

CAMPUS UPDATE



September 2021

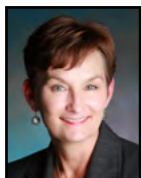
Pierson's Perceptions

People of all walks of life have commented that there is no better place to be than on a university campus at the start of a new fall semester. They are correct. The energy, excitement, and splash of nervousness that all of us feel in these opening weeks combine for quite a thrill.

We welcome new Tigers to join us in the traditions that make ECU a wonderful place to be. Yes, there is newness, but Tiger traditions provide a foundation for our success. They create a stability that helps us focus on the day at hand and know tomorrow will also be another great day.

We have a new tradition that will be with us a long time — the ringing of the bell to signal the start of the academic year. The bell has been on campus a long time, but had been forgotten in a closet. It was recently discovered and is now on display on the second floor of Danley Hall.

Some of ECU's more long-standing traditions, such as the Honors Program kickoff, Howdy Days, and the Tiger Block Party allow us to connect with our old friends and meet new ones. They also help us reach our goals and achieve our dreams. It is going to be a great year because each of you contributes to the spirit of ECU.



Dr. Katricia Pierson
President
East Central University

Ring the bell ...



... school's in session!

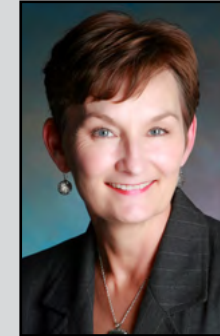
Nothing brightens the ECU campus like the return of students each fall! The radiant smiles are everywhere, seen in these beginning-of-semester photos. At top, Dr. Steve Benton leads his Honors students in a jump for joy. Below, three students share a laugh during the check-in process. At left, Dr. Katricia Pierson beams during the traditional Honors Convocation march. Are you thinking of attending ECU? The application period for Fall 2022 is now open! **More photos inside!**



TIGER TALES

President Pierson named trustee to Higher Learning Commission

East Central University President Dr. Katricia Pierson has been named to the Board of Trustees of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), an independent corporation founded in 1895 as one of six regional institutional accreditors in the United States. The HLC, based in Chicago, accredits nearly a thousand colleges and universities. The Board of Trustees is the governing body of HLC and is made up of a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 21 members. One of every seven trustees is a public representative, and the others are broadly representative of HLC institutions. Her term as trustee begins September 1. "It is an honor to have been nominated to serve," Pierson said. "I'm thrilled to be a part of the Commission's work."



PIERSON

ECU receives Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission STEM-related grant

The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) has awarded East Central University a \$1,750 grant to help facilitate education in the fields of aerospace and aviation. The funds were administered through the OAC's Aerospace and Aviation Education Grant Program, which has been active for more than 30 years. ECU was one of 50 state organizations to receive a grant during the OAC's August meeting. ECU's Institute of Math and Science Education (IMSE) will utilize OAC grant funds to offer a one-day, aviation-based camp next summer, said Dr. David Thornton, ECU assistant professor and IMSE director. The camp is for up to 30 students, accompanied by a teacher, to gain knowledge about careers in aviation and related curriculum offered on the high school level.

Read the entire stories at www.ecok.edu/news/



ECU welcomes new faculty

ECU welcomes new faculty members for the fall 2021 semester. Pictured at far left with new faculty members is Dr. Jeffrey Gibson, ECU provost and vice president of Academic Affairs. New faculty, starting immediately right of Dr. Gibson, are Vivian Eldridge, Dr. Johnie Fredman, Dr. Steve Pedersen, Dr. Beau Leaf, Dr. Emily Simpson, Dr. Jennifer Lancaster, Dr. Paulette Pitt, Ashley Lewis and Anthony Isaacs. Not pictured is Shahid Hussain. To read much more about them, please visit www.ecok.edu/news.

Oka' gears up for annual sustainability conference

Oka' The Water Institute at East Central University is gearing up for its sixth annual Sustainability Conference on September 21-22.

The Oka' Institute is committed to providing practical water solutions for all Oklahomans. Guest speakers from across the state and nation will present on a wide variety of topics throughout the conference.

"We talk about quality and quantity, but we don't often talk about the value of water," said Susan Paddock, executive director of the Oka' Institute. "When you think about water, it is either an economic stimulator or it is a limiter. We cannot grow or prosper as a state or rural communities and water districts if we don't have a sustainable water future."

The sustainability conference focuses on water as an economic driver, the importance of soil health, and policies that will ensure key water resources for Oklahoma's future. For a complete roster of guest speakers and events, please visit www.okainstitute.org.



Call ECU at 580-332-8000!



Stay up-to-date at www.ecok.edu/news/



Howdy!

Part of the annual tradition at the beginning of each fall semester at ECU is the Howdy Fair on the lawn just west of the Bill S. Cole University Center. Local businesses are invited to come set up booths and introduce themselves to new students. It has proven to be a great way for students to become familiar with the Ada community and local business people to establish a new customer base each year.



Headed to France!

ECU seniors Shelby Baker of Bristow, left, and Kelsey Mader of Shawnee flank Global Education Director Mara Sukholutskaya in a photo taken just prior to leaving for their semester abroad at the University of Limoges in France, a three-hour train ride south of Paris. Both students will earn an ECU Global Business Certificate for the study program, which begins September 8 and ends December 10. Despite the Covid-19 challenges at home and around the world, ECU has managed to maintain an active study abroad program safely and successfully.

HOMECOMING EVENTS!

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Chalk Contest, Banner Contest

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Homecoming Trivia

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Dodgeball Tournament

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

East End Eats, Bonfire & Pep Rally

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Alumni Association Golf Tournament

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Golden Tigers, Parade, Tailgating, Football!

Check the [ECU Calendar](#) for times/locations!



SEPTEMBER 17-18*

**Click anywhere on this graphic to learn more!*



Give back at www.ecok.edu/donate/

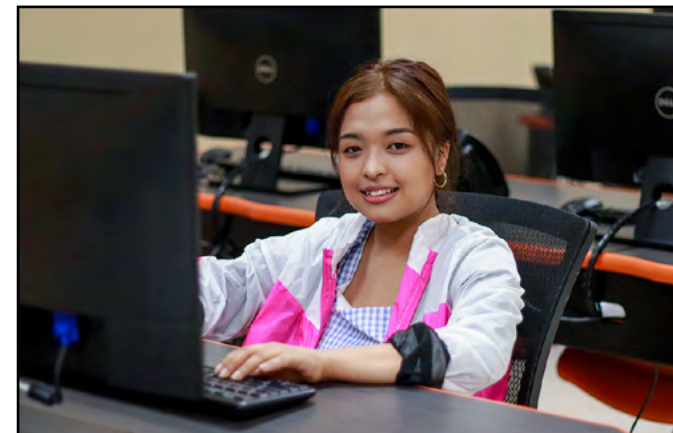
TRAVELING EXHIBITS @ ECU

Exploring Oklahoma's Latino(a) History

An Oklahoma History Center traveling exhibit on the history and continuing impact of Latino(a) culture on the state is coming to ECU's Linscheid Library September 7. The free exhibit is open to the public through December 16. The "Exploring Oklahoma's Latino(a) History" exhibit will be presented in both English and Spanish. Visitors will learn about Latino(a) history in the Indian territories as well as the migration and immigration of Latino(a) communities from early statehood to present day.

Courtney Starrett, Texas A&M

East Central University's Pogue Gallery will host an exciting new fine arts exhibition by Courtney Starrett. Her exhibition will be available through October 14. A Gallery Talk and Closing Reception is planned for October 14 at 4:30 p.m. Starrett is an associate professor in the Department of Visualization at Texas A&M University and co-owner of Plural Studios. She has previously been on faculty at Seton Hall University and Winthrop University, a visiting lecturer at SUNY-New Paltz, and had a one-year appointment with the Kendall College of Art and Design. The event is free and open to the public.



Legal Studies program gifted software

Tab3 has donated PracticeMaster software to ECU's Legal Studies program that will enable students to learn on software that many legal firms use, at no cost to them or the University. The software is designed specifically for the legal profession, helping organize not only calendars, but also legal issues. The ECU Legal Studies major examines the connection between law and politics and is a popular avenue to law school.



Follow events at www.ecok.edu/calendar/



Tiger Prep a big success!

Incoming ECU freshmen participated in the Tiger Prep program, designed to help them quickly assimilate to their new independence and surroundings. From a block party to a glow paint party, students were able to quickly become acquainted and comfortable with their new home! Scan the QR code to see a TikTok video!



SCAN ME



TIGERS HAVE RETURNED!



The ECU campus is again buzzing with activity as students return for in-person classes for the fall semester. From camel rides to making s'mores to a silent disco, there have been many exciting opportunities for students to have fun outside the classroom. Students, faculty and staff seem very happy about the return to normalcy!



See more at www.ecok.edu/photo-galleries/



Ready for Tiger football?

Members of the ECU football team scrimmaged the weekend before classes started in front of a sizable crowd of students in preparation for the 2021 season. Players are excited to get on the field and face real competition following the previous season, which was almost completely shut down due to the coronavirus. The first ECU home game is Saturday, September 11!

We are adding something fun and new to the ECU Campus Update! Use your phone to scan the QR code at right to see a TikTok video of the scrimmage!



SCAN ME

SEPT2021TIGERS

SOCCER

- 9/2 @ Rogers State (Claremore, OK)
- 9/4 @ Lubbock Christian (Lubbock, TX)
- 9/9 vs. Angelo State (Ada, OK)
- 9/11 vs. St. Mary's (Ada, OK)
- 9/18 vs. Midwestern State (Ada, OK)
- 9/30 @ Northwestern OK State (Alva, OK)

VOLLEYBALL

- 9/3-4 @ Angelo State Invitational (San Angelo, TX)
- 9/8 vs. Central Oklahoma (Ada, OK)
- 9/10-11 @ UCO/OC Tournament (OKC/Edmond, OK)
- 9/14 @ Texas Woman's Univ. (Denton, TX)
- 9/16 vs. Southern Nazarene (Ada, OK)
- 9/21 @ Oklahoma Baptist (Shawnee, OK)
- 9/24 vs. Southwestern OK State (Ada, OK)
- 9/28 @ Southeastern OK State (Durant, OK)
- 9/29 vs. Texas Woman's Univ. (Ada, OK)

FOOTBALL

- 9/4 @ Harding (Searcy, AR)
- 9/11 vs. Arkansas Tech (Ada, OK)
- 9/18 vs. Southern Nazarene (Ada, OK) **HOMECOMING!**
- 9/25 @ Northwestern OK State (Alva, OK)

CROSS COUNTRY

- 9/4 @ Oklahoma Baptist Invitational (Shawnee, OK)
- 9/18 @ Missouri Southern Stampede (Joplin, MO)

Complete schedules with times available at ecutigers.com/



Tigers at work and play!

In the top photo, ECU football players pause for a photo while helping new students move into Chokka-Choffa' Hall. In the bottom photo, students enjoy the new ECU Esports facility in the University Center.



Follow all sports at www.ecutigers.com/