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YEARS

East Central University
Campus Update

From the Office of the President

June 18, 2009



**DR. ANDERSON
HONORED TO SERVE**

On Jan. 1, 2009, I became Interim President of East Central University and set about the tasks of leading the university through the scheduled spring Centennial celebrations and of managing the transition from the seventh to the eighth president. Although interim presidencies are supposed to be uneventful and focused upon

the status quo, the time since last January has been both rewarding and challenging.

The centennial celebrations were a smashing success. On March 25, we commemorated the signing of Senate Bill 83 that created East Central Normal School on March 25, 1909. I offered a centennial address that acknowledged the university's long-standing partnership with the City of Ada and the Chickasaw Nation (View the address at http://www.ecok.edu/centennial/centennial_address.asp). Among numerous other events that week were a birthday party for the university sponsored by Student Senate, and a dinner and entertainment program set in 1909.

The capstone to the spring's celebrations was the May 9 Centennial Commencement. The speaker was Jim Lehrer from *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* on PBS. A delightful gentleman, he entertained the audience with his famous "bus call" that he manages to include in all of his speeches. Mr. Lehrer encouraged the graduates to live a life of service to others, in one fashion or another. His appearance was a fitting end to the spring semester.

Throughout the spring, faculty and staff grappled with looming budget woes which were anticipated for the coming year. Preparation of the university's 2009-10 budget posed a daunting challenge. Projections of declining revenues for next year caused faculty, staff

and students to rethink our needs and priorities. Faculty and staff joined together with the administration to save money during the spring semester. Student Senate supported a tuition increase, if necessary, to help bridge the projected budget shortages. In the end, no tuition increases were necessary due to the inclusion of federal Stimulus Bill money, courtesy of President Obama. The addition of a small amount of new state money to partially address our mandatory costs increase for next year resulted from the unwavering support of Governor Henry. Thus, our budget was finalized without the draconian cuts originally feared. Difficult times may loom ahead, but for now the university's core mission of educating students has been protected.

As I prepare to return to my previous position as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, I am confident that East Central University is in good condition to be handed over to the new president. On July 1, 2009, the university community welcomes its eighth president, John R. Hargrave, who will lead East Central University into its second century. Please join me in welcoming him upon his return to his alma mater, and in supporting him in his new endeavor as our president.

Duane C. Anderson
ECU Interim President

ECU Faculty Senate and Staff Council Invite
You to Attend a
Welcome Reception for

**ECU President
John R. Hargrave**

Tuesday, July 7
2 - 4 p.m., Faculty & Staff
4 - 6 p.m., Public Welcome
University Center

580-332-8000

www.ecok.edu



JOHN R. HARGRAVE NAMED PRESIDENT OF ECU

John R. Hargrave of Wewoka, a founder and managing partner of the Edmonds Cole Law Firm in Oklahoma City, was named president of East Central University on May 15, 2009, by the Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma.

Hargrave, 54, who earned a bachelor's degree from ECU in 1977, will become ECU's president on July 1.

He received a juris doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1980 and began practicing law with the Folliart, Mills & Neimeyer law firm. He was managing partner of Neimeyer, Edmonds, Noland, Alexander & Hargrave from 1983 to 1985 before becoming a founder and managing partner of Edmonds, Cole, Hargrave, Givens and Woodson in 1985.

He served as mayor of Wewoka from 2002-2007. Hargrave is a board member and general counsel of the Whitten Newman Foundation which granted more than \$1.4 million in 2008 for educational institutions, scholarships and organizations promoting education, primarily in Oklahoma.

As a member since 1994 of the Board of Directors of Wewoka Industries, which recruits industry and jobs, Hargrave helped negotiate the establishment of a juvenile treatment facility in Wewoka.

He founded the Downtown Investment Group and the Wewoka Community Foundation.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Seminole State College Foundation, a member of the Visitors Board of the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History on the University of Oklahoma campus, a member of the advisory board of the Jasmine Moran Children's Museum and the Wewoka Foundation for Excellence in Education.

Hargrave and his wife Kay, who is an assistant district attorney for Seminole, Hughes and Pontotoc Counties, received the Volunteer Parents of the Year Awards in 2004 and 2006 from Wewoka Public Schools. They received the Outstanding Service to the Public Award

from the Oklahoma Bar Association in 2004.

The Hargraves have four children, Jeff, a former ECU student who practices law in Oklahoma City; Robert, a recent graduate of Oklahoma State University; Lora, a recent graduate of the University of Oklahoma; and Melissa, a student at Oklahoma State University.

ECU ALUMNI SUMMER REUNIONS

A McAlester-area reunion was hosted by the ECU Alumni Association on May 30. Several alums took the opportunity to reconnect with ECU.



Two more Alumni Reunions are scheduled this summer:

Oklahoma City
Bricktown Brewery
June 27 at 6 p.m.

Ardmore
Café Alley
July 18 at 6 p.m.

The cost is \$10 per person at the door and includes appetizers. Proceeds will fund ECU's Alumni Association legacy scholarships for children/grandchildren of ECU alums and scholarships for junior and senior students.

Alumni, faculty, staff and friends of ECU are invited to the reunion and can register at: http://alumni.ecok.edu/events/event_details.asp?id=29246.

MICKEY COWAN STEPPING DOWN AS ECU FOUNDATION'S CEO

Mickey Cowan, executive director of the East Central University Foundation Inc., has announced he will resign as the foundation's CEO because of health reasons. Cowan, a well-known figure in ECU and Ada circles, said he would return to teaching in the classroom.

Cowan has served as the foundation's executive director since June 2008. The search for a new executive director is underway.



FAMOUS ARTIST'S GRANDDAUGHTER DONATES PAINTINGS TO ECU

When the Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center opens soon at East Central University, two recent acquisitions will be on exhibit in the new art gallery -- valuable paintings by one of Latvia's most noted artists, Ludolfs Liberts.

The paintings were donated to ECU by Liberts' granddaughter, Melita Long of Ada, who works on campus for Chartwell's Dining Service.

Melita Long (right) shows off one of two paintings by Latvian painter Ludolfs Liberts that she has donated to East Central University. Participating in the presentation were Dr. Brad Jessop (from left), chair of ECU's Department of Art, and Long's niece and sister, Kyra Spradling and Mary Spradling, both of Shawnee. Long and Mary Spradling are granddaughters of the famous painter. The paintings will be part of ECU's permanent collection in the art gallery in the new Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center. One of the paintings she gave to ECU was painted in Germany of St. Mark's Square and the other appears to have been painted in Venice. Both are valued at approximately \$10,000.



ROSATO NAMED ECU HEAD BASEBALL COACH

After guiding Bacone College to a runner-up finish in the NAIA's Red River Athletic Conference this past spring, Dino Rosato has been named the new head baseball coach at ECU.

Rosato led the Warriors to a 29-20 finish this past season, including a second-place finish to Northwood (Texas) and a 10-5 mark in the RRAC regular season. It was Rosato's first season as Bacone head coach after serving three years as an assistant at the Muskogee institution. In his three years as an assistant, the Warriors were one of the top teams in the RRAC with an impressive 41-14 record during the 2008 campaign.

PASCHALL RETIREMENT DINNER A SUCCESS

A retirement dinner was held for Dr. Jack Paschall on June 13. More than \$10,000 was donated to the ECU Foundation Inc. to endow the scholarship in his name.



Dr. Jack Paschall, an Adolph Linscheid Distinguished Teaching Professor, has taught and supervised thousands of teachers in his career.

"Dr. Paschall has taught at East Central University since the fall of 1970, helping literally thousands of young men and women obtain their dream of a college education," said Mickey Cowan, executive director of the ECU Foundation. "He truly never met a student that he did not help."

ECU WINS \$5,000 GRANT FROM OSCPA

In a statewide competition of college accounting departments, ECU has received first place - a \$5,000 grant from the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants.



Susan Leonard of Sulphur (center) is congratulated for her role in securing a \$5,000 grant for ECU by Dr. Micheal Thompson (left), dean of ECU's School of Business, and Dr. Sarah Holmes, chair of the Department of Accounting.

ECU APPRECIATES VETERANS

Veterans Appreciation Day was hosted by ECU's Veterans Upward Bound Program this month. Many veterans and members of the community attended and enjoyed food and fellowship. The feature speaker was Maj. Gen. Rita A. Aragon who retired in 2007 as the Air National Guard assistant to the deputy chief of staff of Staff Manpower and Personnel at the Pentagon. Other guest speakers included John Schupp of Cleveland State University - SERV (Supportive Education for Returning Veterans) and Jeremy Williams, south central regional director for Student Veterans of America.





TARKENTON DELIVERS LIMES LECTURE

Fran Tarkenton, former professional football player, TV personality and computer software executive delivered the Leonard Limes Endowed Lecture at ECU.

Tarkenton is best known for his years with the Minnesota Vikings and New York Giants, as well as a commentator on *Monday Night Football* and a co-host of *That's Incredible!*.

Tarkenton also founded Tarkenton Software, a computer-program generator company, and he toured the U.S. promoting CASE computer-aided software engineering with Albert F. Case, Jr. of Nastec Corporation. Tarkenton Software later merged with Knowledge Ware (with Tarkenton as president), until selling the company to Sterling Software in 1994.

ECU'S OVERMIER WINS NATIONAL FLUTE ASSOCIATION COMPETITION

Flutist Juliana Overmier, an adjunct faculty member at ECU, has won the 2009 National Flute Association's Convention Performer's Competition, which was created to promote newly published flute music. She will travel to New York City in August to premiere composer David Cutler's four-movement work "Post-cards" at the NFA annual convention.

UPCOMING EVENTS

6/27/2009

Alumni Reunion in Oklahoma City

7/3/2009

Campus Closed

7/6/2009

Offices open at 8 a.m.

7/7/2009

President Hargrave Welcome Reception

7/7/2009

Beginning Freshman Enrollment

7/13/2009

Tiger Basketball Camp

7/18/2009

Alumni Reunion in Ardmore

8/12/2009

Convocation

8/17/2009

First Day of Classes

Moment in ECU History

After 40 years of being housed in other buildings, the Linscheid Library was dedicated on Oct. 23 1949, and named in honor of long-time ECU President Adolph Linscheid. The library was enlarged and remodeled in 1963 and 1976, respectively.

Today, the Linscheid Library is housed in a new building that features a lot of natural light, is warm and welcoming and located along the eastern hillside of campus. Dedicated on Oct. 23, 1997, in a ceremonial reenactment of the original dedication, the new Linscheid Library has 74,020 square feet of library space that houses numerous materials including an audiovisual department, periodicals, reference, circulation, instruction and special collections.

The library is opened seven days a week and most services are available to the public. A patron card can be purchased by individuals wishing to check out material.

