ECU Distinguished Graduate Faculty Mentor Award
Master’s Category

Charles R. Ewen, PhD
Department of Anthropology
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Charlie Ewen is a Professor of Anthropology in the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Anthropology, East Carolina University. He obtained his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Florida and he is director of the Phelps Archeology Laboratory at East Carolina University. Dr. Ewen has conducted research on many historical sites and cemeteries of North Carolina. He has written books on such diverse topics as the archeology of piracy and the Lost Colony. Dr. Ewen’s research has focused mostly on historical archeology, specifically the contact period and colonial period. However, like most archeologists, circumstances have led him to work on nearly every kind of archeological site, from prehistoric villages to civil war fortifications and twentieth century homesteads. Dr. Ewen’s colleagues note that he exemplifies the role of a faculty mentor, having chaired over sixty MA thesis committees. Dr. Ewen mentors students in local field projects where he provides hands on training on research design, budgeting, personnel and logistics. His students get theoretical and practical skills from putting shovels into the ground to analyze recovered data and writing final reports. His colleagues note Dr. Ewen’s commitment to diversity and inclusivity. As president for the Society for Historical Archelogy he has implemented policies to address these issues nationally and he consistently makes accommodations at his field schools for students for a range of disabilities so that they too can.

Students remarked: “During our excavations Dr. Ewen made a point to engage visitors at our historic site.” “His eagerness to include public stakeholders and local community members to ensure their interests were addressed is a value I incorporate in my own research today”.

“I am most grateful for the trust and value Dr. Ewen placed on my input during excavations.” “His willingness to listen and act on my input gave me confidence to be an active voice and a leader when conducting research.”
Dr. Mark Bowler is Associate Professor in the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Psychology, East Carolina University. He obtained his PhD in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from the University of Tennessee. Dr. Bowler is director of the Occupational Health Psychology concentration in Health Psychology PhD program. Dr. Bowlers students and faculty colleagues praise his mentoring of students. His advisees are noted for producing top notch work not only through their formal projects but also work life balance. Faculty colleagues write that he gives feedback on student work in a remarkable manner; relevant and important, but phrased in a manner to empower students. Dr. Bowler achieves this through detailed feedback, outlining reasons for feedback and methods needed to address problems. The most remarkable aspect of Dr. Bowlers mentoring is when these two strengths, rapport with students and skilled feedback combined. Outside of the classroom Dr. Bowler is well known for publicizing opportunities for students whether he encourages people to find their own passions rather than pushing students into a specific area. He doesn’t pressure students to change their research ideas, but rather come up with ways to study it and provide additional variables that might work well. Dr. Bowler’s students remark that he is one of the most approachable and sincere professors they have ever worked with, an exceptional scholar and mentor.