

# Pirate Pearls

The Graduate Student Newsletter

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February 2017

## Research & Creative Achievement Week (RCAW) Needs YOU to be a judge!

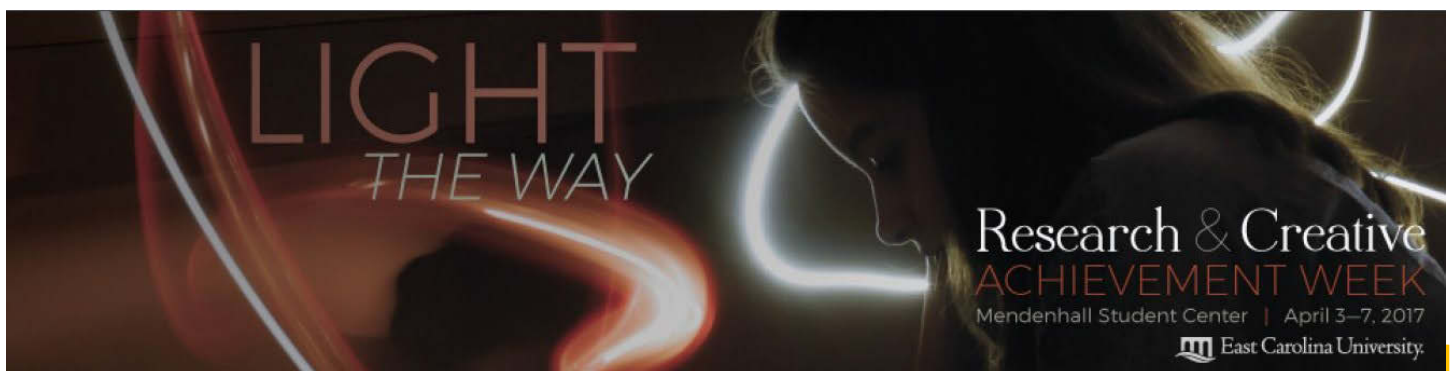
Soon, you will see an email asking graduate students to serve as judges at RCAW. Never fear—we will train you! Mark your calendars now so you are ready to volunteer when the announcement is made!

West Campus March 20

5:30 PM in Brody 2E-100

East Campus March 23

5:30 PM in Rawl 101



# In Your Words....

Helpful Information from Graduate Students TO Graduate Students

## **DE Students Connect To Campus Via the University Writing Center**

**By Renee Boettner—University Writing Center Graduate Student consultant, MA in English student**

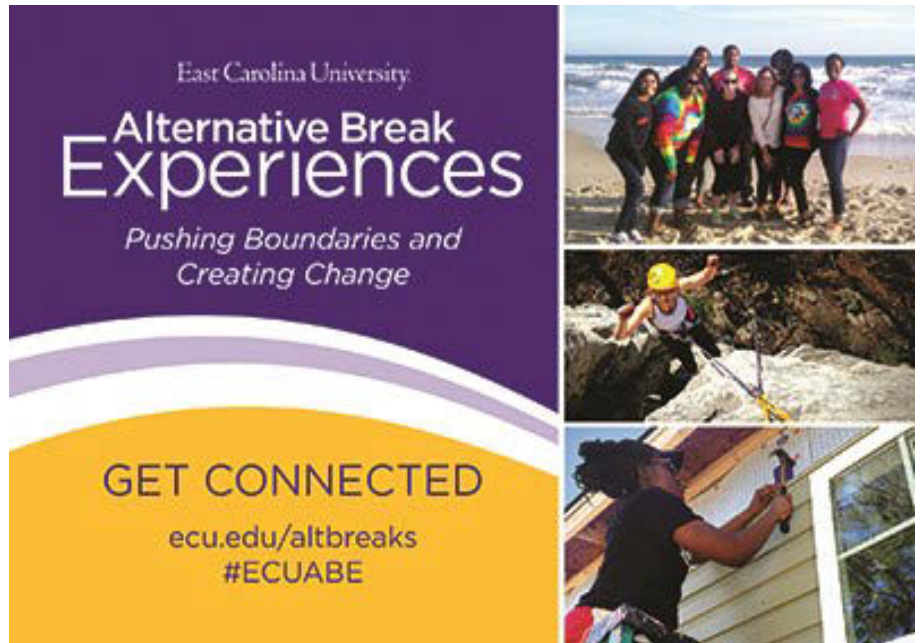
As a Distance Education (DE) graduate student in the Multicultural and Transnational Literatures program, I enjoy the independence of a virtual classroom; however, I miss the interaction of an in-person classroom. The perfect solution? I was hired as a DE Writing Consultant for the University Writing Center (UWC). The best part of being a consultant is the opportunity to work with other writers online – both undergraduate and graduate. Through technology, I can see and hear my students via the audiovisual feature. In addition to the ability to connect with students, weekly DE staff meetings foster a sense of community among my fellow tutors. I also utilize the UWC as a student writer. The Meet Online appointments allow me to communicate with a consultant in real-time. Working with consultants in the UWC has improved my own writing. Being part of the UWC provides a way for me to follow my passion, improve my writing, and create and maintain social connections.

## **Graduate Students and the University Writing Center**

**By Kelsey Burroughs – University Writing Center Graduate Student Consultant, MA in English student**

As a new student to ECU and the English department in Fall 2016, I was awarded an assistantship that included a position as a writing consultant at the University Writing Center (UWC). The ECU UWC is by far the best job I have ever had. I love to help people and to see the confidence and reassurance I instill in my peers. I want fellow grad students to remember the UWC is for everyone and for any course that requires writing. We offer in-person (“face-to-face”) appointments in Joyner library and the Laupus library as well as two types of online appointments (“eTutoring” and “MeetOnline”) to accommodate all students. We even strive to provide outreach by helping others in the community and having pop-up writing center sessions around campus and community for students who need a quicker session away from the library. Each day that I spend in the UWC I feel more welcome and my love for ECU is growing. I see the positive influence an appointment at the UWC can have on students and I know everyone deserves to feel that positivity! The welcome feeling that I experience extends to every person who makes an appointment or who stops by for a walk-in. We are a friendly, hard-working, and caring bunch who can help with many types of writing, so please come see us!





## **Alternative Break Experiences**

With a mission focused on service, it is no surprise that ECU students commit to making a difference for others during their spring break (March 5-9). Alternative Break Experiences (ABE) are immersion programs that focus on active citizenship, leadership, and creating positive social change. Hannah Crouse, a counselor education student and graduate assistant for the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE) says she can directly see how this upcoming experience will help her as a future counselor. "This will prepare me to become a counselor by providing an experience to build a positive rapport with a new group of people and help problem solve and achieve our goals of service," said Hannah. During spring break, ECU students will have the opportunity to participate in ten ABE opportunities that work with a variety of community partners to address different social causes. Students will travel up and down the east coast including Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland, but they will also stay local to serve within Greenville and the Atlantic Beach area for the eighth consecutive year. All graduate students are encouraged to push their boundaries and consider making transformational change this spring break. ABE opportunities are filling up quick and students are encouraged to apply to be part of this life-changing experience. Learn more at: <https://orgsync.com/69125/chapter>

# Awards, Events & Leadership

## ECU Scholarship Portal Open!

ECU maintains a scholarship portal for all scholarships that are available through ECU directly. There are many for graduate students! It would be worth your time to review the ECU Scholarship Application Portal to find out what might be waiting for you! You can reach the [main website here](#) and the direct link to get into the [scholarship application portal](#) is here.

### Important Links

[Academic Calendar](#)

[ITCS Help Desk](#)

[Pirate Techs](#)

[Graduate Catalog](#)

[Graduate School](#)

[VIREO](#)

[Commencement](#)

[RCAW](#)

[Registrar's Office](#)

## LeaderShape

The Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement offers many opportunities for ECU students to get connected, learn more about themselves and develop leadership skills to create positive change through a national leadership initiative called **LeaderShape**. As John Donahoe once said, "leadership is a journey, not a destination, it is a marathon, not a sprint, it is a process, not an outcome." CLCE offers a variety of opportunities including the **LeaderShape** Institute, a six-day intensive leadership experience. The 2017 ECU **LeaderShape** program will be offered from May 7- 12 at the Trinity Center in Pine Knoll Shores, which is on the North Carolina coast. This is an opportunity for ECU students to network, develop leadership skills, but - more importantly - come together to create a more just, caring and thriving world. This opportunity is open and FREE to all students. To learn more look for **LeaderShape** on OrgSync at: <https://orgsync.com/140413/chapter>.

# Student Life Resources

**THINK YOU HAVE  
NOTHING TO HIDE?**

FEB  
22

Think You Have Nothing to Hide? w/ Cullen Hoback: ECU

Digital privacy expert Cullen Hoback, the acclaimed director of Terms and Conditions May Apply, will teach students how to hide their online identities from government agencies and corporations, making it nearly impossible to spy on students and retain their private information.

You can take part in the event (or your social media can!):

On the day of his appearance Cullen will demonstrate how easy it is to access a your information from your online presence, via FaceBook, Instagram, Twitter, SnapChat, Yik Yak, etc., and demonstrate how advertisers and social-media sites are tracking you.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/421939628146118/>

**By setting your status to "Going," or "Interested", you agree to let us use your public social media content in the presentation.**

# Research Reminders

**Student researchers are responsible for closing their research studies in the IRB online ePIRATE system! Make sure you do this for all your research studies.**

Electronic Portal for  
Institutional Research at  
East Carolina University

**ePIRATE**

[TUTORIAL](#)  
[on Closing](#)  
[Research](#)  
[Studies](#)

The Open Access Publishing Support Fund (OAPSF) is still accepting applications! Students who wish to publish their research in open access journals that require a fee can apply for support from the OAPSF. Funded by Academic Council and administered by ECU Libraries, the OAPSF reduces barriers to open access publishing. The fund guidelines and application can be found on the OAPSF website: <https://lib.ecu.edu/scholcomm/oapubfund>. Please direct questions to the Research and Scholarly Communication Department at [scholarlycomm@ecu.edu](mailto:scholarlycomm@ecu.edu).