

EACC Announces Tobacco-Free Policy



EACC has announced the adoption of a campus-wide Tobacco-Free policy effective July 1, 2010. "In compliance with the Arkansas Clean Air on Campus Act of 2009, EACC's task committee elected to adopt a Tobacco-Free policy in May of this year," said Michelle Wilson, EACC Tobacco-Free Committee Chairperson. "Many colleges nationwide have gone through this transition and many more are moving in this direction. The committee was comprised of a large cross section of faculty and staff members, both smokers and non-smokers, who presented as their recommendation a policy banning the use of *any* form of tobacco products on the campus to the EACC administration. Many other campuses in Arkansas have been smoke-free since the 2006 Arkansas Clean Indoor Air Act. We see this as being proactive in creating a much healthier environment on our campus."



Under the new policy smoking and any use of tobacco products will be prohibited on the entire campus, including all areas outside of the buildings. Smoking will also be prohibited inside vehicles parked in College parking lots. The policy also applies to all visitors to campus.

EACC is currently in the middle of a campaign- *EACC is Tobacco-Free*, to inform the public, faculty, staff and students of the new policy that went into effect on July 1st. "We're also making information available to assist people with the transition," said Wilson. "The Arkansas Department of Health has a number of resources readily available to help encourage the cessation of smoking and tobacco use. There is a toll free number that offers counseling and assistance as well," said Wilson. The Arkansas Department of Health Quitline is 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) and the services are free and confidential.

2010

August/
September 2010

A BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Campus News

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Classroom Building 2 Renovation Completed

Renovations to EACC's Classroom Building 2 have been completed and classes will resume meeting in the building for Fall Semester.

"The entire building has had a 'facelift' and some much-needed updating," said Morris Boydston, EACC Vice President for Business Affairs. "The building's exterior façade was updated a few years ago as well as the foyer on the south entrance. At that time, no work was done on the interior of the building as we were in the process of redoing Classroom Building 3 and 4. Most of the science laboratories are housed in Classroom Building 2 and they were in need of updating and refurbishing. This is the last classroom building on campus to receive a major update," said Boydston.

In addition to renovations that you can see, there have been a number of additions related to saving energy in the building that aren't visible to the eye. The HVAC units have been replaced with energy efficient units which will help maintain an even temperature in the classrooms. "This entire building will provide a more comfortable learning environment for our students," said Dr. Jeff Watson, Vice President for Academic Affairs. "We've added over two inches of additional insulation to the exterior walls and this will really keep the

building much more comfortable and will save energy in the process. We have also added updated motion-sensor lighting systems that are energy-efficient as well.

Funding for the construction was provided in part by Stimulus funding. "We were really grateful to be able to benefit from funds generated by the Recovery Act," said Boydston. "It made a huge difference to us to have ready access to monies not included in our annual budget. These major classroom improvements will certainly be of benefit to our students and will facilitate a much more positive academic environment."



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Morris Boydston

East Arkansas
Community
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Campus News
August/September 2010



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Upcoming Events

... August 9-10 New Student Orientation Lecture Hall
 ... August 12 BOT Meeting Boardroom
 ... August 16-20 Advising and Registration
 ... August 23 Fall Semester Classes Begin
 ... August 23-27 Drop, Add and Late Registration
 ... September 6 Labor Day Holiday
 ... September 7 Census Day

Ricky Skaggs to Perform

Fourteen-time Grammy Award-winner Ricky Skaggs will be performing at the EACC Fine Arts Center Auditorium on Friday, October 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Skaggs' career is easily among the most significant in recent country music history. If Skaggs' burgeoning trophy case full of awards wasn't already enough evidence of that fact, consider that legendary guitarist Chet Atkins once credited Skaggs with "single-handedly saving country music." Not one to rest on his laurels, Ricky Skaggs is now actively defining and re-shaping the direction of another indigenous American genre of music – bluegrass. Born July 18, 1954 in Cordell, Kentucky, Skaggs showed signs of future stardom at an early age, playing mandolin on stage with bluegrass pioneer Bill Monroe at 5 and appearing on TV with Lester Flatt & Earl Scruggs at 7. He emerged as a professional bluegrass musician in 1971, when he and his friend Keith Whitley were invited to join the legendary Ralph Stanley's band the Clinch Mountain Boys.

Skaggs then went on to record and perform with progressive bluegrass acts like the Country Gentlemen and J.D. Crowe & the New South, whose self-titled 1975 Rounder Records debut album was instantly recognized as a landmark bluegrass achievement. He then led Boone Creek, which also featured Dobro Ace and fellow New South alumnus Jerry Douglas.

But Skaggs turned to the more mainstream country music genre in the late '70s when he joined Emmylou Harris's Hot Band, replacing Rodney Crowell. He became a recording artist in his own right in 1981 when his Epic label debut album *Waitin' for the Sun to Shine* topped the country charts and yielded a pair of #1 hits. Overall, his productive stay at Epic Records would result in a total of 12 #1 hits. Additionally, he garnered eight Country Music Association Awards—including the coveted Entertainer of the Year trophy in 1985.

Skaggs, of course, fit right in with young

"new-traditionalist" '80s artists like Randy Travis, and helped rejuvenate the country music genre after the worn-out "Urban Cowboy" period. But, Skaggs put his own stamp on the country format by infusing his bluegrass and traditional country music roots into the contemporary Nashville sound.

Skaggs' 1997 album *Bluegrass Rules!*,



released on his newly-formed Skaggs Family Records label, marked a triumphant return to bluegrass—which he's solidified ever since with a series of Grammy Award winning albums, recorded with his amazing bluegrass band, Kentucky Thunder (winners of the IBMA 'Instrumental Group of the Year' 6 out of the last 7 years). Skaggs' has also

served as a home for similar bluegrass and roots music-oriented artists including Cherryholmes and The Whites.

Ricky Skaggs' career, then, has virtually come around full circle from its traditional country music foundation to the commercial country mainstream and back again—thereby effectively foreshadowing the bluegrass music explosion fueled by the 2000 Coen Brothers film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* and its celebrated soundtrack. Today, he continues to record and tour with Kentucky Thunder as a performing artist, while at the same time, developing new up-and-coming artists for Skaggs Family Records.

Tickets for the Ricky Skaggs concert are scheduled to go on sale August 15th. To purchase, visit www.eacc.edu or call 870-633-4480 ext. 352 or 362.



The schedule for the 'Family Series' events in the Fine Arts Center includes the following shows:

Giggle, Giggle, Quack! –Tuesday, October 5th

Mooseltoe – Thursday, December 9, 2010

One Night in Frogtown –Saturday, February 12th

Seussical –Saturday, March 19, 2011

Orchestra Pit Named in Fine Arts Center

The EACC Foundation has announced the naming of the Fine Arts Center Auditorium's Orchestra Pit. The facility, located on the campus of East Arkansas Community College, opened in April.

The donation to the EACC Foundation was made by Oral Edwards of Forrest City, his son Steve and wife Laura Edwards of Marianna, and his daughter Susan DeRossitt and her husband Dr. Jim DeRossitt of Memphis, Tennessee. "It is now officially recognized as the Edwards-DeRossitt Orchestra Pit," said Dr. Coy Grace, EACC President. The recessed area located front and center stage accommodates 25+ musicians and contributes to the building's Class A designation.

"The Edwards and DeRossitts have been longtime supporters of EACC and its mission," said Dr. Grace. "Oral Edwards has served on the EACC Board of Trustees since 1995 and has played an integral role in procuring backing for this project and many other projects by the College and the EACC Foundation. This naming opportunity will be a lasting tribute recognizing this family's support of the arts, this institution and the Arkansas Delta. The naming of the Edwards-DeRossitt Orchestra Pit continues the mission of the College and the EACC Foundation and is a tangible reminder of how supporters of the arts can get involved," said Grace.

"The generosity of this gift and the enduring assistance from these families will benefit the citizens of eastern Arkansas in so many ways. This area now has one of the finest facilities in this state and the Edwards and DeRossitts have been a part of this from the beginning."



Members of the Edwards and DeRossitt Families

Front: Ashley Edwards Rowton, Oral Edwards, Steve Edwards 2nd row: Leigh Edwards Nance, Susan Edwards DeRossitt, Laura Edwards 3rd row: Frank DeRossitt, John DeRossitt, and Steve Edwards, Jr. Back row: Dr. Jim DeRossitt, Coe Nance, and Paul Rowton

New Student Orientation 2010

First-time incoming students at East Arkansas Community College in Forrest City are required to attend the 2010 New Student Orientation to be held on Monday, August 9th and Tuesday, August 10th in the EACC Lecture Hall.

"This is a great opportunity for our new students to learn their way around the campus and to learn how the college processes work. It's a great advantage for students to know the 'ropes' before they have even begun their classes," said Catherine Coleman, Vice President for Student Affairs.

Topics covered August 9th will include the registration process, advising and testing, financial aid and scholarships, career planning, the admissions process, Student Support Services, EACC Library services, and information about purchasing books and general campus life.

On August 10th, information concerning academic programs and services will be discussed. This discussion will be followed by a Question and Answer Session and an Ice Cream Social.

Hours for the two-day Orientation sessions are Monday, August 9th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, August 10th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Advising and registration services for all new students will be available from 11:30 to 4:00 on Tuesday. Placement testing begins at 1:00 p.m.

"Not only is New Student Orientation a valuable opportunity for incoming freshmen to interact with peers, faculty, and staff, it has been shown to positively impact institutional retention efforts," said Michelle Wilson, Director of Educational Guidance Services.

"This area now has one of the finest facilities in this state and the Edwards and DeRossitts have been a part of this from the beginning."

Dr. Coy Grace