A century ago, East Carolina Teachers Training School was born from an ambition to serve.
One hundred years later, we are proud to have become East Carolina University—an institution known for accomplishing what it sets out to do.
Today, East Carolina celebrates its centennial.

We are a nationally ranked research university with a special responsibility to eastern North Carolina. We are recognized for our achievements in education, the arts, health sciences, athletics, and more. We are the fastest-growing public university in the state, adding more students in the last five years than any other campus. We are known for the success of our partnerships with local government, educational and health-care institutions, and the private sector.

We are the state leader in distance education. We prepare more professional educators, nurses, and allied health practitioners than any other university in North Carolina. Our medical school graduates practice in North Carolina at a higher rate than those of the state’s three other medical schools. It is indeed a great time to be a Pirate.

As we continue to commemorate our first century, we give pause as we remember the accomplishments that have helped define East Carolina’s culture of opportunity. On the following pages are illustrations from the past year of how we are making a difference in our city, our state, and our world. While they are powerful examples of our commitment to serve, they also remind us that our job is never done. We hold as our highest responsibility the dedication to shaping a brighter future for our students and our communities.

Tomorrow starts here.

Steve Ballard, Chancellor
• East Carolina is the fastest-growing university in the University of North Carolina system. With 24,351 students—18,587 undergraduate students, 5,474 graduate students, and 290 medical students—ECU has seen a 38.5 percent increase in enrollment during the past 10 years.

• While East Carolina is a national research university, it prides itself on its mission to serve eastern North Carolina. Of the 24,351 students enrolled for the fall 2006 semester, 88 percent are from North Carolina. Among our advanced degree programs, 91 percent of our Graduate School students and 100 percent of our medical students are North Carolina residents.

• During 2006–2007, East Carolina awarded 4,900 degrees. Of these, 3,401 were baccalaureate degrees, 1,439 were graduate degrees, and 60 were medical degrees. In addition to the medical degrees, 27 doctor of philosophy degrees, 23 education doctorates, and nine doctor of physical therapy degrees were awarded.

• Students learn from regular faculty members in 96 percent of the organized nonlab courses taught on campus. Tenured or tenure-track faculty teach more than half of our freshman and undergraduate courses.

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• Through our new Access Scholarships program, East Carolina is preparing to offer financial assistance to a historically underserved but greatly deserving group of students those who have proven academic potential and demonstrated financial need.

• The First-Year Center helps new East Carolina students with the transition into college life. From the beginning of orientation to the end of the first academic year, the center provides a variety of programs and services. The First-Year Center also provides support to parents of first-year students.

• As an integral part of our vision to be the "Leadership University" for North Carolina, East Carolina is committed to giving all students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to develop leadership skills that will serve them well today and in the future. Through such initiatives as the BB&T Leadership Development Center and the ECU Center for Student Success, the university is building a network of leaders.

• The East Carolina Alumni Association awarded an unprecedented 16 $1,000 scholarships this past year as part of its program that annually recognizes deserving undergraduate students. The Alumni Association Scholarships program rewards excellence in academic achievement and service to the community. In the past three years, 38 scholarships have been awarded.

• First-time freshman enrollment at East Carolina increased 18 percent from fall 2005 to fall 2006; across the entire University of North Carolina system, first-time freshman enrollment increased 1 percent during that same time.
During 2006–2007, East Carolina received research grants and contracts totaling more than $38.5 million.
• On ECU’s West Research Campus, processing continued on artifacts recovered from a shipwreck believed to be that of Blackbeard’s flagship, the Queen Anne’s Revenge. East Carolina and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources are collaborating on the project.
• The Metabolic Institute at East Carolina University received a $1 million grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation for research into the causes of and potential cures for diabetes. ECU is internationally known for its diabetes and obesity research; the Metabolic Institute includes physicians and scientists who are pioneers in gastric-bypass surgery to treat obesity.
• Dr. Nancy L. N. Stephenson, associate professor in ECU’s School of Nursing, and several colleagues examined decreases in pain and anxiety among cancer patients whose partners applied manual pressure to the patients’ feet. The findings were published in the January issue of Oncology Nursing Forum.
• An ECU anthropologist provided students hands-on excavation experiences in North Carolina’s oldest town. Dr. Charles Ewen, who with a group of students worked for five weeks this past year in Bath on the site of a mid-18th-century storehouse, is performing a townwide survey that has yielded hundreds of artifacts.
• East Carolina researchers continued their work in the fields of natural disasters and emergency management. Through a $1.7 million, three-year grant from Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) in Chapel Hill, ECU is collaborating with colleagues and officials across the state in the study of public health, population, and scientific records focusing on our region’s coastal areas.
• Thanks to $172,500 in grants from the Brody Brothers Foundation Endowment Fund, ECU faculty began seven research projects focusing on health-care issues, including major diseases prevalent in eastern North Carolina.
• Two ECU graduate students rediscovered a rare frog in the Peruvian rainforest. Evan Tewey and Jason Brown, who made their discovery during field research in northern Peru, were featured in the April edition of National Geographic magazine.

• Dr. Bonnie G. Mani, an ECU professor of public administration, published a book on women who have influenced political and social policy in the United States. Women, Power, and Political Change features 16 women whose faith, political activism, and education played significant roles in their lives and their ability to effect change.

• East Carolina criminal justice professor Dr. Mark Jones looks at offenses of biblical figures in his latest book, Criminals of the Bible: Twenty-five Case Studies of Biblical Outlaws. Jones examines the figures in political, legal, and social contexts and discusses what individuals and society can learn from the offenses.

• The University of North Carolina system published its inaugural undergraduate research journal, which is housed at East Carolina and edited by Dr. Michael Bassmann, ECU’s associate vice chancellor and director of the Honors program, EC Scholars, and undergraduate research. Explorations, unveiled at a statewide research symposium in Raleigh, is North Carolina’s first publication of research produced by undergraduate students from across the state.

• An ECU political scientist coauthored and published a book on the emergence of jihad as a war strategy. In Jihad and International Security, Dr. Jalil Roshandel focuses on jihad’s religious, political, and historical roots, as well as the campaign’s effects on international security.

• East Carolina graduate students Jeremy Eamich and Valerie Grussing are serving in the first fellowships supported under the North Carolina Sea Grant/East Carolina University Maritime Heritage Fellowship program. The joint effort aims to advance graduate research and education in the maritime heritage field.

• Researchers from East Carolina received $927,000 in contracts to assist in studies focusing on a proposed bridge across North Carolina’s Currituck Sound. The funding from the state’s transportation department and turnpike authority is enabling ECU engineers, economists, and geographers to work on traffic, natural resource, and socioeconomic studies of the seven-mile bridge, which would connect the mainland to the Outer Banks.

• The Division of Research and Graduate Studies at ECU granted 43 faculty members nearly $1.1 million in development awards this past year for research projects. The awards provide seed funds to faculty to develop preliminary data for major research grant applications to external sponsors.

• A $400,000 grant from the National Science Foundation enabled ECU researchers to purchase a powerful Linux computing cluster to support studies in science and engineering. The cluster facilitates state-of-the-art studies in various departments across campus.

• East Carolina researchers continue to advance their internationally recognized research on diabetes and obesity.
• The East Carolina women’s basketball team won its first Conference USA Championship. The Pirates overcame a double-digit deficit in the second half of the championship game against Rice to earn the conference crown. The victory earned the Pirates a spot in the NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Championship.

• East Carolina’s football team scored a winning season—including five victories in its last six regular-season games—on the way to earning its first bowl appearance since 2001. At Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, the Pirates set an all-time high of 16,318 football season ticket purchases.

• ECU senior volleyball player Heidi Krug was the only unanimous pick to the 2006 Conference USA All-Academic Team. The team consisted of 11 student-athletes who earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or better. Krug, who finished her career as ECU’s all-time leader in assists, maintained a 4.0 GPA in biology.

• Five men and women from ECU’s history were elected into the university’s Athletics Hall of Fame: All-America quarterback Jeff Blake, football coach Pat Dye, All-America swimmer Ted Gartman, basketball player Gaynor O’Donnell, and All-America outfielder Pat Watkins.

• The Pirate Nation honored Marshall University’s football program during a ceremony at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. Before ECU’s game against Marshall, East Carolina unveiled a memorial plaque honoring the 75 people from West Virginia who were killed in a 1970 airplane crash after a game in Greenville between the Pirates and the Thundering Herd.

• Wide receiver Aundrae Allison became the third-highest-rated Pirate in school history to be chosen in the National Football League Draft when he was selected by the Minnesota Vikings. The two-time All-Conference USA player finished his career at ECU ranked among the top three Pirate receivers in program history for receiving and yardage.

• The East Carolina University Educational Foundation, or Pirate Club, announced a new student-athlete scholarship-endowment-building initiative inaugurated by two major gifts from East Carolina alumni Ray Sharpe and Ed and Barbara Morill.

• A total of 399 student-athletes at East Carolina were recognized for academic distinction during the 2006 calendar year. These Pirates earned spots on the Director of Athletics Honor Roll. In spring 2006, a record 49 percent of student-athletes earned a 3.0 or better grade point average; in fall 2006, 48 percent had a 3.0 or better GPA.

• Four Pirates were selected in the 2007 Major League Baseball Amateur Draft. Pitcher Shane Mabry was selected by the Baltimore Orioles, infielder Dale Mielke was chosen by the Chicago White Sox, pitcher Dustin Sasser was picked by the Chicago Cubs, and pitcher Jason Neitz was selected by the San Francisco Giants. Since the 2003 season, 18 Pirates have been drafted.
East Carolina continued work to establish its dental school, and the North Carolina General Assembly approved $25 million in funding for design and construction. The school, which ECU hopes to open by 2011, aims to improve dental care across the state, especially in rural and underserved areas. Dental students will practice on ECU’s Health Sciences Campus, as well as at clinical sites from the coast to the mountains.

• East Carolina contributes nearly $3 billion to the local economy every year.

• The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University offered a rewarding summer camp experience to about 100 children with cancer, hemophilia, and sickle-cell disease. At Camp Rainbow and Camp Hope on the Neuse River near Arapahoe, children sailed, swam, made new friends, and learned more about themselves and their illnesses.

• The East Carolina Heart Institute, still under construction, received support in the form of a $2 million endowed chair thanks to the generosity of ECU supporters Eddie and Jo Allison Smith. The gift will ensure that the heart institute—a research and clinical care partnership between ECU and University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina—will be assured of having top-notch leadership.

• The College of Technology and Computer Science hosted its first Engineering and Technology Day for almost 250 middle and high school students from across the region. The event introduced students to academic programs and offered tours of ECU’s laboratory facilities and classrooms.

• East Carolina’s efforts with other institutions in the region to open a new community health center were realized with the dedication of the James D. Bernstein Community Health Center north of Greenville. The community partnership brings physicians, nurses, dentists, social workers, and other professionals under one roof to serve the needs of hundreds in the area.

• At the Jean Mills Health Symposium, researchers and community members gathered to discuss health issues affecting African Americans and Hispanics. The two-day event featured workshops, demonstrations, health screenings, and educational literature. The ECU School of Allied Health Sciences collaborated with university and other local agencies to present the event.

• A $2.5 million gift to East Carolina will help build a new geriatric center on the university’s Health Sciences Campus. The gift by Frances J. Monk of Farmville, who died in June 2006, will fund the Frances J. and Robert T. Monk Sr. Geriatric Center. The center will enhance ECU’s ability to provide quality health care to senior citizens and education to health professionals about the needs of geriatric patients.

• The College of Education at East Carolina received a national award for its collaboration with area community colleges to help prepare teachers for North Carolina schools. ECU received the Best Practice Award for Collaboration with Community Colleges from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. ECU’s collaborative effort is known as Wachovia Partnership East.
• A $1.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation to East Carolina is helping public school teachers prepare students for careers in technology, science, engineering, and math. The program is enabling ECU to host information technology academies and gatherings for teachers, students, and parents from rural school systems across eastern North Carolina.

• East Carolina’s Phi Kappa Phi chapter sponsored a leadership forum that brought top administrators from the state’s public higher education institutions to campus. Among the presentations was a partnership-focused discussion led by Erskine Bowles (president of the University of North Carolina system) and H. Martin Lancaster (president of the North Carolina Community College system).

• East Carolina received a $3.1 million grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services to help the university develop and put into practice an educational program for National Guard and other reserve-component couples. The community-based program focuses on helping couples meet the challenges of extended separations caused by mobilizations and deployments.

• The Division of Student Life at ECU hosted a statewide higher education safety symposium on campus. About 200 administrators and student life staff from across North Carolina gathered for the daylong event featuring presentations and workshops.

• East Carolina alumni Tom Arthur of Tampa, Florida, donated $1 million to the BB&T Center for Leadership Development at East Carolina to establish an endowed chair in the College of Business. The professorship will focus on leadership.

• The TEDE BEAR (Tender Evaluation, Diagnosis, and Intervention for a Better Abuse Response) Children’s Advocacy Center opened its expanded facility in Greenville’s medical district. The center serves children who allegedly have been victims of abuse and neglect. It operates with leadership from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and is supported by Pitt County Memorial Hospital and other state and local agencies and with contributions from groups and individuals.

• A $72,500 grant from the Pitt County Memorial Hospital Foundation enabled East Carolina to expand a mentoring program promoting physical fitness for children in elementary and middle school. In a program that is both educational and motivational, mentors use high-energy activities in their work with the children. Each child is tested for aerobic capacity, cholesterol levels, and heart rate.

• East Carolina hosted its third annual Youth Arts Festival, an event featuring more than 100 visual and performing artists from ECU and across the region who shared their creative talents with children and their families.

• The College of Education at ECU premiered the inaugural issue of its Journal of Curriculum and Instruction (JoCI), an online, peer-reviewed publication providing a forum for articles focusing on teaching and learning in primary and secondary education. The journal’s target audience is teachers, college students, and researchers. JoCI will be published twice a year.

• Thanks to a gift from ECU alumni Steve and Ellen Cunanan, the College of Business established a speaker series highlighting leadership, professional development, ethics, and the role of business in modern society.
• East Carolina opened its centennial celebration with a variety of special gatherings and presentations. The North Carolina General Assembly held a joint session on campus to mark the founding of East Carolina, and the University of North Carolina Board of Governors also met at ECU.

• The full-time faculty at East Carolina numbers 1,442. Among our faculty, 78 percent hold PhDs or other terminal degrees.

• East Carolina University was ranked in the top 10 in five categories in a report that scores universities around the world on how well they turn their researchers’ innovations into products that serve the public. The Milken Institute examined the world’s leading universities for biotechnology research and for their ability to turn their intellectual property into commercial applications.

• Dr. Matthew Mahar, a professor of exercise and sport science at East Carolina, was named one of the top educators in the University of North Carolina system. He and 15 colleagues from the university system were honored with the UNC Board of Governors Annual Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

• Our College of Fine Arts and Communication continued to be the cultural center at East Carolina and in the community. The college presented dozens of public performances and gatherings through our professional concert series, summer theatre program, dance performances, student musical ensembles, musical theatre productions, exhibitions, recitals, opera theatre, film festivals, and guest artist series.

• East Carolina University welcomed authors and readers from across the region for the Third Eastern North Carolina Literary Homecoming. The annual free event, offered by ECU’s Joyner Library and Greenville’s Shepard Memorial Library, aims to increase appreciation for eastern North Carolina’s literary traditions.

• Construction continued on the East Carolina Heart Institute, a world-class center of cardiovascular research, clinical care, and economic development. The institute is a partnership institution of East Carolina University and University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina.

• Dr. Stephen Thomas, dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences, was appointed by North Carolina Governor Michael Easley to serve as a member of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine for a five-year term. The institute is an independent, nonprofit organization that serves as a nonpolitical source of health policy analysis and advice in North Carolina.

• Dr. Louise Toppin, acclaimed soprano and voice instructor at ECU’s School of Music, was appointed by North Carolina Governor Michael Easley to serve on the North Carolina Arts Council. The council sets policy and determines arts funding for organizations statewide.

• The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University was ranked sixth in the nation by U.S. News & World Report magazine among medical schools emphasizing primary care. The magazine also ranked our medical school ninth for its rural medicine program.
• Writer and actor Maya Angelou visited Greenville as the keynote speaker for East Carolina’s inaugural Women of Distinction gala. The gala honored women with East Carolina connections who have worked to further the causes of women’s empowerment, multiculturalism, equity, and social justice.

• The development of a 129-acre outdoor recreation complex continued. The $6 million project will include roadways, parking, infrastructure, support facilities, and playing fields for the intramural and club sports programs.

• Dr. Linda Steele, associate professor and director of the adult and family nurse practitioner concentrations in the ECU School of Nursing, was named principal investigator in a federally funded project focused on increasing the number and diversity of nurse practitioners in underserved rural areas of North Carolina. The grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration.

• East Carolina University physicians continued their leadership role in robotic surgery. A third surgical robot has been added to the group used at the Brody School of Medicine at ECU and its teaching hospital, Pitt County Memorial. More than 300 robot-assisted mitral valve repairs have now been done in Greenville, and more than 500 surgical teams from around the world have come to ECU to learn how to use the machines, known as the Intuitive Surgical da Vinci Surgical Systems.

• The East Carolina University Police Department earned national accreditation status from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. The accreditation program focuses on compliance with state-of-the-art standards in policy and procedures, administration, operations, and support services.

• A collection of correspondence, manuscripts, and artwork by noted North Carolina poet A. R. Ammons was donated to East Carolina. ECU alumnus Reid Overcash and his wife, Susan, gave the collection that is now housed in Joyner Library on campus.

• Cardiologists, pulmonologists, and other doctors in ECU’s medical practice now see patients in a new 43,000-square-foot facility that offers a more patient-friendly environment and more clinical space. Moye Medical Center now houses ECU Physicians’ cardiology and pulmonary and critical care practices.

• The Brody School of Medicine was ranked eighth in the country for sending graduates into family medicine residency programs, according to the American Academy of Family Physicians. East Carolina was the only North Carolina school ranked in the top 10 by the national organization.

• The School of Nursing at ECU hosted the first international meeting of a project promoting a global partnership between nurses and traditional community healers. The Bamboo Bridge project focuses on a greater understanding of and collaboration between traditional and modern health care.
For a century, East Carolina University has served the people of North Carolina and the nation. From modest beginnings as a teacher training school, we have grown to become a large, national research university.

The campus is located in Greenville, North Carolina, a growing city of about 70,000 that is a business, cultural, educational, and medical hub in eastern North Carolina. From ECU, it is just a two-hour drive to both the state capital to the west and Atlantic Coast beaches to the east.

With a mission of teaching, research, and service, ECU is a dynamic institution connecting people and ideas, finding solutions to problems, and seeking the challenges of the future.