

Camp hopes to fuel science, math interest in STEM² Girls

More than 85 Pitt County middle school students were exposed to the fun side of science, technology, engineering, math and medicine on April 1. Making this day camp a little different: The participants were all girls.

The first STEM² Girls Conference brought eighth-grade girls from 11 Pitt County schools to East Carolina University's campus to encourage the girls to pursue advanced math and science courses during high school.

"Research has shown that up to sixth grade girls want to go into science and math, but then it plateaus in the seventh and eighth grade," said Margaret Wirth, director of the Center for Science, Mathematics and Technology Education. "We're trying to stop that curve."

Wirth and others on the steering committee rounded up funding from the College of Education, College of Technology and Computer Science and the Thomas Harriot College of Arts & Sciences to pay the approximate \$2,800 cost of the one-day program. The ECU Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations and the Burroughs Wellcome Fund also supported the event.

Others on the Steering Committee are Evelyn Brown, engineering, College of Technology and Computer Science; Mary Farwell, biology; College of Arts & Sciences; Susan Ganter, mathematics education, College of Education; Leslie Pagliari, technology systems, College of Technology and Computer Science; and Cindy Putnam-Evans, biology, College of Arts & Sciences.

After arriving on campus and hearing a pep talk about career options, the girls went to lab stations that focused on the five areas emphasized in the camp - science, technology, engineering, math and medicine. At the math station, girls played Nim, a math game of strategy, and solved logic games. And at the medicine station, they touched human aorta and heart tissue.

Touching a heart made an impression on Katlyn Winfield of Grifton School, who listed it as one of her favorite activities of the day.

"I also really liked when we smashed cans at the engineering station. I want to go into engineering or chemistry so I liked those," she said. At the engineering lab, the girls learned about different material properties and how those properties play a role in design, such as in a car body.

Mikayla Meeks of Bethel School said being able to see and touch an actual heart was her favorite activity of the day. Mikayla, who has been accepted into the Pitt County Schools Health Sciences Academy, said she wants to go into the medical field, either as a pediatric nurse or "be the person who goes with children into surgery to be their buddy."

The tour of the ECU campus was impressive to Mattie Ocker of E.B. Aycock Middle. "It was exciting to see the buildings and everybody talking and walking around," she said. "I really liked the engineering (station). We crushed a can and saw physics in action."

The girls' school counselors who accompanied them said they were impressed with something they



Mattie Ocker of E.B. Aycock Middle School was one of 85 girls invited to ECU on April 1 for a special one-day camp focusing on science and math.

observed during the day.

"We noticed during different sessions how much more engaged they were, to volunteer and take part. Of course, the subject matter was one they were really interested in. It was good for them to see the different possibilities and career options. And it was non-threatening because it was all girls," said Lee Kearn, instructional coach at Wellcome Middle School.

Fellow chaperone Jane Shrader, a counselor at Pactolus School, added, "It's been fabulous. The girls are relaxed and focused, no competition."

After lunch at Todd Dining Hall, the girls gathered for a closing ceremony, which included putting their hands to work along with their brains with origami. Led by Ellen Hilgoe, associate director of N.C. Early Math Placement Testing Program, a state agency housed at ECU, the girls made origami boxes, which they filled with Smarties candy.

Hilgoe, a former high school math teacher, sneaked a little geometry into her directions for each step in the process: What do you know about a square? What kind of angle is this? Fold on the diagonal and now notice we now have four triangles in this square. What are they called?

She also encouraged the girls to challenge themselves in high school when

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Ellen Hilgoe of the N.C. Early Math Placement Testing Program led the girls in making origami boxes.

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Gregory Poole





JETS Competition Continuing to Grow at ECU

In the basement of the Mendenhall Student Center, ten teams of students from area high schools competed in the East Carolina University JETS Competition on February 25, 2011.

JETS is a nationwide, non-profit organization for high school students, which promotes careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concentrations to its members. The competition requires the students to work together in teams to find efficient solutions to modern day problems and is broken up into two parts. In the first, teams complete a written examination that evaluates the collective knowledge of each team. The second part requires each team to apply that knowledge to different situations that are related to theme of each year's competition. Each team is then judged on their overall performance and efficacy to determine a winner.

This is the third year that ECU's department of Technology Systems has hosted the event and continues to grow since its inception in 2009. The number of teams has grown from six to ten and the number of students has nearly doubled since the first year.

David Batts, an assistant professor at ECU as well as the host coordinator for the competition, sees JETS as being more than a competition of applying STEM knowledge. *"The student participating in the competition not only gets to better understand how engineering and technology helps to make the world better,"* said Batts, *"but they also learn about teamwork and leadership."* Batts also expressed the importance of giving future first generation college students the chance to receive the college experience because the competition is located on a college campus and the students have a chance interact with college students during their breaks. *"We want to break down the*



Dr. David Batts helping students with final JETS project.

barriers and thresholds keeping the potential students from going to a college or universities and attracting them engineering and technology degrees," said Batts.

Dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science at ECU, David White, also expressed his support for the competition and even stopped by to talk to the students. *"The JETS program provides a great opportunity for NC high school students and their teachers and coaches interested in engineering and technology to come to our campus, meet with our faculty, and participate in the competition,"* said White. *"We hope that these kinds of experiences encourage these bright and talented students to continue their pursuit of study and a career in a STEM discipline."*

When the competition had ended, Richlands High School had won both the varsity and junior varsity divisions of the competition. Wearing the pirate hats each had received on arrival, every student left the competition as a pirate.

ECU Department of Engineering awarded \$600,000 NSF grant to strengthen STEM initiatives

East Carolina University's Department of Engineering has been awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant which will provide ECU students with opportunities to receive scholarships and faculty with opportunities to conduct research in the area of engineering education.

The NSF grant, in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), is in the amount of \$599,894 and was awarded based on the project titled *"Expanding Engineering in Eastern North Carolina (E3NC)."* The grant will run from May 2011 through April 2016.

The NSF STEM project makes grants to institutions of higher education to support scholarships for academically talented, financially needy students, enabling them to enter the workforce following completion of an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate-level degree in science and engineering disciplines.

In addition to tuition funding support,

ECU will provide opportunities for the engineering student recipients of the scholarships to work closely with the Noyce Scholars, a group of ECU graduate students who will become K-12 mathematics and science teachers.

"This large grant to the seven-year old engineering program at ECU represents a significant milestone in the life of this engineering program," said Dr. Hayden Griffin, ECU department chair for engineering. *"It is also an amazing opportunity for talented North Carolina students who lack financial means to attend ECU and earn an engineering degree that will prepare them well for a successful career."*

Research conducted during the program will be aimed at obtaining better understanding of how students learn engineering and the factors that help them succeed. Students selected to participate in E3NC will be in-state residents, already accepted by the ECU engineering

department who possess an excellent record of scholarship and accomplishment during high school. There are other financial and academic requirements that must be met to be eligible for the scholarships.

"The ECU Department of Engineering has built an amazing foundation for student success and this is a credit to our faculty, staff and administrators and their commitment to grow," said Dr. David White, dean of the ECU College of Technology and Computer Science. *"This NSF grant allows us to take some very important steps forward to continue our growth in engineering in North Carolina."*

The project will be assisted by an advisory board comprised of faculty from ECU, Michigan Tech, Purdue University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Virginia Tech. For more information, please contact Dr. Evelyn Brown, Associate Dean for the College of Technology and Computer Science at (252) 328-9600.



Message from the Dean

“Success is a Journey”

We have accomplished yet another successful year in the College of Technology and Computer Science. Our faculty and staff have worked hard to make sure this year was full of success stories. This newsletter will highlight some of the successes of our faculty, students, and alumni. In addition, you will learn about all of the initiatives we are doing to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) related areas. Our college and faculty see this area as a priority for the younger generation and enjoy participating in these events.

We are also continuing to engage in our community and participate in economic development functions for the Eastern Carolina region. Our new advancement council is now in place and will help us continue to promote our college.

Our Career Development and Leadership Center

is a huge success for our students and the annual career networking day has been a valuable asset to bring students, faculty and industry together each spring semester. We are excited about the opportunities this center brings to our students and appreciate the continued support from the ECU Career Center.

Please feel free to stop by and visit our college and our website at <http://tecs.ecu.edu> to learn about all the great things going on in the College! Also, don't forget about our alumni page where you can update us on your accomplishments.

Remember, 'success is a journey, not a destination.' Continue to help us be successful as we continue on the journey of great education and support for STEM related initiatives and education for our future generations.



**David White, Dean
College of Technology
and Computer Science**

King of Calibration: Andy Ferrell '90, '93

Many of us probably never consider the number of Food and Drug Administration regulations that play a part in our everyday lives, especially those for the pharmaceutical and biotech industries. But for Andy Ferrell '90, '93, president and CEO of Pharmaceutical Calibrations and Instrumentation, LLC, these regulations are always on his mind and are what keep his business going strong.

Founded by Ferrell in 1996 based on his graduate thesis “Contract Calibration Services for the Pharmaceutical Industry,” PCI is a consulting and technical services firm that supports life science companies with instrumentation, calibration, and cGMP (current Good Manufacturing Practices) compliance programs.

You may be wondering what PCI has to do with you? More than you know. Think of the last medication you took for the flu, high cholesterol, or even just a headache. Each of these drugs has been approved by the FDA for its specified use. The instruments used by pharmaceutical companies to calculate and produce exact dosages of these drugs require constant calibration, monitoring, and maintenance to remain compliant with the FDA. PCI helps pharmaceutical and biotech companies

remain compliant and keeps consumers safe by ensuring that the instruments used by these companies—ones that measure parameters like temperature, pressure, volume, weight, humidity, air flow—are performing at their government-regulated standard.

The company is also unique in its approach to employees (referred to as “associates”) as it doesn't have human resources or sales departments. “We don't like the term employee; it implies subordination,” said Ferrell. “We train and empower our associates to promote our business so we don't need a sales force. We have a solid benefits package (almost a requirement to compete with Big Pharma) and we employ high-tech tools to administer 401k and



**Andy Ferrell '90, '93,
present and CEO of PCI**

medical, eliminating the need for an HR department.” Another reason why PCI doesn't need an HR department is its reputation in its narrow market as a company that is passionate about developing resources.

Originally from Wilson, North Carolina, Ferrell is also fervent about ECU, which he chose to attend over UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State. He was

the first in his family to attend college and received a North Carolina Veterans Affairs scholarship, “without which I am not sure I would have even gone to college,” said Ferrell. His father served in Vietnam, was shot, and is considered partially disabled. “My scholarship was very important and one of the reasons I am passionate about funding a scholarship at ECU,” said Ferrell.

The Laura and Andy Ferrell Endowment Scholarship, which was created in 2010 and is the first of its kind, will be awarded annually to a student in the College of Technology and Computer Science from the Engineering Department. Ferrell's commitment to ECU includes offering co-op opportunities for engineering students at PCI, serving as a board member for the University's Medical & Health Sciences Foundation, as an Advancement Council member for the College of Technology & Computer Science, and as an Advisory Board member for the Engineering Department. He also occasionally speaks and gives presentations to engineering classes. “At some point, whenever I quit this business or retire at some level, I'd like to go back to teaching,” remarked Ferrell. Another good reason he stays connected with ECU. In his spare time, Ferrell serves on the American Heart Association Triangle Area Executive Leadership Team, plays tennis, and is an avid fly fisherman. He and wife Laura have two daughters Savannah and Summer.



TECS Hosts Second-Annual Career Networking Day

With the way the economy is right now, it is still difficult to find a job, even for college graduates. But the College of Technology and Computer Science definitely helped out its students by holding its Second-Annual Career Networking Day at the Murphy Center on March 24.

The goal of the event was to present students with companies that provide exciting careers in technology, engineering, and construction in a professional environment. Students had the opportunity to talk with employers from over 30 different companies about positions and internships within those companies. At the same time, the event gave employers a chance to see all that the College of Technology and Computer Science has to offer -- talented faculty, hard-working students, and impressive undergraduate and graduate programs.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in Greenville as of February was at 9.7 percent, so this event can do nothing but help upcoming graduates secure a job before graduation. Students and employers had time to have personal one-on-one time with one another, as well as interview for open positions in their respective companies. The corporations that participated in the event were: ABC Supply Company, ACR Supply Company, Altec Industries Inc., Applied Industrial Technologies, Asmo GNC, Aurora Industrial Supplies Inc., Best Distributing Company, Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC, Carolina Technical, Coca Cola Bottling Company Consolidated, Construction Imaging, Credit Suisse, Daughtridge Sales, DSM Pharmaceuticals, Edwards, Inc. Fastenal, Federal Aviation Administration, Fidelity Investments, Flanders Corp., Greenville Utilities, Gregory Poole Caterpillar, Hagemeyer North America,



TECS students networking with industry representatives.

Harvey Cleary Builders, HD Supply Waterworks, Hospira, Inc., Keihin Carolina System Technology, Inc., Lowe's Home Improvement, MBM Corporation, NACCO Materials Handling Group, Inc., NAV AIR, Nucor Steel - Hertford, Old Dominion Freight Lines, Inc., PCB Piezotronics, Precise Systems Inc., QVC Rocky Mt. Inc, The Revere Group, Spectratex, Inc., 3 Phoenix Inc., Whiting-Turner, Wilson Medical Care, and more.

Dr. Leslie Pagliari, associate dean of the college, was very pleased with the outcome of the second-ever Career Networking Day. *"The turnout for the event this year was tremendous,"* says Pagliari. *"We're very excited to be building and collaborating alliances between our college, our programs, and the business community. It's a great opportunity for the students, especially in this economy."*

Robert and Betty Hill Breakfast of Excellence

The College of Technology and Computer Science hosted the Robert and Betty Hill Breakfast of Excellence for the third straight year on Friday, April 8, 2011 at the Murphy Center. Over 100 people were in attendance including ECU administration, faculty, alumni, and students to enjoy breakfast and recognize the work of some outstanding students. Robert and Betty Hill created an endowment in their name for the college back in 2008. The gift funds the recognition breakfast and the awards ceremony that acknowledges scholarship and award-winning students in the college.

The ceremony began with a welcome address from Dr. David White, dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science, in which he praised the students for their hard work and accomplishments. After the dean's introduction, representatives from each department took the podium to present students in their departments with certificates recognizing their exceptional achievements in academics. Students who received awards for the 2010-11 year were:

Computer Science:

Peter John Benoit; John Aaron Chestnut; Brian Peter Widman; Shravanth Oruganti;

and Sahar Bazargani.

Construction Management:

Kelly Bennett Barnes; Jonathan Arlon Landen; Alan Spencer Hill; Graham Marie Atkinson; Marc William Blackwelder; and Paul Andrew Webber.

Engineering:

Anna Elizabeth Smith; Brittany Rae Massey; Victoria Lyn Miller; Jordan Lee Polk; and Clinton Lee Reges.

Technology Systems:

Joshua C. Lewis; Irmingarda Lallana Padgett; Lance A. Cleghorn; and William Robert Morgan.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Dean White was very pleased with the ceremony, *"We appreciate the generosity of the Hill family and everything they have done for our college, and we are very proud of our students who have done such outstanding work. We hope to continue to make this event bigger every year."*



Group photo of students and donors recognized at the 2011 Robert and Betty Hill Breakfast of Excellence ceremony.



Advancement Council



The College of Technology and Computer Science Dean's Advancement Council met for the first time in April 2011. The advancement council was formed to provide an opportunity for alumni and friends to become more engaged with the College of Technology and Computer Science, through their work as advocates, resource finders, contributors and consultants. The Council will serve as advisory to the Dean to further the college's goals, support its continuing improvement, and ensure its future success. Both on and off campus, the Council will assist the Dean and faculty in promoting a positive image and good relations for the College with constituent groups at the local, regional, state, and national levels.

The College would like to thank the following members of the advancement council who have agreed to serve.

- Ms. Angela Allen, IBM
- Mr. William Blount, Home Builders Supply
- Mr. John Chaffee, NC Economic Development; Eastern Region
- Mr. LB Clayton, Old Dominion Freightline
- Mr. Lindsay Crisp, Carver Machine Works
- Mr. Richard Donnelly, Gregory Poole
- Mr. Chris Eckhardt, Keihin Carolina System Technology
- Mr. Andy Ferrell, PCI
- Mr. James Hackney, Hackney Group
- Mr & Mrs. Robert and Betty Hill, Alumni
- Mr. Phil Hodges, Metrics
- Mr. Chris Holder, NAVAIR
- Mr. Jimmie Hughes, Barnhill Contracting
- Mr. Tracey Maynor, VT Hackney, Council Vice Chair
- Mr. Don Mills, Alumni
- Mr. Joe Norris, ECU ITCS
- Mr. Richard Ward, IBM, Council Chair
- Ms. Wanda Yugas, Pitt County Development Commission

For more information about this initiative, please contact Dr. David White, Dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science at (252) 328-9600.

TECS partners with Spirit AeroSystems

East Carolina University's College of Technology and Computer Science has forged a new partnership with Lenoir Community College to support several training initiatives for Spirit AeroSystems based at the North Carolina Global Transpark in Kinston, NC.

The CITE Program within ECU's College of Technology and Computer Science will collaborate and share training resources with Lenoir Community College to develop and deliver support of Spirit's Customized Training Program.

CITE, the Center for Innovation in Technology & Engineering, provides a portal to the technical resources of the college, making them more readily accessible to regional business and industry. Recently via the North Carolina Community College Systems Customized Training Program, Lenoir Community College, ECU and CITE have collaborated to provide training for Spirit employees in CATIA®, an engineering based CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) program, and ISO based GD&T (Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing) class, designed to help technicians read blueprints more effectively.

"We appreciate the opportunity to partner with LCC and Spirit to support economic development in eastern North Carolina," said Dr. David White, dean of the ECU College of Technology and Computer Science. "This is an example of how community colleges, universities and industry leaders can work together to promote prosperity in our region."

Lenoir Community College is playing a major role in this partnership to address and deliver training needs to support Spirit's new hires in North Carolina. Bobby Merritt, Director of Industry Training with LCC supports the Customized Training Program. The Customized



Spirit AeroSystems at Global Transpark, Kinston, NC

Training Program was developed in recognition of the fact that one of the most important factors for a business or industry considering locating, expanding, or remaining in North Carolina is the ability of the State to ensure the presence of a well-trained workforce. The program is designed to react quickly to the needs of businesses and to respect the confidential nature of proprietary processes and information within those businesses.

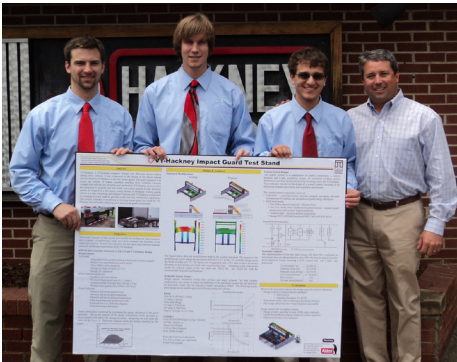
Spirit AeroSystems formally opened its new 500,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Kinston, N.C., in July 2010. Spirit employees design and manufacture the composite center fuselage section and front wing spar for the Airbus A350 XWB aircraft using state-of-the-art technology and processes.

"A big thank you goes to East Carolina University, along with Lenoir Community College, for making this happen," said Regina Parnell, Spirit AeroSystems Training Coordinator. We are so thankful for our partnership."

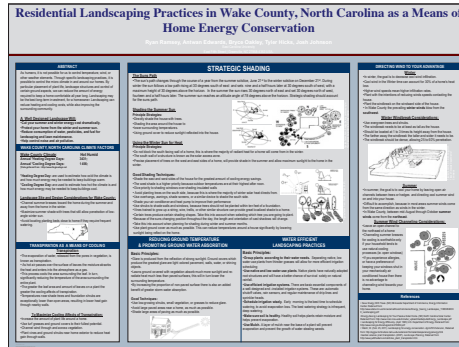
For more information about this training project or the collaboration between East Carolina University, Lenoir Community College and Spirit AeroSystems, please contact Dr. David White, Dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science at (252) 328-9600.



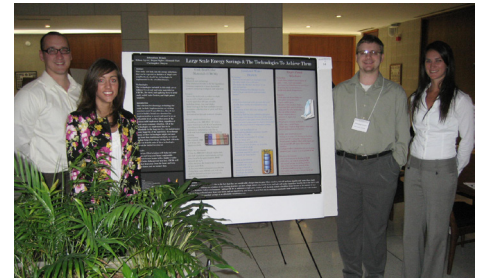
ECU RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS WEEK



Department of Engineering students win first place in the Engineering category for ECU Research and Creative Achievement Week. Students (L to R) are Clinton Reges, James Harrison, and Michael Trapani. Pictured far right is Tracy Maynor of VT Hackney.



Department of Technology Systems students win first place in Design category for ECU Research and Creative Achievement Week. Team of Bryce Oakley, Antwan Edwards, Tyler Hicks, Joshua Johnson, and Ryan Ramsey. Presentation is shown above.



The team of Ethan Ayers, Regan Sigler, Hannah Tart, Chris Duryea, and Johnathan Dennis presented their research findings Wednesday, April 13 at UNC's Research in the Capital Undergraduate Symposium and also presented their findings at ECU's Board of Trustees meeting, Thursday, April 14. Pictured above are (L to R) Chris, Hannah, Johnathan, and Regan at the capital.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

· Miciah Dashiell Butler Masters has been awarded an East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes Fellowship by the National Science Foundation.

- Jacob Pennock, student in computer science, was selected as an International Game Developers Association Scholar.
- Anna Smith, graduating engineering student, received the Robert H Wright Alumni Leadership Award from the ECU Alumni Association and she is the 2011 outstanding student in Engineering.

- Ashley Mercado, rising senior in engineering presented a paper at the Society of Automotive Engineers World Congress 2011 in Detroit.
- Lauren Farris, senior in distribution and logistics, and Steven Atkinson, graduate student, traveled to a MHEDA sponsored convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

· Chris Bland and Landon Hoefler, Graduate Students in Occupational Safety, presented aerial lift safety techniques in the global classroom in April, outlining the errors that led to the death of a Notre Dame videographer when a scissor lift toppled by wind.

Twin African-American Sisters Reflect on their Educational Journey

The software engineering graduate program in the College of Technology and Computer Science (TECS) at East Carolina University (ECU) is no walk in the park, even for students that received an undergraduate degree in the same area. But twin sisters, Mekara and Natara Bryant, decided this was a task they can take on and accomplish. Both sisters graduated with undergraduate degrees in Psychology and Management Information Systems respectively from ECU in spring of 2009. However, Mekara quickly realized she needed more in this faltering economy. After doing extensive research on the top-paid Master's Degree careers, software engineers were at the top of the list. Convincing her twin sister Natara to join her in pursuing a graduate degree in software engineering would be her real challenge, considering Natara was planning to pursue a different Master's program. It would take weeks, but Mekara gave her sister a compelling reason to join her; and she did.

"I told my sister, society has already concluded that we are against the odds of being successful in this program for a variety of reasons, we're females, we're African-American, and I didn't have the computer science related background," says, Mekara. *"But, as I saw it, your background does not always determine success, but by how hard you're willing to work and your attitude."*

Both agreed it would be best to pursue a degree that would afford a lifestyle they desired, a desire and dream not always achievable for anyone, let alone African-Americans. They also knew that in a changing economy, African-Americans have to strive intensely when pursuing a career of this caliber. While the economy may be at 9.5%

for the rest of the country, in the African-American community, it is well over 20% or higher. This only made the sisters more determined than ever to defy those odds.

Mekara also knew persuading a software engineering program to accept her, as a candidate with a degree in Psychology, would be a long shot, she could not have been more wrong. She was excited to know that ECU offered such a program and Program Director and Professor, MH Tabrizi, in the Computer Science program, would not only listen to her story, but would help her and her sister get into the program after taking the GRE. They are extremely grateful for the help of Tabrizi for giving them the chance to prove they were serious. Although both sisters admit the program is difficult, however, their hard work and determination has paid off with both sisters earning nothing less than a grade letter B in all classes. This May they will graduate with a Masters degree in software engineering from TECS Computer Science program.

"I knew that with a strong belief in ourselves, we can excel at anything we put our minds to," says Natara. *"Our parents, Alphonzo and Alice Bryant, instilled that in us."*

Both Professor Tabrizi and Dean David White could not have been more proud. *"This is what our college is all about, creating opportunities to give all a chance who want to achieve their goals,"* White says. *"Our hope is that other students will read this story and become inspired to achieve their dream, too."*





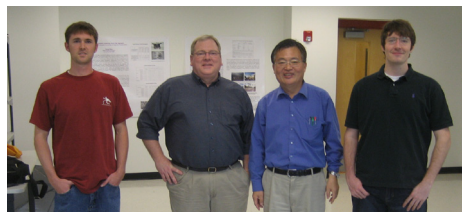
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS:



• In March of 2011, Dr. Adronis Niyonkuru, Head of the Computer Science Department of the National University of Rwanda, and Santhi Kumaran, of Computer Engineering and IT for Kigali Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), Rwanda visited the College of Technology and Computer Science (TECS). This visit occurred because of a Memorandum of Understanding signed by KIST, ECU, and IBM East Africa Limited (IBM). This agreement allows the creation of a Masters of Science in Software Engineering program in Rwanda, similar to the current one at ECU. As a result of the KIST visit to ECU, many building blocks are now in place to create the business model for a daunting enterprise in community and educational development. This partnership will allow for an exchange of ideas, resources,

and students for ECU, IBM, KIST. For more information, please contact Dr. Nasseh Tabrizi at tabrizim@ecu.edu.

• The ECU Traffic Noise Research Team, led by Dr. George Wang, was awarded a research sponsored external grant of \$218,000. The research team, including six research assistants from Departments of Construction Management, Technology Systems, and Physics is intensively collecting highway noise data across east and west NC. The research project Steering Committee Chairman, Mr. Gregory Smith, recently visited ECU and the research facilities in the TECS stated he was very satisfied with the quality of the work performed by the ECU research team and noted that the work was achieving national recognition in the field.



• Dr. Jason Yao was awarded the 2011 Scholar-Teacher Award. His presentation was titled: Integration of Research & Teaching: A Two-Way conduit.

• Dr. Mike Behm was awarded a Research Fellowship by Singapore's Centre for Urban Greenery & Ecology to evaluate safe design of green roofs and walls. He will spend the summer in Singapore working to better understand safe design related to urban greenery systems. Last summer, Dr. Behm received a grant from Virginia Tech's Occupational Safety Research Center to visit vegetated roofs in the US and observe the relationship between safety issues and the built environment; this project provided a foundation for a successful fellowship application in Singapore. He has been invited to present the findings of the Singapore research at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's Prevention through Design national conference August 22-24 in Washington, DC.



DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Computer Science:

• Qin Ding was approved for tenure and promotion to associate professor.

Construction Management:

• The department was reaccredited for a period of six years by the American Council of Construction Education and the Master of Construction Management Program at ECU went through a successful external program review last semester.

• The department received "affiliate" membership status of the National Association of Home Builders' (NAHB) Housing Research Center, making them eligible to apply for research and development grants.

• Dr. Erich Connell and Mr. Ron Sessoms are now "Certified Green Professionals" (trainer designations) and are now authorized to give training in NAHB approved "green" courses.

• Dr. Gazan Bozai received an in kind grant for \$155,000 from Target Training International to establish a Human Factors in Built Environment lab and to do research on identification of factors that cause delays in construction.

• Drs. Lee and Sylvester published and presented peer reviewed papers at the Annual International Conference of the Associated Schools of Construction.

• David Batie and Ron Sessoms received the

4 year and more ECU Servire Award.

• Danny Morton was recognized by ECU's Retention and Graduation committee as a faculty member who made the most significant positive contribution to graduating seniors' education.

Engineering:

• Dr. Loren Limberis and Dr. Jason Yao were selected for the 2011 Division of Experimentation and Laboratory Oriented Studies Best Paper Award for the ASEE Annual Conference in Vancouver, BC. The paper was titled, "Temperature Alarm Laboratory Design Project for a Circuit Analysis Course in a General Engineering Curriculum."

• Gene Dixon, Ed Howard, Barbara Muller-Borer, Rick Williams, Jason Yao approved for tenure and promotion to associate professor.

• Evelyn Brown, Gene Dixon, Karen De Urquidi, and Ed Howard PIs on \$599,894 S-STEM grant.

• Dr. Purvis Benenbaugh was recently elevated to the grade of senior member of the IEEE this year. This is the highest professional grade of the organization.

• The Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering was approved for addition to the institutional plan for ECU.

Technology Systems:

• Dr. Carolyn Dunn, Assistant Professor, won 2nd place in the recent ECU Research and graduate studies week for her dissertation.

• Mr. Mike Hicks, Design, had 13 students identify him as "the person at ECU who made the most significant positive contribution to his/her education."

• David Batts was approved for tenure and promotion to associate professor.

• Three TSYS faculty members (Toderick, Lesko, and Mohammed) attended and participated in a Global Summit on Cloud Computing in Education that was organized/funded by Hewlett Packard in New Delhi, India.

• The department continues to maintain its designation as one of the National Centers for Excellence in Information Assurance Education.

• Dr. Charles Lesko was inducted into the ECU Servire Society for outstanding service to the community and received his Project Management Professional recertification (2011-2014), issued by the Project Management Institute.

• Dr. Peng Li: 2011 Finalist for the Max Ray Joyner Award for Faculty Service through Continuing Education and received Red Hat Certified Virtualization Administrator certification in March 2011.

• Dr. ChengCheng Li received 2011 University Teaching Grant and 2011 ECU Outreach and Engagement Scholar award.

• The department continues to build alliances with industry in an effort to provide globally competitive education to our students. Current partnerships include

Cisco Systems (Regional Academy), Red Hat Academy, VMware IT Academy, EMC Academy Alliance, SAP Alliance, NetLab, and HP Global Collaboratory for Cloud Computing in Education.

Advising Center

• Cindy Wadford, administrative assistant in advising, was recognized by ECU's Retention and Graduation committee as a person who made the most significant positive contribution to graduating seniors' education.

• Jason Denius, advisor, was recently recognized by a student for the outstanding service he provided in preparing the student for graduation and helping them research graduate school opportunities.

Career Development and Leadership Center (CDLC)

• Over 1953 TECS students were reached through the CDLC this past year. These students were reached through the HIRED Mock Interview program with the ECU Career Center, classroom presentations, and attendance at events such as Career Networking Days, Business Etiquette Dinners, career panel discussions, and resume/interview strategy meetings, as well as walk-ins to the center for help in needed areas. Special thanks to all involved for helping make the center a success. For more information about the CDLC, please contact Larry Donley, TECS representative, at donleyl@ecu.edu or Leslie Pagliari, Associate Dean, at pagliaril@ecu.edu.



STEM² Girls, *CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE*

choosing their math courses.

That message was repeated by Wirth as she dismissed the girls. "When you're in high school, take the highest math and

science class every year. Don't be afraid of a challenge."

This year the STEM² Girls Conference was one day, but the steering committee plans to

hold a summer camp in 2012 bringing girls to campus for a week. The group has received a Mathematics Association of America \$6,000 Tensor grant to fund that project.

From the Major Gifts Office

On behalf of East Carolina University and the College of Technology and Computer Science, I wish to extend my appreciation for your continued support. The mission of the ECU Foundation simply put is, "To Fund the Margin of Excellence". Your financial support, regardless of amount, allows our students enriched opportunities through scholarship and program support. Thank you!

While we continue to face the reality of a significant budget reduction, it is important to note how this past year's private resources have enabled us to continue developing initiatives within the college that otherwise we would not be able to achieve. Here are a few of our successes in 2010-2011 through private support:

- Alumni support for the Career Development and Leadership Center which provides resources and training for all students.
- Annual recognition breakfast supported by Robert and Betty Hill, which allows the college to extend our appreciation to donors and recognize our outstanding faculty and

students.

- First endowed engineering scholarship established thanks to Laura and Andy Ferrell.
- Controls and Instrumentation lab endowed thanks to Keihin Carolina Technology Systems
- Established the Dean's Advancement Council which will assist with the long term strategic direction and resources of the college.
- One of two colleges that reflected an overall percentage increase in alumni support this past year.

While we recognize some of our successes from this past year we also appeal for your continued support to the college. During these times, your generosity is an example of the pride our alumni and supporters feel about our college. I would also encourage you to continue to visit our website at www.ecu.edu/tecs where you can update your information, tell us about your recent news, and contribute online.

Lastly, I would like to thank Gregory Poole Equipment Company for providing us with the



Dean David White and Major Gifts Officer, Michael Ward

resources that have allowed us to mail *TECS Connects* to our donors this past year. Their generosity has enabled us to keep you best connected with the College of Technology and Computer Science.

If I can be of assistance for you in meeting your philanthropic desires, please do not hesitate to contact me. On behalf of the college, I thank you and wish you a safe and enjoyable summer.

Michael Ward
 Major Gifts Officer
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 252.328.9566