cornerback Gerett Burl will play in the 2009 Cactus Bowl on Jan. 9, 2009 at Javelina Stadium in Kingsville, Texas.



The Cactus Bowl features stars from NCAA Division II schools. There have been over 100 players drafted into the NFL who played in the Cactus Bowl, which began as the Snow Bowl and was played in Fargo, N.D. from 1994-2000. In 2001, the Snow Bowl was renamed the Cactus Bowl and moved to Kingsville.

Burl, who just completed his senior and only season at ECU this past fall, led the team with nine pass break-ups and compiled 34 total tackles, including 28 solo-stops and two for losses of two yards.

BREAKING GROUND ON THE NEW PAT O'NEAL STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING CENTER

ECU administrators stand with former Tiger head football coach Pat O'Neal (center) during the recent ground breaking for the Pat O' Neal Strength and Conditioning Center.



Construction on the 6,250 square foot workout facility has already begun with a scheduled completion date of May 1, 2009.

MCCARTY SELECTED AS NEW HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

Brian DeAngelis welcomes new East Central University head football coach Tim McCarty.



McCarty returns to ECU after serving as the head football coach in 2004 and 2005.



Basketball Season is Here!



A Surprise for all at the ECU Holiday Party -- SANTA!!



ECU Celebrates Veterans Day



ECU Raises Awareness About Adoptions



ECU Goes Global



Science Spectacular was a Success

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 10- Jan. 4
Campus will be Closed

Dec. 31
First Night Ada

Jan. 8
Class Work Begins

Jan. 10 & Jan. 17
Women's Basketball, 2pm - HOME
Men's Basketball, 4pm- HOME

Jan. 19
Martin Luther King Day