

# CAMPUS UPDATE



April 2022

## A note from the president...

Yes, spring is officially here, but many at ECU are already looking ahead and preparing to welcome new Tigers for the summer and fall semesters.

As of March 28, ECU has admitted more than 900 new students for the fall semester! Over 600 are beginning freshmen. With so many new faces, the Academic Success Center has led the charge to introduce “TEDs,” or Tiger Enrollment Days, a series of dates throughout the spring and summer that will introduce new students and their families to the ECU campus.

TED will give up to 60 students at a time the opportunity to enroll in courses, to get their student IDs, to explore organizations and services offered at ECU, and to prepare them to attend Tiger Prep Orientation on Aug. 12. The first TED, April 9, has already reached capacity, and subsequent dates are filling up quickly. A huge thank you to ASC’s Dr. Haley Matlock, Dean of Students Nick Buckley, and Dir. of Recruitment Ashlee Heck for coordinating this effort, and also to all the participating offices and departments. It truly is a team effort.

Yet, as the campus grounds begin to turn green and the March and April storms blow through, we’re also excited for the opportunity to honor our students, faculty, and staff during the season’s various award ceremonies and banquets. It’s wonderful to see so many members of the ECU community turn out and show their support at these events. With all these achievements to celebrate, we can look forward to a strong finish to the spring semester.



Thank you,  
**Dr. Jeffrey Gibson**  
Interim President  
East Central University

## OSC Justice Rowe speaks at Boswell Lecture

ECU alumnus Justice Dustin P. Rowe was the speaker at the annual Boswell Lecture Wednesday, March 30.

Rowe, a justice for the Oklahoma Supreme Court, shared his journey that started in Tishomingo, then to ECU, and eventually to the OSC when Governor Kevin Stitt appointed Rowe as a Justice in November 2019. Pictured from left are Dr. Gibson, Deanna Hartley-Kelso, J.D., Rowe, and Regent Connie Reilly.

[ecok.edu/news](http://ecok.edu/news)



## Summer/Fall '22 enrollment begins at ECU



ECU is gearing up to enroll students for the summer and fall 2022 semesters. Priority enrollment for current students begins April 4, with group enrollment returning for new freshmen beginning April 9. Group enrollment days – dubbed “Tiger Enrollment Days” – give new students a chance to get to know ECU’s campus a little bit more before stepping foot on campus for Tiger Prep (orientation) August 12.

For more information, call 580-559-5628. To apply to ECU, visit [ecok.edu/apply](http://ecok.edu/apply). For more information on new freshman group enrollment, visit [ecok.edu/ASC](http://ecok.edu/ASC).

## Valley View Foundation receives partnership award

Valley View Foundation was recently awarded the Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award. The award is designed to highlight successful partnerships and to further cultivate the higher learning environment through State Regents’ Economic Development Grants.

Valley View Foundation has provided a wonderful service to its community awarding millions of dollars over the years with more than \$715,000 to ECU. With this support, ECU is able to continually advance the ECU School of Nursing. The foundation has provided support for nursing SimLab manikins, renovations, equipment, technology upgrades and so much more.

At the event, Kari Blakely (center) accepts the award on behalf of the foundation. Chancellor Allison Garrett (right) and ECU VP Amy Ford are pictured.



Call ECU at 580-332-8000!

# TIGER TALES



## ECU Brass Band performs at OSU

The ECU Brass Band traveled to Stillwater and performed at the South Central Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference (SCRTEC) held at Oklahoma State University on March 18. This is the band's second conference performance of the year, after performing at the Oklahoma Music Educators Association Fall Conference at Oklahoma City University in October.

The brass band will be competing at the North American Brass Band Association Championships in Huntsville, Alabama, at the end of April.

## John Daversa holds clinic at ECU

World renowned musician John Daversa performed at ECU, March 10. The musician, formerly of Ada, also worked with students in a master's class the day before his performance.

For more, visit [ecok.edu/news](http://ecok.edu/news).

For more on John Daversa, visit [johndaversa.com](http:// johndaversa.com).



## Visit from US Congress Official

On March 25, Brendan Clark, program coordinator from U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Bice's office, visited the Veterans Upward Bound office on ECU's campus.



Clark, a wounded warrior intern, plans to return to campus for Veterans and Military Appreciation Day on May 19. Pictured from left are VUB Director Mary Meeks, VUB Academic Counselor Robert Keel, Clark, and VUB Academic Counselor John Engel.

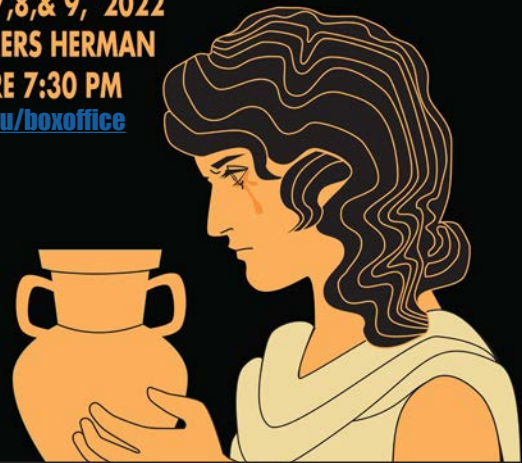
**Save the Date!**  
**Spring Commencement**  
**May 7, 2022**  
**10 a.m.**  
**2 p.m.**  
**Kerr Activities Center**



# ELEKTRA



**APRIL 7, 8, & 9, 2022**  
**CHALMERS HERMAN**  
**THEATRE 7:30 PM**  
[ecok.edu/boxoffice](http://ecok.edu/boxoffice)





### Week of the Young Child



City of Ada Mayor Randy McFarlin presents Pamla Armstrong with the ECU Child Care Resource and Referral Agency with a proclamation declaring April 4-8 Week of the Young Child.

### Mihelic named Dean of CEP

Following a national search, Dr. Jerry Mihelic will assume the role of Dean of the College of Education and Psychology as of July 1. He will be taking the role from Dr. Phyllis Isaacs, who has announced her retirement at the end of the fiscal year.



Dr. Jerry Mihelic

### Vice Chancellor of JOOUST speaks at ECU



Dr. Stephen Agong (center), vice chancellor of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOOUST) in Bondo, Kenya, spoke at the 2022 Watkins Lecture, March 30.

“Global Crisis: Food and Water” was the topic of Agong’s address. Agong was introduced by Bahati Brian Oonga, a student from Kisumu, Kenya, who came to ECU to earn his master’s degree in Water Resource Policy and Management.

For more, visit [ecok.edu/news](http://ecok.edu/news).

### ECU faculty competes with brass band

ECU Professor Dr. Jace Vickers traveled to St. Louis, Missouri, during spring break to compete with the renowned Fountain City Brass Band at the Gateway Brass Band Championships.

The FCBB won first place in the Championship section, and will be competing once again with Vickers in the tuba section at the North American Brass Band Championships at the end of April.



Dr. Jace Vickers

### ECU joins RUSO with Ukraine Scholarship

ECU is joining efforts with RUSO universities for a scholarship for Ukrainian students. The six regional universities are united in their concern for the people of Ukraine who face many challenges including the loss of educational opportunities. RUSO universities aim to provide a path to a college degree for those Ukrainians gravely impacted by the war.

The scholarship program will cover tuition and room and board for undergraduate or graduate Ukrainian students who are seriously impacted and/or displaced by the Russian invasion as determined by each institution.



**Honors & Recognition 2022**

FRIDAY MAY 6TH

REGISTRATION- 6 PM • PROGRAM 6:30  
CHICKASAW BUSINESS & CONFERENCE CENTER  
ECU FOUNDATION HALL

PLEASE JOIN US TO HONOR OUR  
2020-2022 DISTINGUISHED HONOREES  
[ECOK.EDU/2022EOH](http://ECOK.EDU/2022EOH)



# AROUND CAMPUS

## State Band Festival held on ECU campus March 28-April 2

Hundreds of high school students swarmed ECU's campus the last week of March as part of the State Band Festival.



## Preparing for graduation



ECU seniors prepare for commencement at the graduation fair, an event allowing students to get their regalia.

## Learning from the master

ECU brass players attended a master class in Oklahoma



City Feb. 28 presented by Principal Trumpet of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Tom Hooten. He presented a class on playing techniques, time management, and audition preparation.

## Hypnotizing...

Students felt the effects of a hypnotist (below) visiting ECU as a campus life event on March 7.



## Career fair



ECU's Spring Career Fair was held March 9, giving students a chance to explore career opportunities beyond graduation.

## Alpha Chi Induction



The Gamma Chapter of Alpha Chi inducted students on March 3. Alpha Chi is comprised of the top 10 percent of juniors and seniors at ECU across all academic disciplines. Students must maintain at least a 3.5 grade-point average to be eligible to join.

**OKCPHIL**  
orchestrating passion

APRIL 29, 7:30PM  
ATALOA THEATRE

ADULT \$5 • STUDENT/CHILD FREE

[ecok.edu/boxoffice](http://ecok.edu/boxoffice)



## Interim athletic director, football coach named

Interim ECU President Dr. Jeffrey Gibson has appointed women's basketball head coach Matt Cole as interim athletic director and Kris McCollough as the interim head football coach.

Cole has served as the ECU head women's basketball coach for eight



Coach Matt Cole



Coach Kris McCollough

years, leading the Tigers to post-season play seven times.

McCollough has served as assistant head coach and offensive coordinator for the last four years.

He assisted Johnson as they led the Tigers to a winning season (7-4) in 2021, the first since 2015.

# TIGER TOUGH!

## Baseball, softball seasons draw to a close



Senior Mekhi Edwards throws a pitch against Rogers State University.



Sophomore Jayne Reid runs the bases against Arkansas-Monticello.

## Track & Field teams claim nine top-three finishes at OBU Invitational

The ECU track & field teams continued strong performances during the 2022 campaign, earning three women's top-3 finishes and six men's top-3 placements at the Oklahoma Baptist University Invitational.

The men saw four first-place, one second-place and one third-place finishes from three participants, with

redshirt junior Zach Wells (below left) claiming first in the 800 meters (1:54.72) and 1,500 meters (3:55.65).

The women's team saw redshirt senior Aaliyah Regg-Wajid (below right) take second in the 5,000 meters (17:46.17), while teammates took a second- and third-place finish.



# Awards Season

ECU looks forward to the upcoming awards season, honoring students, employees, athletes, and distinguished guests.

**April 6**  
Asian Student Association

**April 8**  
Education Department

**April 8**  
Greek Banquet

**April 13**  
Employee Recognition

**April 15**  
Professional Programs in Human Services

**April 19**  
Art+Design:Media+Communication

**April 19**  
College of Health & Sciences

**April 25**  
Athletic Awards Banquet

**April 26**  
Honors Banquet

**April 28**  
School of Business Banquet

**May 6**  
Evening of Honors & Recognition

**May 13**  
Athletic Hall of Fame

## April dates to watch for

**April 4**  
Priority Enrollment begins

**April 6**  
School of Nursing Recruitment Day

**April 8**  
Professional Education Conference

**April 13**  
Duane C. Anderson Hedgehog & Fox Faculty Lecture

**April 20**  
Pogue Lecture & Formal NSLS Induction

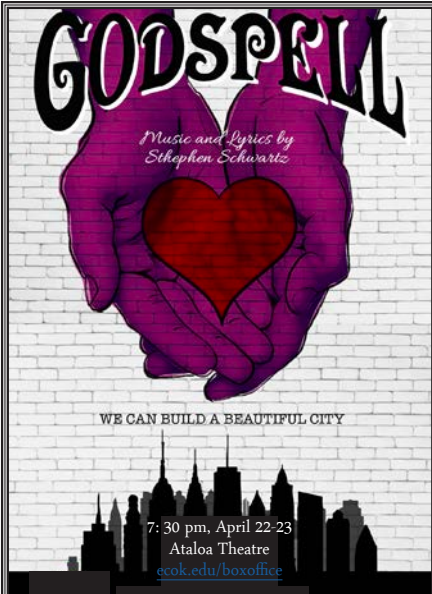
**April 20-22**  
RUSO Board Meeting




EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY  
**ATHLETICS**  
**HALL OF FAME**



Athletic Hall of Fame Induction  
5 p.m. May 13  
CBCC  
580-559-5258 • tlajeune@ecok.edu



**GODSPELL**  
*Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz*



WE CAN BUILD A BEAUTIFUL CITY

7:30 pm, April 22-23  
Ataloo Theatre  
[ecok.edu/boxoffice](http://ecok.edu/boxoffice)



Save the Date  
**APRIL**  
**13**

**ECU EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION EVENT**  
ATALOA THEATRE • 5:30 PM  
Light hors d'oeuvres & a cash bar will be available at 5 pm in the Lockmiller Lobby